

the barry buccaneer

a student publication

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Philosophy Students Debut at the National Ethics Bowl

By B.M. Pelaez
Editor-in-Chief

A small team of philosophy students competed in the Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl for the 2006-2007 school year. This was the first time Barry University participated in the event. Dr. Sandra Fairbanks, a philosophy professor, and her husband, Dr. Joel Wilcox, also a philosophy professor, were excited to advise the team.

Fairbanks received an invitation from the coordinators of the Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl to participate during the last school year, but unfortunately Hurricane Wilma put a damper on their aspirations to form a team. It did give them some extra time, though, to prepare for the Ethics Bowl. Fairbanks and Wilcox formed a team of four responsible philosophy students who are dedicated, hardworking and well-rounded: seniors



Matthew Berkshire gets fired up about his team's performance at the Ethics Bowl.

"We were robbed!"

- Dr. Sandra Fairbanks

Alexandra Marti and Marly Marcellus, and juniors Raquel Ramirez and Matthew Berkshire. Senior Joe D'Amico joined the team for the national contest.

The Ethics Bowl competition starts at the regional level, and those teams that qualify go on to nationals, the Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl. Before each competition begins, each school team is given 12 cases. Obviously, since it is an Ethics Bowl, the cases involve various ethical issues, based on real events but with the names and sometimes the places changed to protect identities. According to ethics professor Dr. Arthur Gowran, Ph.D., ethics is the formal study of morality, which helps individuals determine whether actions are right or wrong.

The team first went to Southeast Ethics Bowl, which was held in St. Petersburg,

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Student Changes Major ... Again

By George Alpizar
Staff Writer

After long thought and consideration, junior Sarah Cruz has decided to switch majors — again.

"I really feel that international business is just not my thing," said a pensive Cruz during a commercial break from her favorite television show *The Hills*.

"It's just that [sigh], I wish I could do something that I love while still earning lots and lots of money. Although being an international business major will certainly give me money, I'm not really fond of other cultures. It's just not how I roll," Cruz remarked.

While still wishy-washy about her exact degree, Cruz is convinced that her destiny lies between history and marketing, with the intention of working within the fashion industry.

"I've always been good in history. While most of my friends dreaded it, I actually didn't mind reading up on American history, especially when we studied the Salem Witch Trials. What the colonists did to that one chick was freakin' sick!" said Cruz, suddenly excited.

While not exactly sure about the origins of her sudden interest in fashion marketing, Cruz suspects it could be a good change of direction in her life.

"I've always liked clothes. I mean, with a body like mine, you've got to dress to impress," Cruz said while consuming a bag of Cheetos and Diet Pepsi. "My ex-boyfriend said I looked like a model because I dressed so nice. And I did work at Abercrombie that one summer, so I do have experience in the clothing industry."

Although Cruz is not exactly sure of the number of changes she has made since starting her educational career at Barry University, faculty advisor Helen Mortimer claims this will be the 19th time she has changed her major.

"It's utterly ridiculous!" an outraged Mortimer said upon receiving the news via an e-mail last week. "The girl is out of her mind. She is only becoming a marketing major because she wants to be just like that one blond girl from MTV."

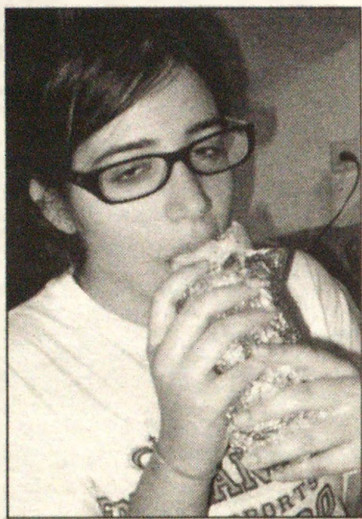
Cruz sudden marketing revelation occurred about five months ago...

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Image: Trempert

Letter from the Editor



As you can see, this is our April Fool's issue. I hope you enjoy it as much as we enjoyed putting it all together for you. In case you are wondering, the article "Student Changes Major... Again" isn't true, but all the others are fact-based...I hope.

I know it's a funny picture of me. This picture was taken by my very good friend, Stephanie Cantu, a photography major, right after my first bite of heaven. I had the good fortune of visiting Stephanie during winter break in the southeast region of Texas. Stephanie and I both enjoy food, maybe a little too much. I was extremely excited to go to Texas, which has every fast food restaurant you can imagine: Jack in the Box, Sonic, Whataburger, Stars, etc. I even took pictures of them. It's true that everything is bigger in Texas, especially you when you visit. To counterbalance our food intake, we would go running across the street at the local high school. The first morning, we woke up, went running, and then rewarded ourselves with delicious egg-and-cheese tacos from a local restaurant. I came back 5 pounds heavier.

On the subject of weight, we have a provocative commentary by Nadege Charles, who talks back to "Skinny Women Haters." She discusses the hardships of naturally thin women in the shadow of emaciated Hollywood. Also in this issue: George Alpizar interviews Amy Poehler, the very funny "Weekend Update" co-anchor from *Saturday Night Live*. Poehler takes her antics onto the ice in the new hit comedy *Blades of Glory*. Flip through the pages and find something to make you laugh or think.

This will be our last issue for the semester. We hope to hear from you next year, and encourage student writers and artists to join our team. If you like to draw, or know someone who could illustrate articles, please e-mail me. Illustrators and photographers earn \$20 for each picture that appears in our pages. If you take interesting snapshots of your summer adventures, send them in for publication when school starts again.

Good luck to all the graduating seniors in their future endeavors.

See you in August.

Barbara Pelaez
pelaezb@bucmail.barry.edu

the barry buccaneer



The Buccaneer welcomes all student, staff and faculty contributions. Letters to the editor, story ideas, news releases, photos and artwork can be submitted to the Barry Buccaneer office in the Landon Student Union, Suite 202-J, or through campus mail, e-mail or the suggestion boxes around school. All contributed material must include the signature and the mailbox or telephone number of the contributor.

The deadline for submissions is the 10th of every month.

The Barry Buccaneer reserves the right to edit letters and guest columns for style and length. Contributed material does not necessarily reflect the opinions and policies of the *Buccaneer* editorial staff or those of Barry University.

Students, staff and faculty can also submit free classified ads up to 25 words in length. For more information about display advertising, contact the advertising director for rates at (305) 899-3093 or buccaneer@mail.barry.edu.

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Skinny Women Haters

By Nadege Charles
Staff Writer

No one really makes a big stink about skinny women being mocked. After all, skinny women—dare I say—deserve it. Skinny women are at the top of the food chain in America. Men ogle over their emaciated pictures in magazines, and little girls want to be just like the scrawny superstars when they grow up.

The public caters to this thin populace. All of the top designers create couture for skeletal women; and if they have any leftover fabric, they create a plus-size line, which really isn't plus-size, but compared to the hungry model who is a size nothing, a size ten is enormous. And don't even let me get started on Hollywood and their contribution to the Skinny Woman Superiority Syndrome, or SWSS. Paris Hilton, Nicole Richie, and an endless list of others have been diagnosed with symptoms of SWSS; their main claim to fame is boasting a withered frame. It's no wonder that skinny women are not in good standing with the not-so-skinny women, but there's something that this demographic needs to know: It's not easy being skinny.

The skinny women I'm referring to are the unlucky few who, by fault of genetics and fast metabolisms, cannot seem to gain weight. I know, too bad the skinny girls can't gain weight; let's sing them a sad song. Trust me; it's no picnic being compared to drug addict Kate Moss, or being accused of having anorexia like Mary Kate Olson, just because you're unusually thin. This may be something

you read about in the tabloids, but I have to live with this constant speculation about my health. Every day I have to deal with picking out the right clothes so my collarbone won't be too pronounced in the shirt I'm wearing, just so I won't offend anyone by my skinniness.

I agree that being thin is highly overrated, but it's not all glitz and glam. We too face ridicule and mockery. Celebrities make it their business to diet and exercise to reach this über-thin look and are praised for it, but those of us who were born this way catch the brunt of Hollywood's Skinny Woman Superiority Syndrome, from the not-so-skinny who resent this ideal.

My life consists of having to preserve my reputation as a healthy skinny person, and not some crazed anorexic junkie; however, people tend to have their minds made up about me before I can even defend myself. No matter where I go, I'm sure to get some sort of critique by a concerned citizen about being too skinny.

South Beach. I was walking a trendy strip, enjoying the energy of tourists, locals, and the sun, in my oversized shades. But I made the mistake of wearing short shorts and a bikini top. As I continued my stroll, a sudden feeling came over me, so I looked to my left and there she was, a not-so-skinny-woman just gawking at me in utter disgust. As I walked by, I heard her mutter to her not-

so-skinny-girlfriend, "Oh my god! She's a walking skeleton. She must be hungry."

Grocery Store. This time I was wearing long jeans and a sweatshirt, when a not-so-skinny-woman asked me, her face etched in concern, "Are you anorexic?" Had I responded no, she probably would have pegged me as being in denial. So, I just walked away.

Gym. When I walk into the gym, all the not-so-skinny-women look at me as if I was a UFO landing in the middle of their workout. Just because I'm skinny does not mean I'm in shape. Every now and then, I like to get a cardio workout by dropping in on an aerobics class, but when I go, I'm ostracized and looked upon with scorn. So now I'm banished to mother's outdated treadmill on her patio, without the luxury of a smoothie health bar or air-conditioning, but at least I am spared the states of contempt at the gym. Albeit lonely and hardly as motivating, here the antagonism of the SWH, Skinny Women Haters, can't get to me.

This is a plea to Hollywood: I beg you, please help the skinny women and the not-so-skinny women get along. Perhaps if a concerted effort were made to give more starring roles to the beautiful women who are not so skinny, the SWH will feel the playing field level out. And one day, while I'm in a restaurant eating a steak dinner with a heap of potatoes buried in gravy, I'll look over at the woman sitting next to me eating the same thing and tell her, "You're so lucky you're not skinny."



Illustration: Joe Boyer

Jesus Sells: The Branding of Christ

By Danielle Reyes
Staff Writer

Have you been saved by Jesus Christ? Have you welcomed him as your lord and savior? You may have read or heard these questions every so often. Marketing has been promoting Jesus in every genre that one can imagine, but the question is: Has it gone too far? Can it be said that marketing and pop culture have overwhelmingly degraded Jesus Christ, and religion altogether, by portraying faith more as an object than as a unique belief?

Most people are familiar with Jesus Christ. Catholics, Presbyterians, Protestants, Episcopalians, to name but a few, have recognized Jesus as an important figure. Many religious individuals have been taught to honor Jesus as a valuable figure, but the marketing system does not seem to follow the same strategy. The way Jesus is portrayed in promotional materials we encounter in everyday life raises a few eyebrows.

The marketing machine has recently taken a new turn by using Jesus' sacred image as a product. It is understandable

for Jesus to be sold in religious matter, such as on a candle or a simple cross necklace — but the moment His image is portrayed on T-shirts and hats to somehow bring a new meaning to pop culture is when it becomes disturbing. A practicing Catholic at Barry University, Mariella Gicusti says, "I am not offended by it, but I can understand why someone who is religious may feel offended by it."

In 2004, a new trend started with Jesus' image as the moneymaker. Mel Gibson's *Passion of the Christ* opened as the No. 1 movie for several weeks while accessories of every kind held Jesus' face. When Jesus' image is reproduced on a T-shirt with the title "Jesus is my homeboy," it makes you wonder if society is taking religion seriously. Not to mention the top-selling Jesus action figures which have taken up shelves in the popular clothing store Urban Outfitters. It's understandable that advocates of Jesus Christ suggest that advertising degrades Jesus' divinity in a disrespectful way.

"I wouldn't wear any T-shirts or accessories that refer to Jesus as my homeboy



Image: Tremper

because I do not consider him that," says Barry freshman Mimi Seraphin, who follows the Church of God (Seventh Day) religion.

With the arrival of Easter, it may be the right time to question religion's position

in America's marketing system. I asked an Urban Outfitters employee how well the "Jesus is my homeboy" accessories were selling in the store, and she replied, "There has been high demand for more shirts, and the Jesus bobble-head's a

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An Institution in Transition: A Letter from Barry's President

By Sr. Linda Bevilacqua

On Wednesday, March 21, I addressed the University community to share information regarding the short- and long-term financial health of the University.

Following is a summary of my remarks and topics that emerged in the question-and-answer session that followed.

The University's Strategic Agenda and Financial Vitality

The members of the Executive Committee of the Administration (ECA) and I, in collaboration with the academic deans and other key budget managers, began goal-setting and budget preparation for the next academic year based upon the key initiatives, strategies and actions in the Strategic Agenda for 2006-2011.

Initiative Three calls us to "ensure the institution's financial sustainability and vitality." Accordingly, we are on a focused mission to address the systemic realities of the institution's operational culture.

To achieve long-term financial vitality, we need to restore financial equilibrium. We are going to do this within the next three years through a comprehensive plan that does two things: 1) defines and achieves new revenue sources, and 2) examines and strategically adjusts expenses for maximum effectiveness.

Actions for Right-Sizing Barry

We have defined actions that will create for us a stronger financial foundation. We will continuously address such matters as: increasing efficiency and effectiveness of performance; defining and cultivating new donor bases; targeting grant support that contributes to the bottom line of the university; crafting revenue-generating corporate partnerships; creating new income sources from existing properties and facilities; collaborating in the development of new revenue-producing programs; eliminating duplication of positions; eliminating or redefining programs and services; increasing retention of students; developing an equitable compensation model for all employees.

Barry is a tuition-driven institution. As much as 90 percent of our revenue comes from tuition. Almost 60 percent of our traditional undergraduate students are from families whose income is \$60,000 or less. We pride ourselves on being a majority minority institution. With that quality in mind, we must take care not to price ourselves out of the market.

We instituted a new pricing structure for our full-time undergraduates and their families called the "Tuition 'Til Graduation" Plan that outlines the student's tuition for four years (not applicable to 2+2 and ACE undergraduates). We believe that knowing the tuition will empower families to make an informed enrollment decision and specific financial

plans for handling the cost associated with earning a Barry University degree.

Barry University can no longer remain dependent on the revenue-generating success of the School of Adult and Continuing Education. Market forces, including growing competition, fallout from hurricanes on adult students and their employers, and other economic factors, are eroding ACE enrollments.

Balancing the 2007-2008 Budget

Struggling to balance expenses with realistic revenue projections was time-consuming and painful. The budget for fiscal year 2007-2008 is balanced and was unanimously approved by the Board of Trustees on Thursday, March 29.

The element of next year's budget that is most painful to the vice presidents and me is that there is no salary pool. Except for full-time faculty members who received a promotion in rank, no one will receive a salary increase. We intend this salary freeze only for fiscal year 2007-2008. Lacking a salary increase, we are considering other ways to alleviate some of the pressures that loss of expected revenue will create for our faculty and staff.

The University's retirement contribution of 9.5 percent remains the same. We did not eliminate or decrease this important contribution.

In balancing the budget, many requested faculty and staff positions were not filled. Through voluntary retirement, attrition and elimination of some positions, 12 existing positions are not being carried forward in the fiscal year 2007-2008 budget.

Communicating Our Progress

We are clearly an institution in transition. We are implementing a Strategic Agenda that we defined for ourselves through yearlong conversations and work group sessions. As we move forward, you will receive regular communication from the Office of University Relations about our progress with the Agenda. I encourage you to review periodically the planning document on our Barry website. You will witness first-hand the substantial progress we have already made in implementing the six initiatives.

Evaluating Programs and Services

In addition to defining clear enrollment goals for all programs and services, we must also assess program/service viability based on: congruence with the University's mission, quality, long-term sustainability, and market demand.

This will be the task of the vice presidents, the academic deans, faculty and members of the Undergraduate and Graduate Councils.

We must also evaluate the University's organizational structure, especially the "silo" effect that we know diminishes

effectiveness, efficiency, collaboration and productive communication.

We are not alone in facing the challenges that are ours. Independent higher education throughout the United States faces similar financial realities. A recent report from the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities listed numbers of initiatives undertaken by other independent colleges and universities to maintain financial equilibrium. You will recognize these names: Emory, Notre Dame, the University of Pennsylvania and, here in Florida, Flagler College, just to name a few.

Barry's Glass Is Half-Full

In the midst of the current challenges that face us as an institution in transition, I am hopeful and confident that we have the intellectual capacity, drive and commitment to ensure a more secure future.

We are an institution with over \$133 million in assets. We have a long-term debt (similar to a homeowner's mortgage) that we are paying off each year. The debt is the result of adding new facilities, a sign of Barry's growth over the last dozen years. In fiscal year 2005-2006, we finished the year with a surplus. We received a clean audit. Our endowment is approximately \$26 million and is being managed effectively by the Board of Trustees with new investment policies.

We are very fortunate that our Trustees are so engaged in the life of the University. Last year we added six new members who bring a variety of experiential backgrounds and leadership skills to the Board. They are very excited about

new possibilities for Barry. They believe in our mission and in our capacity to put Barry on a stronger footing. They and the leaders of corporations, foundations and community agencies value the efforts we are making to position ourselves for a more vibrant future.

As your president and as an alumna of Barry, I am very optimistic about our present and our future. With the strength of our mission guiding us and our staff and faculty's energy, creativity and hard work, we are facing our challenges. We shall build a stronger future for Barry. We shall continue to be a source of encouragement and empowerment for you, our wonderful students. We are privileged to help you achieve your educational goals.

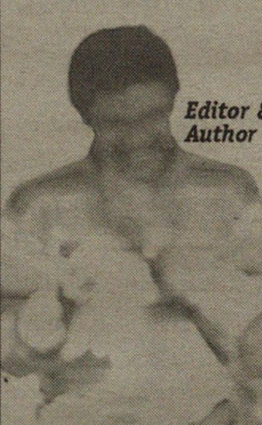
We shall honor the memory of those who left us a powerful legacy, especially the Adrian Dominican Sisters, by renewing our commitment to ensure that Barry thrives.

As your president, I commit my creativity, energy and experience to lead us through these challenging and exciting times. Thank you for sharing our life. Barry is a very special university and you help make it so.


If you would like to talk with me about any aspect of this message, I welcome you to the President's Office on either Tuesday, April 17 from 2:30 to 4:00 pm or on Wednesday, April 18 from 3:00 to 4:30 pm. I intend to continue these opportunities for dialogue and discussion in the fall.

Sister Linda Bevilacqua, O.P., Ph.D.
President
Class of 1962


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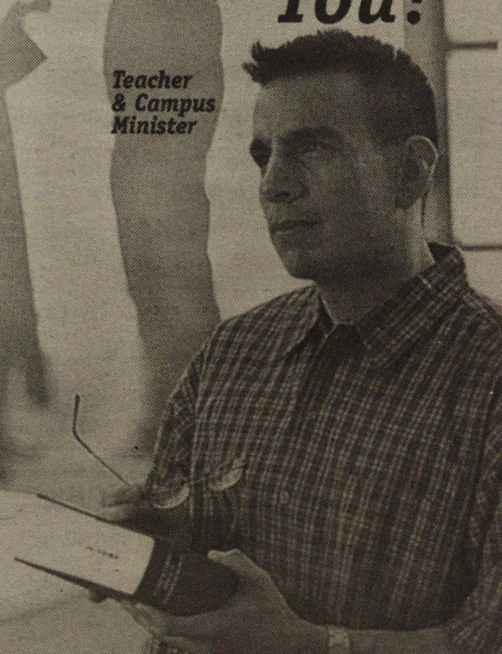
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The Alternative Experience: A Lot is Gained by Giving Back

By Shannon Spillman
Staff Writer

At a time when most college students relax, party, and go to the beach, we went to the devastated streets of a town known for its culture, soul and laid-back, jazzy blues. As we drove across the long bridge into the town of New Orleans, we peered out the windows of our stark white Barry University vans. They bore red spray-painted letters that spelled out "Alternative Spring Break." After the 14-hour drive from Miami, the 11-person van was ready to burst open upon its arrival at the Salvation Army. Three vans had left school the weekend that Spring Break began: two for Louisiana, and one for South Carolina.

The 26 students and three faculty members that chose to participate in ASB may have been there for a number of different reasons, but we all had one thing in common: We wanted to help people in need. I don't think any one of us could have predicted the huge impact the trip had on our lives. Most of the members were shocked at the tremen-

dous appreciation from the recipients of our handiwork, and everyone formed at least one close bond within their group. Sophomore Lupita Murphy, a group leader for the New Orleans delegation, says, "For me, it was amazing not only to meet the grateful homeowners we'd helped, but also to watch the groups come together, open up and form incredible bonds in a week's time."

While the groups in New Orleans cleaned up the stale remains of Hurricane Katrina's wrath, those who went to South Carolina worked with an organization called Homes for Hope. These students had the opportunity to build a home for an elderly person with a severe back injury and a low income. They worked alongside some locals who were going through a program for drug and alcohol abuse. The group got twice as much out of the experience by working with people who had once hit rock-bottom, because these people were extremely supportive of the students' presence and encouraged them to stay in school and follow their dreams. This put



Photo: Shannon Spillman

Barry students clean up a New Orleans neighborhood on spring break.

things into perspective for the participants, to be told what an amazing thing they were doing by volunteering.

The team leader for South Carolina, Ana Acevedo, a junior, described the home they rebuilt. "An elderly woman was liv-

ing in a house with the floor sinking and the roof caving in; it was entirely unsafe for anyone to live there. One of the men we worked with said something that really stuck with our group. 'Homes for

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Freshman Duke Ellington Has a Jazz Cat Name and Fresh Prince Face

By Joe Boyer
Staff Writer

Have you ever been walking around campus and thought you saw Will Smith passing by in the distance? Don't worry, you're not crazy! Enrolled at Barry this year is a Will Smith look-alike, and his name is just as famous as his face.

Duke Ellington, a 17-year-old Barry freshman, was born in Guatemala, raised in New York, and moved from the Bronx to Miami at the age of 11. His outstanding academic performance earned him clearance past the seventh grade; hence, he graduated high school and arrived at Barry ahead of schedule. He is a biology major and plans to become a physician assistant. After he accomplishes that, he plans on going to medical school and

becoming a family doctor, a career to which he is well suited, as he already works at the Miami Shores Recreational Center coaching kids in basketball.

Ellington's father grew up listening to Edward "Duke" Ellington, the famous jazz band leader, and is a fan of his music. Ellington suspects this is where his middle name, Edward, comes from as well.

Having the same name as someone famous can be tiresome. Ellington has grown to expect the "same questions" from people he meets for the first time. "Then they ask the ultimate question: 'Are you related?'" says Ellington. But having a recognizable name could come in handy sometimes. For example, it might be an easy and reliable conversation-starter. Ellington confirms, "It does help, actually. I think adults are more fond of it." He adds, "I've never been turned down at a job interview."

That could be because Duke Ellington, the jazz pianist, is a little old for our generation to recall (I had to look up what instrument he was famous for playing). But most seem to recognize the name Duke Ellington as being of

some popular significance. Students' are more familiar with actor-musician Will Smith, and two Barry students in particular are credited with noticing Ellington's resemblance to Smith. One of Ellington's roommates, George Alpizar (the *Buccaneer's* resident movie critic), and another Barry freshman, Domenica Cazzola, were the first at Barry to note such a resemblance, but Ellington had heard similar comments prior to coming to Barry.

Ellington finds the comparisons "interesting." He remarks that his roommate, George Alpizar, "says I act like him, for some reason."

When Alpizar heard that he would be rooming in a quad with someone named Duke Ellington, Alpizar didn't have any expectations. "I just tried to keep an open mind, since I would be living with three other guys. I just hoped they were nice and respectful," Alpizar says.

On move-in day, Alpizar and his two other roommates arrived around the same time, about noonish, but Duke didn't move his stuff in until that night. Alpizar said, "He simply brought in his stuff, literally hopping onto the bunk-bed, and went to sleep. It was that jump onto the bunk-bed that reminded me of Will Smith."

In fact, Ellington spends relatively little time in his room. According to Alpizar,

"I've rarely seen Duke in the room just relaxing. The room to him is essentially a hotel room, where he doesn't feel the need to spend extra time, because there are other things to do."

What could Duke Ellington be up to with his Hollywood looks? Alpizar says, "From what he claims—he's with girls." Indeed, Ellington believes himself to be a ladies' man, but Alpizar says, "Like Will Smith exaggerating on *The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air*, I'm sure Duke is just stretching the truth a bit."

Alpizar recently had the opportunity to interview Smith for this newspaper on the topic of his latest Oscar-nominated performance in *The Pursuit of Happiness*. Will Smith was a really cool, relaxed guy. Alpizar continued, "The journalists really warmed up to him. His charisma and charm were palpable within the conference room." All joking and speculation aside, Alpizar observes the same warm-hearted coolness in Ellington: "Duke is really nice, and fun to be around. From the few times that we talk during the week, he's really cool."

Dexter Soloman, a Barry freshman and Duke Ellington's closest friend on campus, affirms Ellington's integrity. "Duke is the greatest guy in the world," he says. "I'm happy I met Duke Ellington!" Yet Soloman warns, with tongue in cheek, that Ellington is versed in "attracting the ladies with his looks...just like the Fresh Prince."

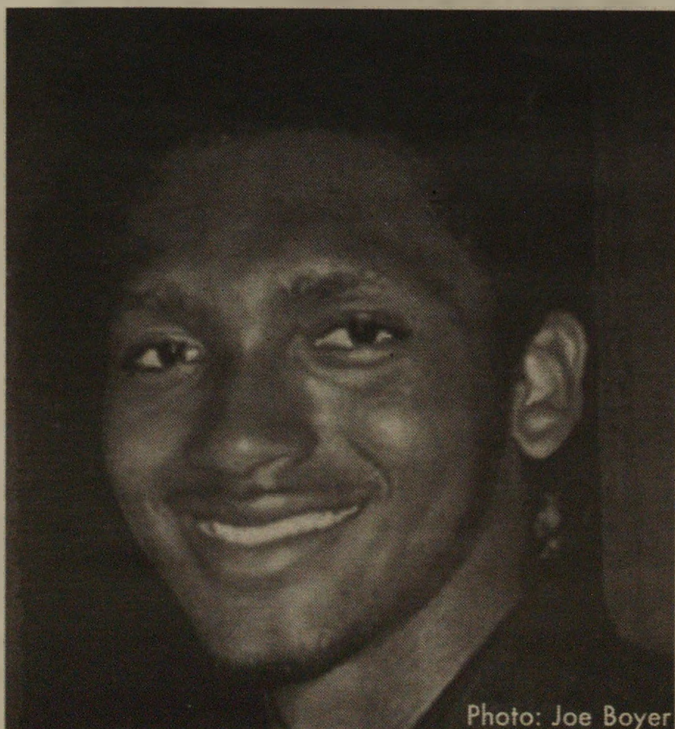


Photo: Joe Boyer

Philosophy Students Debut at the National Ethics Bowl

(Continued from page 1)

Marti, Berkshire, Marcellus, and Ramirez worked extremely hard on the cases. "Each student had three cases to prepare," Fairbanks explained. "All the students gave me preliminary outlines or arguments for their cases." She would then correct them, ask questions, and send them back for the students to develop further. Dr. Fairbanks and Dr. Wilcox emailed back and forth with the students as they refined their arguments.

Matthew Berkshire commented that the most challenging cases were those which "involved something you were passionate about. It's always harder to argue the 'other side' if it's a side you believe against."

Of course, the Barry team was nervous about its first trip to the Southeast Ethics Bowl, not knowing what to expect. Alexandra Marti said, "Going to regionals, we had no idea how the competition was going to work out. We felt very unprepared and did a lot of cramming. Our goal was just to go in there and know as much material as possible."

Once there, the team was put up against some tough competition, including teams from The United States Military Academy at West Point and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In each round, a case is picked, and whichever team member has prepared that case presents it to the judges. The

other team members jot down notes, while the opposing team presents its arguments. Judging for the competition is based on marginal points that measure how well a team did over the other.

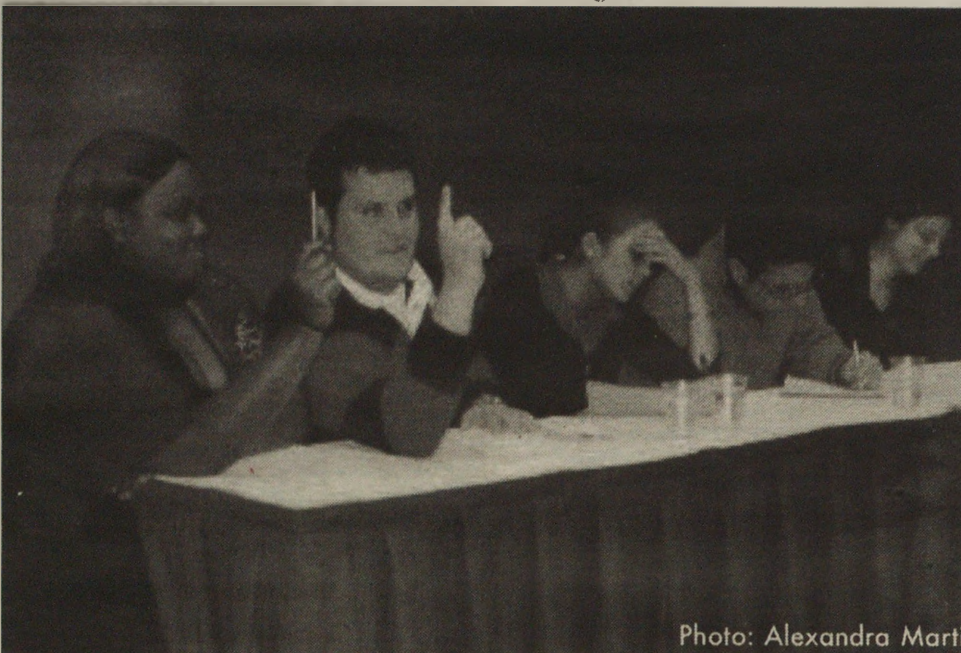


Photo: Alexandra Marti

The Ethics team (from left to right): Marly Marcellus, Matthew Berkshire, Alexandra Marti, Joe D'Amico, and Raquel Ramirez

Marti was excited to see that her team's efforts "all paid off. Our first match we won by a landslide. That started our competition off nicely." Ultimately, Barry placed fifth and became a wildcard entry for nationals.

Now the team knew what to expect, and worked even harder. They also added a team member, Joe D'Amico. Unfortunately, he didn't get to participate much at national bowl. "None of my cases were called, so I never had the

chance to present," said a disappointed D'Amico. "The only thing I could do was make a statement here or there on the rebuttal, or answer questions from the judges."

Unfortunately, the Barry team felt that the judges at the national level were not as impartial as they were supposed to be. According to Fairbanks, "We were robbed!" Marti also commented that, "the judges for the most part were fair, except for the second round. One of our judges got a little upset that time ran out before she could ask 'her' question. She gave us a ridiculously low score." The second round was presented by Marly Marcellus, who turned out to be the star of the Barry team.

Marcellus was thankful for the experience. "I want to extend my gratitude to Dr. Fairbanks for inspiring me to become a philosophy major. And had I not being a philosophy major, I would not have considered myself worthy or equipped to participate in the ethics bowls. At first I doubted my qualifications, but with My Lord Jesus on my side and the assistance of our great coaches... I realized that I was in fact very well-equipped." Marcellus added that she would "encourage anyone who is contemplating about participating to do so, because I guarantee it will be something worth remembering. This was definitely one of the highlights of my college career."

Fairbanks and Wilcox were extremely impressed by her arguments. Fairbanks initially thought they had won, until the low score from that judge brought down their points overall. The University of Miami actually won the national contest, which was surprising because the Barry team had beaten them at regionals.

What matters most is not who won (of course, that's usually said by the people who don't win). It was the experience gained that made the Barry team come home a winner. Not only was this the first team to ever represent Barry University at the Ethics Bowl, but they made it to the national level and performed well there too. If this tradition continues, perhaps next year we will win.

Student Changes Major... Again.

(Continued from page 1)

just when the MTV hit series *The Hills* premiered.

The Hills follows Orange County native Lauren Conrad as she leaves her beloved Laguna Beach home for a condo in Los Angeles to attend fashion school and work as an intern at *Teen Vogue* magazine.

Cruz was not shy about discussing her deep, almost sexual appreciation for Lauren Conrad. "She is so beautiful and wholesome, not like that slut Kristin," an angry Cruz remarked, referring to Lauren's high school rival Kristin Cavallari from MTV's *Laguna Beach* reality series.

"While Lauren seems to be having some trouble juggling school and work—especially with that she-devil of a boss ordering her around—it still seems like she's enjoying herself, getting closer to her dream," Cruz shared.

While MTV may glamorize Lauren's real-life drama and personal conflicts, Cruz realizes that when it's her time to leave

the confines of her parent's comfortable home in Coral Gables, the road may not be so smooth. "Like, I know it's not going to be easy. Lauren wasn't ready to present her project in class because she had just gotten back from flying to New York for fashion week for *Vogue*. But I know I can make it."

Cruz is confident that she has enough good qualities to make it through anything. "When I didn't win homecoming queen, I thought my world had ended. And I needed to study for my trig test! Can you imagine? But I managed to hide away my tears and pulled off a solid B minus on the test! I know I can do it," Cruz confided with pride.

"And if things don't work, I still have history," said an optimistic Cruz. "I mean, I love history! And I bet there's tons of stuff I can do with it."

After a few moments in deep concentration, Cruz experienced a new revelation: "Oh snap! History will offer me nothing!"

Warning: The people and story are completely fictitious. This article is not to be taken seriously; it is merely a satire created for your enjoyment.



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Amy Poehler Glides into the Limelight with *Blades of Glory*

By George Alpizar
Staff Writer

From mere walk-on roles on *Saturday Night Live* to starring in movies with Will Ferrell and Lindsay Lohan, comedian Amy Poehler has driven herself to become one of the funniest and most respected working actors in the entertainment industry, at least to us college journalists. And for good reason, too: She's even funny on the phone.

In a phone interview, Poehler shed some light on her new movies, her work on *Saturday Night Live*, and her ultimate life goals.

In Poehler's new movie, *Blades of Glory*, she plays a champion figure skater who competes as a pair with her brother (who's actually played by her real-life husband, Will Arnett). The main story revolves around Will Ferrell's and Jon Heder's characters as rival figure skaters who are banned from the singles competition, but manage to compete again as partners, and must vie against Poehler and Arnett.

While Poehler was born in Massachusetts, went to school in Boston, and lived in Chicago, ice skating was still a very new, and difficult, task. "I couldn't

skate at all. I was probably the worst skater of the bunch," Poehler admitted. "So I was starting from scratch. And even though I can fake look like I'm an ice skater... I had to go through some serious mental and physical training to get to actually learn how to skate."

She appreciated being able to learn from and rely on her onscreen skating partner. "My husband Will knew how to skate because he used to play hockey in Canada," said Poehler. "It was nice to be able to rehearse with someone that you trust. So it was really, really fun, and I am a big fan of Will's, separate from being married to him, so it is always great to work with him."

Since one can expect a movie featuring Will Ferrell to be hysterical and outrageous, the figure skating costumes were definitely an outlet for comedy. From the not-so traditional pink tutu with a matching pretentious tiara, to the bizarre cheetah-printed vest and cocked trucker hat, the costumes seem to be a character all on their own. "We had tons and tons of fittings and we would just go crazy, and then we would watch the actual Olympics and we'd be like, 'Oh no, we need to go crazier. We need to go bigger,'" said Poehler. The comedian goes



Photo courtesy of: DreamWorks

Left to right: Will Arnett, Jenna Fischer, and Amy Poehler in *Blades of Glory*.

on to describe the costumes as "uncomfortable" and even "disgusting," recalling one ensemble that "lit up like a Christmas tree." In another outrageous routine, she says, "Will and I are skating to our version of a hip-hop song, and we have thug outfits that are just not right." She modestly added that the costumes are "a little outdated."

Those excessive costume changes did not help her hectic working schedule.

Not only is she the co-anchor of "Weekend Update" on *Saturday Night Live*, she still maintains various roles in several sketches. Meanwhile, she is beginning to develop a film career, with no less than five movies coming out this year — *Blades of Glory*, *On Broadway*, *Shrek the Third*, *Mr. Woodcock*, and *Spring Breakdown* — and work on several more films already underway. But the grueling work

(continued on page 8)

Mark Wahlberg Hits a New High in *Shooter*

By George Alpizar
Staff Writer

Imagine you knew a boy who lived in the working-class neighborhoods of Boston. He lived in a small three-bedroom apartment with his eight siblings. His parents were divorced. He dropped out of high school at the age of 14, and later started doing drugs and committing small crimes. He was even involved in drug deals and was convicted of assaulting and trying to rob two men. He served 50 days in jail. Could you ever have thought that this young punk would grow up to become a major Hollywood actor? Well, then, take a look at Mark Wahlberg.

Fresh from working on the Oscar-winning film *The Departed*, for which he also got a supporting actor nod, Wahlberg is now starring in *Shooter*. In this action-packed film, Wahlberg plays a

marksman who is wrongly accused of plotting to kill the president. So he goes in search of the truth and the real killer.

Wahlberg shared that the biggest challenges were "the physical and mental demands of the movie. I knew going in it was going to be tough, but actually making the movie, the stuff was pretty rigorous." The "stuff" that Wahlberg refers to includes the sniper training for *Shooter*. "We went to Sniper School, and physically I had to really transform," Wahlberg said. "I had to get in physical and mental shape."

Although Wahlberg has done his share of movies in which shooting is involved, such as *Three Kings*, it wasn't as extreme as *Shooter*.

"I had never done something as intense as sniper training. So we shot .50 caliber,

Shitech was the big weapon that we used. That's the one that supposedly I assassinate the Archbishop of Ethiopia with. But that was the biggest of the weapons that was shot," Wahlberg explained.

While it seems that Hollywood has come out with a lot of violent action films, such as the upcoming *Live Free or Die Hard* with Bruce Willis, Wahlberg is confident that his movie is different from the others.

"Well, the high-intensity action movies that they've been making lately aren't really the kind of character-driven movies that I love and that I grew up watching in the '70s," Wahlberg confessed. "This is kind of a throw-back to that. You've got a guy's guy who's all about honor and integrity and it reminded me of the great films that I grew up watching. It's much more of a Travis Bickle or a Dirty Harry, than it is a Terminator-type character."

Speaking of strong characters, Wahlberg said that his favorite characters that he has ever portrayed are Dirk Diggler from *Boogie Nights* and Sergeant Dignam from *The Departed*, for reasons that he didn't clearly explain.

While Wahlberg is experiencing a phenomenal career, in the past he has mentioned interest in eventually retiring, possibly when he turns 40 (only five years away now). "Well, I said it for two reasons. At the time I was pretty frustrated

with the kind of movies that I was being offered and the kind of movies that they were making," said Wahlberg.

"I also have two small children and, I've been focused on me for a long time, and at some point, obviously, my attention is going to have to shift to them," Wahlberg added. "But hopefully I'll be in a position where I can still make a movie every year or two and be able to work from time to time"

For the time being, Wahlberg is "committed to only making the kind of movies that we would want to" see in theaters. Wahlberg is actually waiting for writer David O. Russell (writer and director of *Three Kings* and *I Heart Huckabees*) to finish writing "a broad comedy for me."

While Wahlberg may be known for his dramatic roles, he expresses interest in changing his track. "We want to try to switch it up every time now," said Wahlberg. Besides this potential comedy, Wahlberg is hoping to direct in the near future, and continue to produce various projects, most notably the hit HBO comedy *Entourage*.

Still, Wahlberg credits his success to the advice he gave to college students. "Well, you get out what you put in — hard work and determination and 110 percent.

Commitment can take wherever you want to go." Thanks, Marky Mark.



Photo courtesy of: Paramount

Mark Wahlberg plays Bob Lee Swagger, a former Marine Corps sniper, in *Shooter*.

Branding Jesus

(Continued from page 3)

popular seller." The marketing system has co-opted Jesus, and it has affected His image drastically.

While branding has altered Jesus' image, pop culture has undoubtedly affected it as well. The Internet can be partly to blame for this. The Jesus of the Week website,

www.jesusofoftheweek.com, offers parodies that mock Jesus' image. The website updates weekly with artwork in which you can select "a Jesus" such as "Ripped Jesus" or "Banana Jesus." There are many other websites that portray Jesus in parodies. One website had comics of biblical stories with Jesus as the star, adding tasteless humor to Jesus' miraculous healings. The

images and comments on these websites are meant for laughs, but it supports the idea that Jesus can be viewed in an obnoxious manner in today's pop culture.

On the other hand, it is free speech. It is well-known that we live in a capitalist society, where anyone has the right to use Jesus' name in any way they please. Many young people can say that, "It's just a shirt with Jesus' name on it. What does it matter?" This ordinary response may be true, but it is also superficial. In the end, it may come down to an individual's personal preference. It is still unfortunate, however, that Jesus may be viewed by society as a marketable accessory or a pop culture trend, rather than an admirable religious figure.

When Jesus' image is reproduced on a T-shirt with the title "Jesus is my homeboy," it makes you wonder if society is taking religion seriously.

The Alternative Experience: A Lot is Gained by Giving Back

(Continued from page 5)

Hope not only rebuilds homes, it rebuilds lives." Acevedo added, "No one in our group knew each other at the beginning, but we really came together, learned from each other, and came out as stronger people."

The two groups that traveled to New Orleans stayed at a Salvation Army together, but were separated when it came to volunteer work. One group worked with the Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana, gutting houses that were ruined by water damage. The second group worked with an organization called Beacon of Hope, cleaning up the yards of elderly homeowners or people that can't live in New Orleans anymore without a home to occupy. The homeowners get fined \$100 a day for not keeping up their house, even if they are not living there. We saved one 80-year-old woman from being fined just by cleaning up her yard. An official from the state came while we were there, and was going to fine her, but because we were doing work on her house, he didn't. We were fortunate enough to meet some of the homeowners while working on their houses, which gave us all a great sense of accomplishment, self-worth, and most of all, the realization that we had made a difference.

"The people were so kind and thankful for any work that we did. I didn't even realize how much we had accomplished until I turned and looked at the whole block of houses we'd cleaned up," remembers Danielle Jackman, a Barry student who led the group that worked with Beacon of Hope.

On our day off in the birthplace of jazz, we had the privilege to experience a glimpse of the culture New Orleans has to offer. We toured the French Quarter, listened to some musicians, watched street performers, looked at beautiful artwork, and best of all, attended a performance of Grammy Award-winner Irma Thomas at the well-known House of Blues. It was the perfect ending to a week that will not be soon forgotten by the members of ASB 2007. I feel proud to have been a part of this kind and dedicated group of individuals.



Barry students clear debris in a New Orleans home. Photo: Shannon Spillman

"No one in our group knew each other at the beginning, but we really came together, learned from each other, and came out as stronger people."

-- Ana Acevedo

Amy Poehler Glides into the Limelight with *Blades of Glory*

(Continued from page 7)



Photo courtesy of: DreamWorks

Stranz Van Waldenberg (Will Arnett) and Fairchild Van Waldenberg (Amy Poehler) are a figure-skating pair in "Blades of Glory."

schedule doesn't dampen her comedic style. After hearing the operator on our phone conference say, "It will take me just a moment to open their lines after you announce them. Your line is open. Thank you," Poehler quickly said, "What a lovely speaking voice," in that sarcastic yet sincere voice of hers that makes her such a hit.

Poehler seems able to imitate almost any celebrity or famous figure. While she is modest about her comedic talents, she shares some of her secrets and methods to her craft. "I don't always think that I do the best impressions, but what I do try to do is just pick some kind of weird thing to exaggerate," said Poehler. "There will be many times when I have to play someone that I don't look anything like or don't maybe necessarily sound that much like, so sometimes I'll just pick something that I can try to exaggerate...like, I don't necessary think that Sharon Stone sounds or moves like that, but in my head I think that's funny, so that would be an example." Poehler is referring to her hilarious impression of Stone on *Saturday Night Live*, which includes the actress's forced laughter, excessive word enunciation, and the cocking of her head back with her mouth wide open. Poehler's impression of Paula Abdul as a seemingly drugged-out optimist is possibly one of her best.

Lastly, one must wonder, what are Amy Poehler's goals in life? While I thought this was a serious, legitimate, and interesting question, Amy knew better.

Poehler spouted the typical lofty aspirations to achieve "world peace, stop global warming, make sure that we all just start getting along." Then she sarcastically added that her goals "include building a robot that can create food out of its stomach. [My goals] involve finding a way for dogs and cats to get along. They involve opening a theater on the moon and building a rocket ship in my basement."

But even a comedian such as herself can realize how daunting these goals are. "I'm really screwed. I don't think I'm going to be able to do any of it, but I'm going to try my best," concluded Poehler. For inspiration, she turned to *The Secret*, a movie that features prominent authors, philosophers and scientists discussing the Law of Attraction and how it can be used in everyday life.. The film "told me to visualize it and it will happen, so I'm going to do it." Whether or not she succeeds in creating a robot that can prepare food out of its stomach, at least she'll make it funny. After all, that's what she does best.

"I don't always think that I do the best impressions, but what I do try to do is just pick some kind of weird thing to exaggerate."

Justin Timberlake Turns Up Miami's Heat in Live Concert

By George Alpizar
Staff Writer

Justin Timberlake brought more than sexy back to Miami on February 24 at the American Airlines Arena downtown. He brought various styles of music to the stage, including pop, rock, hip-hop and a touch of southern soul. This eclectic mix allowed every individual to appreciate his show, and at the same time allowed him to display his range. Timberlake gave a live show that was thrilling to watch from start to end.

The opening act for Timberlake's show was the well-known punk-pop singer known as Pink. She gave an outstanding performance, and triggered the audience's hyped-up mood for Justin as well. Her most memorable song was "Dear Mr. President," a ballad that insults Bush's performance as president. She ended her opening act to astonished faces as she seemed to imitate the spell-binding acrobatics of Cirque du Soleil. Pink spun and twirled in the air with another female dancer, with only two thick ribbons hoisting them up.

Soon after, Timberlake took the stage. Many critics have called him a copycat for mimicking some of Michael Jackson's or Prince's moves, but Timberlake maintained a personal style throughout his performance. As a spectator, I wondered what Timberlake couldn't do. This 25-year-old man played piano and guitar, sang, and danced onstage (not all at the

same time, of course). Timberlake presented each number with a perfect slyness and overwhelming sex appeal that captivated the females in the audience.

Timberlake opened the show with the catchy title track from his Grammy-nominated 2006 album, *FutureSex/LoveSounds*. Then Timberlake danced nonstop as he performed the infamous single "My Love," which seemed to be the crowd's favorite. His choreography was nowhere near boring, to say the least. Timberlake and his dancers were amazingly in sync throughout the entire show. Timberlake and his dancers each

had a slightly different style that made the choreography even more entertaining. Each dancer along with Timberlake expressed their unique personalities through each performance. Their dance moves were precise, and all at once, they were able to stimulate the audience with their overwhelming energy. Along with his pelvic motions, Timberlake resurrected a few songs from his freshman album as a solo artist, such as "Like I Love You" and "Cry Me a River." Timberlake rocked out with a guitar on "Cry Me a River," which made the crowd erupt in screams.

He also performed his latest album's notorious second single, "What Goes Around... Comes Around." He performed this hit with a handheld camera so that he could direct himself while he moved onstage, and the audience caught every candid moment. The next song he performed was an upbeat piano ballad entitled "Senorita." This song had Timberlake dancing and playing piano keys all at once.

The highlight of the show occurred when Timbaland joined Timberlake onstage for the song "Chop Me up." The collaborators projected their fun chemistry as they sang "Sexyback." Timberland and Timberlake worked as a dynamic duo as they electrified the audience with their snappy lyrics, continuous rap tempo, and intensified theatrics.

Timberlake then held the audience's attention with two songs from the new album, "Summer Love/Set the Mood (Prelude)" and "LoveStoned/I Think She Knows (Interlude)." Timberlake performed these two numbers in a suggestive manner that involved meticulous dance moves and magnificent piano-playing. He then showed his angst and softer side on the soulful ballads "Losing My Way" and "(Another Song) All Over Again." With Timberlake's charm and constant rhythmic moves, the show was definitely an unforgettable event. It is clear to see that this 25-year-old entertainer has an untouched talent.



Photo: Danielle Reyes

Miami Celebrates the Artistry of Choreographer Merce Cunningham

By Nadege Charles
Staff Writer

One of the supreme choreographers of our era, Merce Cunningham, recently received a well-deserved tribute in Miami. From the Museum of Contemporary Art to the Carnival Center of Performing Arts, the city was immersed in Cunningham's ingenuity and inspired works. An exhibit of his sets and costumes, performances, lectures, and community outreach programs were all part of the happenings in late February and early March. Cunningham is a legend in the art community because of his brilliance, displayed in productions over the past five decades. Cunningham fuses dance, art, and music together in a way that allows each entity to work independently, yet somehow also work together to provide a sensory experience that is unbelievable.

The art featured in Cunningham's choreography over the past years is being showcased until April 29 in "Merce Cunningham: Dancing on the Cutting Edge" at the Museum of Contemporary Art in North Miami, minutes from the Barry University campus on N.E. 125th

Street. Cunningham's collaborations with notable artists over the years are all spectacular pieces to experience.

Gabriel Orozco's clever collection of taxi-yellow automotive body parts is a perfect example of the range of flavors in the sets designed by Cunningham's collaborators. The works of Japanese fashion designer Rei Kawakubo were also on display. Striped costumes stitched over protruding pads give the appearance of large buttocks, potbellies and humpbacks. Kawakubo's designs and Cunningham's choreography are obvious

soulmates in the sense that they both take risks and push boundaries.

The exhibition at MOCA's main building includes a sketch of the silver two-piece ceiling-to-floor art deco sculpture that young Miami artist Daniel Arsham created for Cunningham's newest work, *eyeSpace*, which premiered at the new Carnival Center for Performing Arts on February 23. The actual set will be exhibited in the second installment of "Merce Cunningham: Dancing on the Cutting Edge" at the MOCA at Goldman Warehouse in the Wynwood Arts District from April 22 to June 27.

Another exhilarating part of "Merce in Miami" was, of course, the choreography. On March 3, the Merce Cunningham Dance Company performed a rare restaging of Cunningham's 1994 *Ocean*. The 90-minute dance (without intermission) was presented at the Knight Concert Hall in the new Carnival Center for Performing Arts.

Students from New World School of the Arts' pre-professional dance program performed an untitled piece by Cunningham in the lobby before the main event. The young women clad in black leotards and nude tights and the men in black shirts and nude tights, the dancers executed a series of minimal movements consisting of fluid hand motions and at-times-lengthy leg extensions. The soundtrack to this piece was provided by two musicians who poured water out from large conch shells, with a microphone stand registering the sounds. "It was such an honor to work with the company and perform. It's unreal," said Rashaid Harris, a New World student.



Photo: Steven Brooke

Ernesto Neto's set *Otheranimal* from Cunningham's production *Views on Stage*.

(continued on page 10)

Halle Berry and Giovanni Ribisi Open Up About Their New Mystery

By George Alpizar
Staff Writer

Journalists: "How was it being yelled at by Halle Berry?"

Giovanni Ribisi: "It's the greatest thing you can ever imagine."

In a sarcastic and comical tone, Giovanni Ribisi responded to questions about his powerful scene with Halle Berry in their new movie, *Perfect Stranger*. Both Halle Berry and Giovanni Ribisi joined journalists for a roundtable interview here in Miami, giving us a unique perspective into their craft, their passion for making movies, and other tidbits that young reporters had to know.

In the movie, Berry plays Rowena, a journalist who goes undercover to find out the details behind the murder of her friend. She suspects businessman Harrison Hill (played by Bruce Willis) to be the killer, and with the help of her associate Miles (Giovanni Ribisi), she poses as his office worker to get some facts. As she digs deeper into the mystery, she disguises herself as yet another woman and starts chatting with Harrison online; soon she gets caught up in the world of obsessive Internet love. When Rowena discovers that she is not the only one changing identities, the mystery gets even more complicated.

For those of you who are movie-challenged, you may remember Ribisi as Lisa Kudrow's funny yet naive little brother on *Friends*. But for those who are aware of Ribisi's brilliant movie career, *Perfect Stranger* is no exception.

While Ribisi has done his share of gloomy films, such as *Boiler Room* and *The Virgin Suicides*, he doesn't view *Perfect Stranger* as one of his darker films. "One of the more complicated, I would say. It's about secrets and the length people would go to protect them," Ribisi said. But later on he did acknowledge, "The movie is definitely dark."

Ribisi was excited to work with Berry, and described her as being "extremely committed and concentrated. It's refreshing to work with someone who isn't about the Prada shipment."

According to Ribisi, in most films, at least mainstream ones, rehearsals are actually a rarity. Luckily, filming on *Perfect Stranger* was preceded by a two-week rehearsal period, which gave Ribisi the chance to discuss and rehearse with the director, James Foley, and co-stars Berry and Willis. "It's something that most films don't do, and it's such a shame," said Ribisi.

While extensive preparation is part of Ribisi's "meticulous" approach toward his craft, he noted, "There is inspiration that comes from being there, from the scenery." He described the difficulty he had in trying to create this character, who is indeed a very dark, and perhaps disturbed, person. Ribisi said, "My objective was to get her," which included portraying, "those deep emotions that flip-flop between love and hate."

Still, he confessed that when watching edits of the film, he sees aspects of his performance that he would like to have done differently, and even "cringes" sometimes.

While Ribisi struggled to capture his character, Berry had an equally challenging time. Without giving away too much detail, Berry had to develop three characters within her one character. Essentially, Berry had to "act within the character, then act with that character."

While this may seem like the perfect role for an Oscar winner, Berry tries not to let her acclaim get in the way of her work. "I try not to concern myself with that, because it's career suicide. Maybe ignorance is bliss. I try not to have expectations," Berry said.

Indeed, although winning an Oscar may help an actor's career, it hardly guarantees future success. Take, for example, Helen Hunt. With a successful television show and a few decent movies under her belt, she won an Oscar for *As Good As It Gets*. Since then, she has barely come out with strong leading roles, at least not any that have garnered commercial or critical success. But it seems that Berry has not been cursed. After winning an Oscar in 2001 for *Monster's Ball*, she has come out with two huge sequels to the X-Men movies, and even became a Bond Girl. In fact, during the interview, Berry said she would gladly star in another X-Men film, no matter how big or small her part is.

Still, Berry did express concern about the difficulty of finding interesting roles. "Good roles are hard to find, male or female — but especially for females. I could also say, for women of color, but it's difficult for all women," shared Berry.

Berry is a big proponent of racial equality, and considers herself a pioneer. In fact, she was the first black woman to win a Best Actress Oscar. She observes that the industry is changing its concepts of minorities, and better parts are being written for people of color, which

includes Jennifer Hudson's Oscar-winning performance in *Dreamgirls*.

Berry has been making movies for more than 20 years, which she says makes her extremely proud, and strong enough to handle the criticism that comes with her job. "I'm used to criticism. I respect other people's opinion. I don't agree with it, but I accept it," she said.

A popular issue that many journalists chastise Berry about is her willingness to do nude scenes in her films. But Berry maintains, "I'm totally comfortable with my nudity. We're okay with shooting and killing in movies, yet we can't accept a simple naked body. It's a contradiction."

After a quick interview, both stars left the room, later to attend a special advance screening at Sunset Place in South Miami. Berry lit up the red carpet, just as she had the conference room, with her radiant beauty and confidence.

Yet it was Ribisi's insight into the creative process that really resonated. He recalled a time when the cast and crew were working on a scene at around four in the morning, and it was very tiring and bothersome to go over every detail in the scene. Then he said, "God is in the specifics for the arts, the creativity."



Giovanni Ribisi takes a moment to snap a photo with our writer.

Miami Celebrates the Artistry of Choreographer Merce Cunningham

(Continued from page 9)

The actual theater where the performance was held is round, and the stage is also circular. Several balconies wrap around the theatre, and on each balcony the musicians sat poised to start the show. Digital clocks placed around the theater counted down until the show began. Five. Four. Three. Two. One. A lone soloist stood onstage and played a brief melody on her instrument, setting the choreography in motion, first by one male soloist and then the dance evolved into a series of solos, duets, trios, quartets, and ensembles, involving the entire cast of 14 dancers. Meanwhile, the music coming from the balconies penetrated the theater with wind instruments,

chimes, strings, water drops, and an entire montage of sounds. True to Cunningham's vision, *Ocean* was captivating and dynamic.

Always avant-garde and on the cutting edge, Cunningham has managed to produce five decades of inspiring, artistic, and multilayered work. Bravo.

Part One of the exhibition "Merce Cunningham: Dancing on the Cutting Edge" continues until April 29 at the Museum of Contemporary Art, North Miami, at 780 N.E. 125 St. Part Two runs from April 22 to June 25 at MOCA at Goldman Warehouse at 404 N.W. 26 St. in Wynwood. For more information, call 305-893-6211 or log onto www.mocanomi.org.

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reception may 4
7-9 post meridiem

if you cannot attend
the exhibit runs until september

Déjà Vu Screenwriter Reveals the Secret to Success: Hard Work

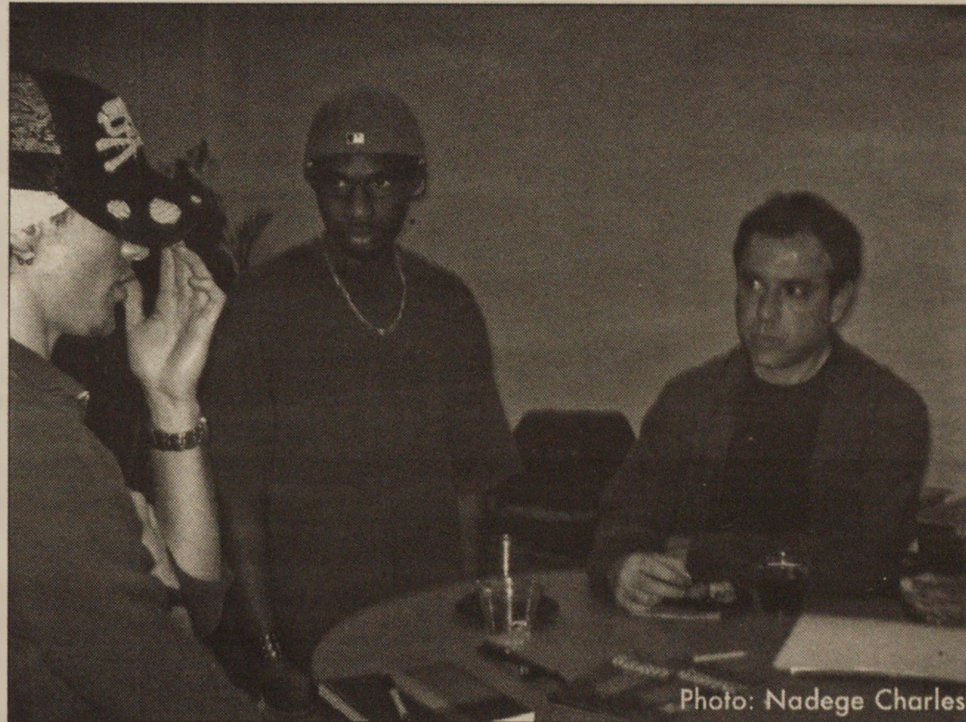
By Nadege Charles
Staff Writer

A man holds the hand of a beautiful woman as she lies down, and he falls in love with her. It sounds simple enough, but what if he falls in love with her while she's lying on an autopsy table—dead. You've probably never seen anyone fall in love that way before, that is if you haven't seen the hit movie *Déjà Vu*, written by Bill Marsilii and Terry Rossio. On February 20 in the Landon Events Room, Bill Marsilii talked about the brainstorming process for a successful screenplay. His presentation, "From Premise to Plot," drew dozens of students, alumni, faculty, and staff, and even a 14-year-old aspiring screenwriter.

Marsilii spoke to his audience with an obvious fervor and passion for the topic. In a very poetic moment, he announced, "Find a soulmate of an idea, because when you're in love, you find a way." Marsilii reinforced something we've all heard for years from different professors about writing a paper, and the same applies to screenwriting: The most vital part is the premise. A great idea is the catalyst for the rest of the story to be equally brilliant.

Marsilii's love for writing began in grade school, when he wrote stories from the new words he learned. He went on to study acting at New York University, and eventually formed a small theater company. Marsilii and his troupe wrote, pro-

duced and acted in all of their own plays. Once the realization hit him that he was really trying to produce movies onstage, Marsilii tried his hand at the real thing. He wrote *The Invisible Quire*, a "secret agent nun thriller." This script did not get produced, but it did get Marsilii an agent.



Bill Marsilii fields questions from aspiring screenwriters.

Déjà Vu took seven years to write, and then only 48 hours to sell for a whopping \$5 million. Marsilii is a testimonial to hard work and persistence. He admits to having moments when he wasn't sure where the story was going, but he had a good idea: a man who didn't believe in God until something happened to him that reaffirmed his position, and finally he realized that whatever it was that had hap-

pened was the answer he'd been seeking all along. Through this structure, Marsilii tweaked the idea, creating obstacles and extremes for every scenario. Marsilii demanded of himself an idea that required him "to become a better writer to pull it off," and he urged the audience to do the same when brainstorming.

Marsilii also touched on a subject which is often a very sore spot for college students: research. Marsilii researched some of the greatest catastrophes in order to create the ferry explosion in the film. "I chose to do a lot of research so the script could be as realistic as possible." In the script, the character Detective McCready reacts to the ferry explosion: "Folks, this

is a perfect act of terrorism. There were no baggage checks, no flight data recorders, maximum casualties, and all the evidence is buried under 90 feet of sea water. Don't overlook anything."

Once Marsilii wrapped up his presentation, he spent a great amount of time talking to students one-on-one. The crowd picked his brain about everything, and a very bold student even tried to submit a script for him to read. As Marsilii swiped a quiche from the buffet and attempted to eat, eager students were lurking right behind him, trying to absorb the secrets of selling a script for \$5 million. Jerome, a communications major, noted, "He's a true success story." Marsilii's presentation also inspired the 14-year-old Eric, who is working on a screenplay that he's keeping under wraps for the moment. "It was real good to get all this info from a pro," he said.

Hours later, the last of the students trickled out of the events room. Some were going home to get started on their screenplays, and others to dream about cashing them in. Marsilii surveyed the buffet table one last time, and he too was ready to pack up and leave. His presentation definitely hit home for many of the aspiring writers in the audience. "From Premise to Plot" was a valuable presentation for all majors in the sense that it touched upon the basic components needed to succeed: motivation, dedication, and a good work ethic.

Renaissance Festival Takes Floridians Back in Time

By Caitlin Granfield
Advertising Director

The 2007 Florida Renaissance Festival, held at Quiet Waters Park in Deerfield Beach, proved to be as magical as living in the early 1500s. With tons of shows to see and partake in, it's no wonder that people



Photo: Gerald Uribe

come from all over to attend, wearing the traditional and not-so traditional clothes of that time. For example, it's not surprising to see people dressed up as kings and queens, peasants and princes; some sport fairy wings or try to balance on tall stilts.

Gerald Uribe, a student at Miami-Dade College, said, "There was a very funny and perturbing man dressed up as a joker baby on stilts. He was crying and calling every man that walked by his 'daddy'. It was too funny." It seems with every step you take, you become more accustomed to the distracting sights.

Wearing clean clothes is not recommended if you plan to partake in the mud pit. A good percentage of people there were splattered head-to-toe with splotches of sticky mud, but were all smiles when walking by to show off their "battle wounds."

There's something for everyone to enjoy while roaming about the figure-eight paths of the festival. Barry University sophomore Tara Zumpano observed that at this year's Renaissance Festival, "Both performers and audience members were eccentric, but in an extremely fun way. People were just running around, laugh-

ing, screaming, and having fun." If you go next year, don't miss a performance you'll never forget by the Harling Irish Dancers. Watch as they dance a jig of unimaginable rhythm and harmony, never missing a beat.

There's just so much to see, so what do you do when you get plain old exhausted? Grab a delicious bite to eat at the many food stands, and don't forget the frozen lemonade. With choices like kettle corn, gourmet apples, lemon-pepper grilled salmon, and chocolate-covered bananas, it's obvious that you made the right decision by skipping the cafeteria food.

Bring a little extra spending money next year, because if you don't, you'll probably be hitting up the ATM so you can buy Austrian-crystal balls, clay flutes, or even a tarot card reading. Glassblowers create and sell artistic shapes ranging from reproductions of historical figures to paperweights. This festival also offers handmade moccasins as well as gypsy clothing and wax hands.

Making mental memories is one thing, but you'll probably be happier if you bring your camera. You'll be out of film

or memory space before you know it, with all the amazing attractions to photograph. Take a picture of the giant rocking horse or of the joust fights. Enter your best shots in the annual photo contest to win up to \$100 and four free passes to the following Renaissance Festival.

Compared to last year, the festival didn't have quite as much to offer. Last March had the famous hawk-training show in the mid-afternoon, which attracted a lot of people. This year, the show was at 1 p.m., too early for many. Also, the Jousting Knights event, which was supposed to be the show to see, left many with sleepy eyes. One of the vendors was selling jewelry made of elephant ivory, which didn't sit well with some. Even with these obstacles, it was still worth attending.

The Renaissance Festival runs next year in mid-March from 10 a.m. to sunset, so be sure to visit, and try not to have too much fun. The admission cost is \$20, and parking is \$1 per person, but if you donate blood there, then it's free to enter the festival. Check it out next March.

For more information, check out the Renaissance Festival website at www.ren-fest.com.

calendar of EVENTS

P. 12

1]

Women's Golf at
Ryder Florida
Women's
Championship

2]

3]

Baseball vs. Florida
Gulf Coast, 6:00 PM

4]

5]

6]

Softball vs. Eckerd,
7:00 PM

Baseball vs. Florida Tech,
6:00 PM

7]

Softball vs. Eckerd,
1:00 PM (doubleheader)

Baseball vs. Florida Tech,
1:00 PM (doubleheader)

8]

9]

10]

11]

12]

Women's Tennis vs.
Northwood, 2:00 PM

Men's Tennis vs.
Northwood, 2:00 PM

13]

Rowing in Tampa for
FIRA Championships 'til
April 14

14]

Women's Tennis vs.
Flagler, 10:00 AM

Men's Tennis vs. Flagler,
10:00 AM

15]

Rowing in Tampa for
SSC Championships

Men's Tennis vs.
Barton, 10:30 AM

16]

Women's Golf Sunshine
State Conference
Tournament

Men's Golf Sunshine
State Conference
Tournament

17]

Women's Golf Sunshine
State Conference
Tournament

Softball vs. Florida Gulf
Coast, 5:00 PM
(doubleheader)

Baseball vs. St. Thomas,
6:00 PM

18]

19]

Women's Tennis in
Tampa for SSC
Tournament 'til April 21

Men's Tennis in Tampa
for SSC Tournament 'til
April 21

Francisco Jose Moreno
talks about his book
*Before Fidel: The Cuba I
Remember* @ Books &
Books, Gables, 6:30 PM

20]

Rowing in Oakland, TN
for SIRA Championships
'til April 21

Softball vs. Florida
Southern, 5:00 PM

Baseball vs. Saint Leo,
6:00 PM

21]

Softball vs. Florida
Southern, 1:00 PM
(doubleheader)

Baseball vs. Saint Leo,
12:00 PM (doubleheader)

*Films of the French New
Wave: Bed and Board
(1970)* @ Books & Books
in Coral Gables, 8:30 PM

22]

23]

24]

25]

Cine-Improv @ Miami
Beach Cinematheque,
9:00 PM \$12

Country singer Bobby
Braddock talks about his
book *Down in Orundale:
A Songwriter's Youth in
Old Florida* @ Books &
Books, Gables, 6:00 PM

26]

27]

Softball vs. Nova
Southeastern, 7:00 PM

Oscar Shorts: Animation
@ Miami Beach
Cinematheque, 8:30 PM

Music in the Courtyard:
Kynch O'Kaine's Trio @
Books & Books, Gables,
7-11 PM

28]

Softball vs. Nova
Southeastern, 1:00 PM
(doubleheader)

29]

Women's Golf
NCAA South
Regional 'til May 2

30]

Miami Gay and
Lesbian Film Festival
begins, runs 'til May 5,
schedule at mglff.com

1]

2]

3]

4]

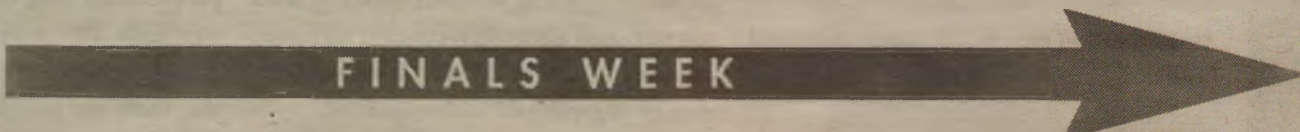
**END OF SPRING
SEMESTER!**

5]

Softball vs. Rollins,
5:00 PM (doubleheader)

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FINALS WEEK



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Hip-hop and Basketball: Linked on the Court and in Pop Culture

By Brittany Holmes
Staff Writer

The hip-hop movement has had a profound effect on the mainstream culture of the entire nation, especially in the areas of music, fashion, advertising, television and sports. This influence has ignited controversy over the last 10 years, and professional basketball is one of the latest flash points for such disputes. The National Basketball Association is unofficially associated with hip-hop, as both are entertainment businesses, and many NBA players align themselves with hip-hop culture.

Many basketball players were raised in urban areas of America, where hip-hop showed them how to walk, talk, dress, and be a man. These players were accustomed to looking the part of street soldiers. Since they joined the NBA, some urban-bred players such as Allen Iverson, Carmelo Anthony, and Jermaine O'Neal have brought a hip-hop style and attitude to the game. Often players would come to games or press conferences dressed in baggy jeans, jerseys or T-shirts, sneakers, wave caps, baseball caps and chains — looks that to many appear to be the same as rappers.

But to NBA Commissioner David Stern and other association members, this look was inappropriate, as it did not portray the professional image that the NBA wanted its players to project. In the real world, professionals dress in attire appropriate for the event they are attending, whether in formal suits or business casual: fitted khaki pants and tucked-in polos or button-down shirts, with no heavy gold chains showing. Seeing as the NBA is a professional business, it was only logical for the commissioner to want his workers to look the part.

So in October 2005, a dress code was put in place for official appearances off the court. This code requires players to wear dress shirts or sweaters; dress slacks, khakis or dress jeans; socks, and dress shoes or dress boots. Excluded items are: sleeveless shirts, T-shirts, jerseys or sports apparel (unless appropriate for the event); shorts; headgear or headphones; as well as chains, medallions or pendants worn over clothing. Just like in any business, violating the rules results in disciplinary action.

When this dress code took effect, some players took offense, viewing it as a deliberate attack upon certain players

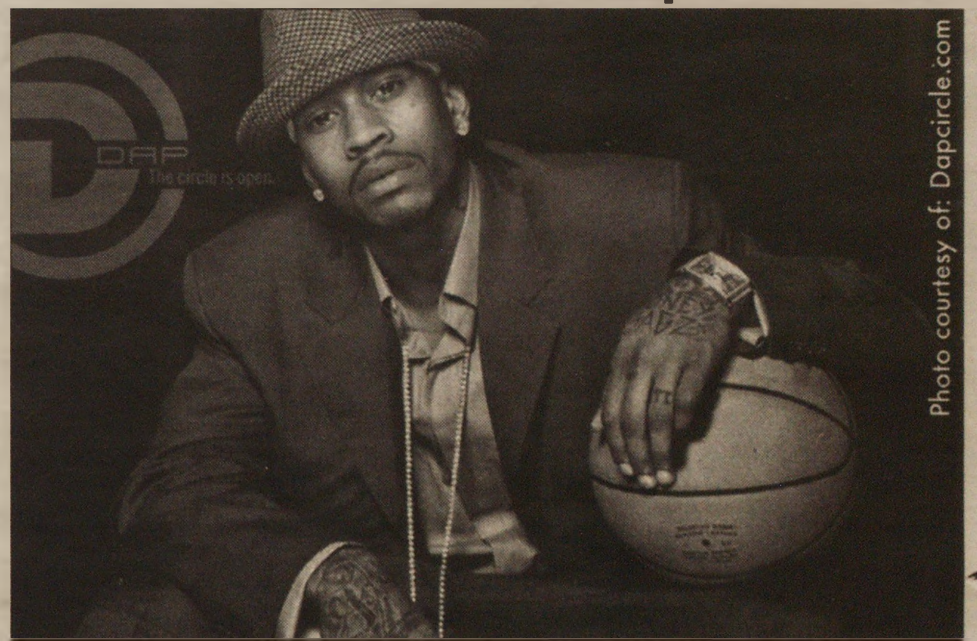


Photo courtesy of: Dapcircle.com

Denver Nuggets guard Allen Iverson strikes a pose to promote DAP body spray.

who until then, had dressed in more of a hip-hop style. Although the NBA writes the checks, the players are the ones selling official NBA merchandise such as jerseys, as well as selling out arenas. The NBA may have a problem with certain players' style, but they have jumped on the hip-hop moneymaking bandwagon right along with everyone else.

With the emergence of hip-hop superstars, the NBA, like many other organizations and businesses, took notice and began using hip-hop music and its creators in their advertisements. NBA play-

ers appeared in films reflecting the hip-hop culture, and even produced their own hip-hop music. Not only is Iverson a star point guard, but he is also now a rapper. His first single, "40 Bars," spoke negatively about homosexuality (shunned in the hip-hop community). In light of this, comments by Commissioner Stern and homosexual NBA fans forced Iverson to not release his album.

In addition, some hip-hop artists, such as Shawn "Jay-Z" Carter, Cornell "Nelly" Haynes and Shad "Bow Wow" Moss,

(continued on page 14)

Softball Star Maile Keeney Makes Her Mark

By Kristy Singletary
Staff Writer

Maile Keeney has more to celebrate than your average senior. She is an exceptional student-athlete on the women's softball team whose accomplishments have made Barry University history. Keeney also is graduating with a masters and bachelors in sports management upon finishing the five-year seamless program in four years. This May she will become the first person in her family to graduate college.

Keeney exemplifies how a mix of hard work and perseverance can pay off. Her inspirational story demonstrates that you are the one who decides whether your dreams become reality. Keeney has embraced all the trials and tribulations she has faced as lifelong lessons, carrying them each step along this journey called life.

Keeney endured more suffering than most children during her childhood. She was born in Hawaii, but moved to Florida when she was nine years old because her mother had lung cancer. Sadly, Keeney's mother did not survive her battle with lung cancer, and passed away when Keeney was just 10 years old. Two years before, her father had died of liver failure, so with the additional loss of her mother, she and her siblings (two half-sisters and one half-brother) became orphans. "It sucked, but my grandmother was always there supporting and caring for us whenever we needed something," Keeney recalls.

Keeney and her siblings grew up with her aunt, uncle, and two cousins. The loss of both parents at such a young age forced Keeney to grow up instantly. At 15 years old, she had to get a job in order to financially support herself. Unlike most children her age, Keeney bought her own car, gas, car insurance, and clothing. "I

was independent. Anything that I wanted, I had to buy for myself," she says.

Although she will be the first person in her family to earn a college degree, Keeney always knew that she would go to college, because she has always been good at school. "My family is really proud of me. They didn't really think about it, because it is more as if they expect it from me," says Keeney.

While Keeney is a bright student, her talent on the softball field is what opened up more opportunities to further her education past high school. Keeney first started playing softball at the age of 12. Like many other aspects of her life, Keeney was independent in that she used to travel with other players' parents to games, and would attend tournaments by herself. Keeney's athletic successes in high school were average, and she really had no plans to play softball at the next level. Her aunt recognized her inconspicuous talent, however, and convinced her to try to play in college.

Now Keeney is thankful for the experiences and opportunities that Barry athletics has offered her. "Playing softball here at Barry, I have met great friends and discovered more about myself that will last me a lifetime," Keeney states.

She has learned to work under pressure and live up to the expectations of her

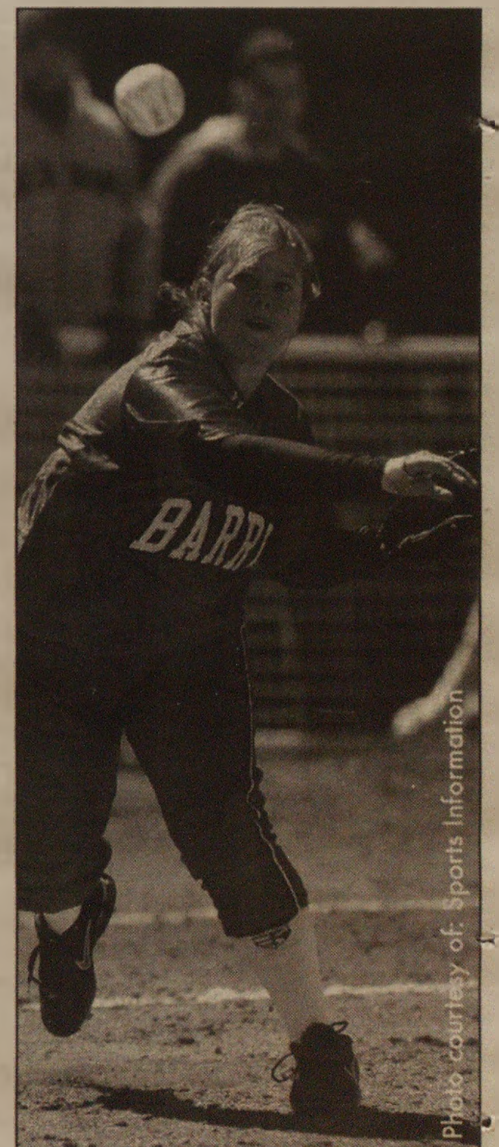


Photo courtesy of: Sports Information

teammates and coaches. Ironically, for the first time since her childhood, she cultivated the ability to depend on other people besides herself through softball.

(continued on page 14)



Hip-hop and Basketball: Linked on the Court and Pop Culture

(Continued from page 13)

became part-owners of teams. They are part of the reason some teams are able to be successful in certain venues. They bring more fans to the stands. Hip-hop fans tend to follow their favorite artists, supporting them by attending games of the teams in which those artists have partial ownership.

"A lot of players are part of the hip-hop culture. And they bring many fans along with them," said Otis White, a guard on the Barry University men's basketball team. Just being associated with the hip-hop culture helps pro players bring in huge revenues.

Is the NBA biting the hand that feeds it by enforcing the dress code? New Jersey Nets guard Vince Carter was offended. In New Jersey's *Bergen Record*, Carter was quoted as saying, "I just think people should be able to express themselves. I know they took out the doo-rag stuff; I understand that." But, he noted that it shouldn't matter to others what players wear when traveling. "We want to be com-

fortable on a flight just like everybody else in the world when they fly." When NBA players are flying for personal reasons, they can dress however they please, but the NBA does not want them to walk off a plane for a league event dressed in anything that doesn't meet the code.

Allen Iverson told *The Philadelphia Inquirer* that the dress code "sends a bad message to kids. If you don't have a suit when you go to school, is your teacher going to think you're a bad kid because you don't have a suit on?"

NBA players affiliated with hip-hop are highly scrutinized, and sometimes with good reason, including troubles on and off the court. For instance, the infamous 2004 all-out brawl between the Detroit Pistons, Indiana Pacers and fans was attributed to thug-like behavior fueled by hip-hop culture in the league. The primary concerns after these altercations, and other related troubles, are the potential effects on youth who look up to NBA stars and aspire to one day play professionally.

During three years of working with elementary-school students in an after-school program that strived to help them with schoolwork and building character, I found that many urban male youth look at NBA stars like Iverson and Anthony as role models.

Indeed, many would argue that the image that pro basketball players portray is not harming youth. Although their clothing may look like that of thugs, some players have foundations to make music education available in inner-city schools and fund recreation centers to keep children off the streets. For example, Carmelo Anthony founded the Carmelo Anthony Youth Development Center in Baltimore, where he was raised. It helps children with their education and gets them involved in extracurricular activities.

Locally, Miami Heat superstar Alonzo Mourning and his wife Tracy have worked closely with the youth of South Florida for more than ten years through their non-profit organization Alonzo Mourning Charities. The Mournings have received numerous honors for their char-

itable work, including the 2007 Faith and Founders Award from Barry University.

While some of incidents that occur off-court still reflect on the NBA, and may have a certain relationship to the hip-hop culture, players apologize for such behavior and speak to children who look up to them about the importance of getting an education and staying out of trouble.

Hip-hop music itself can be a source of inspiration for players at all levels. Barry guard Gabe Lazo listens to hip-hop before games. He said, "When I hear music before and during the games, it gets me hyped." Lazo is in good company: So do Anthony and Iverson. Asked at a press conference what he does to prepare for games, Anthony replied, "I listen to rap. I love Styles P and Jadakiss." Part of a player's performance is attributed to pre-game actions. Hip-hop music gets many players energized, and helps them perform at higher levels.

So the final questions are: Is hip-hop beneficial to the game of basketball? Or is it a disgrace that the NBA should be ashamed of? The answers are up to you.

Basketball Teams Wrap Up Successful Seasons

By Alisha Sanford
Sports Editor

The Barry University men's basketball team had an exciting 2006-07 season. They may not have gone as far as they wanted to, but the individual and group accomplishments on this dynamic team say a lot. This season's roster boasted six standout seniors: Felipe Barrios, Amadou Fall, Phil Puccia, Ryan Saunders, Otis White, and Eddie Young. They helped lead the Bucs to an impressive 23-7 finish overall and 13-3 finish in the Sunshine State Conference (SSC), earning a regular season co-championship of the SCC and an at-large bid to the 2007 NCAA Championships held in March.

2006-07 All-SSC Team Honors

First Team: Felipe Barrios, Ryan Saunders
SSC Coach of the Year: Head Coach Cesar Odio

All-Freshman Team: Bryan Chiverton

The Barry women's basketball team finished this season 14-14 overall and 8-8 in the SSC, helping Head Coach Bill Sullivan post the best record for a first-year coach in the history of Barry women's basketball. Despite falling short at the 2007 SSC tournament, losing to Rollins College in the semifinals, the Lady Bucs have a lot to be proud of and a lot to look forward to next season. "Everyone worked really hard this season, and I feel as a team we haven't even scratched the surface," says junior point guard Kelli Welch. "And now that it is the off-season, people are continuing to work even harder, so I can't wait for next year."

2006-07 All-SSC Team Honors

First Team: Alexandria Fernander
Second Team: Princess Bailey



Photo courtesy of: Sports Information

Softball Star Maile Keeney Makes Her Mark

(Continued from page 13)

"Maile has a big impact and presence on the field," says sophomore Amanda Golz. "I look up to her. She's a great leader in her actions on and off the field. She is a great role model and is very influential."

A natural leader, Keeney has made some remarkable accomplishments while playing for Barry. On March 17, Keeney hit her 24th homerun, making her No. 1 in the school's softball history for amount of

homeruns. Over the past four years, Keeney has been one of the major contributors to the softball team's rise to second rank in the South Region, becoming one of the area's most competitive teams. Barry's softball team made its 12th appearance in the NCAA tournament last year, which set high expectations for this season.

"Making it to the regional tournament

has made us hungry to reach that point and exceed it for this season. We have learned a lot, and it is an expectation that we have. We have got to win every game possible, because one game can keep you out of it," says Keeney.

"I look up to her. She's a great leader in her actions on and off the field. She is a great role model and is very influential."

-- Amanda Golz, sophomore

She plans to stay in Florida and work in administration in college athletics after graduation, because according to Keeney, "It's too cold anywhere else."



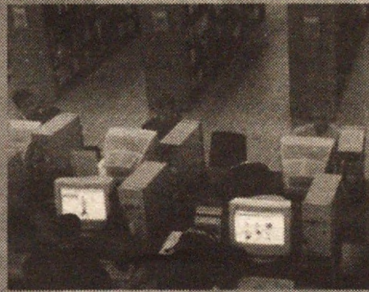
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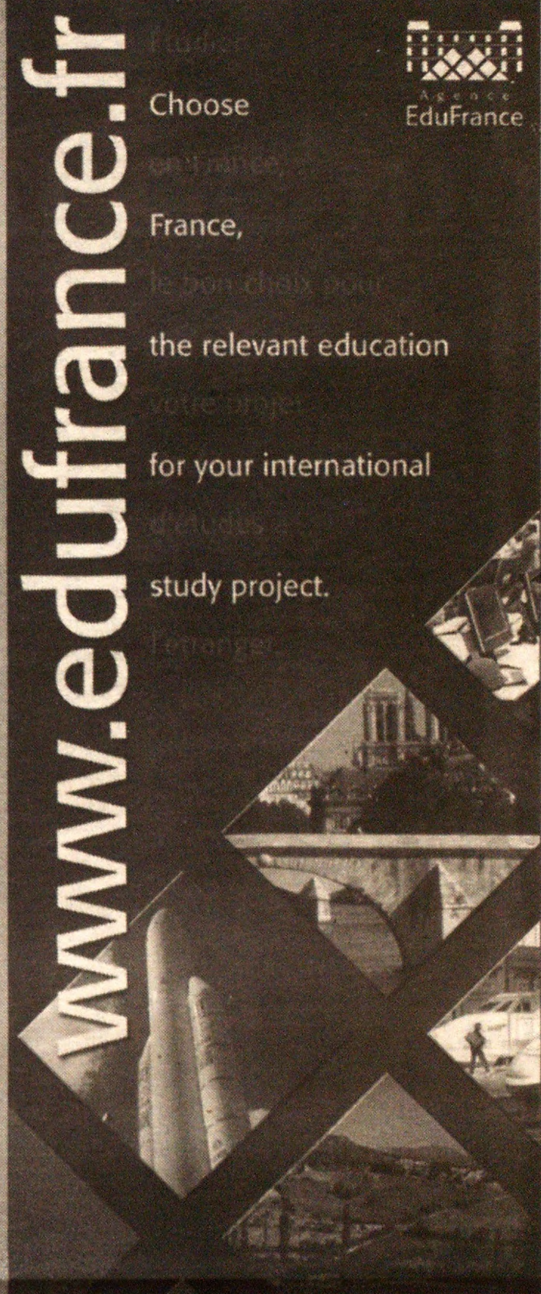
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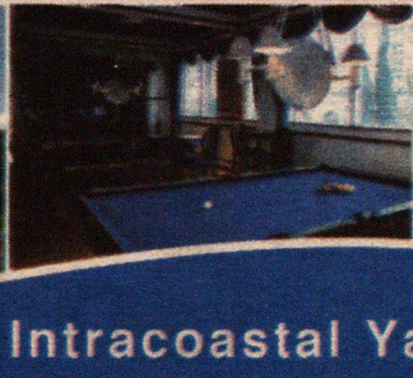
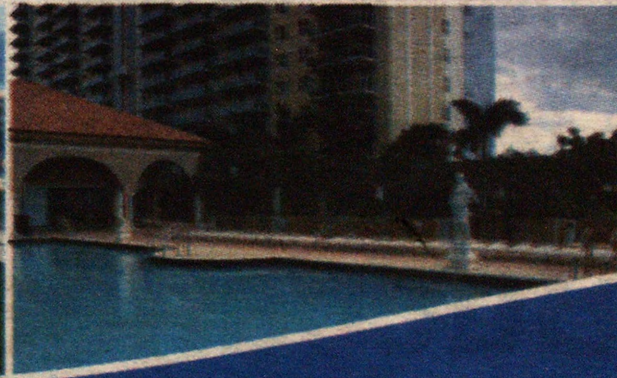



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*Restrictions apply

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