

SCHOLASTICA

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A Few Words

From Editor-in-Chief, Diana Cavallo

It seems unreal that I am writing “My Few Words” for the December issue and realizing that the fall semester is coming to an end! I think most of you will join me in saying goodbye to finals and welcoming the relaxing days of winter break! I am sure that my fellow seniors will understand the building sense of nostalgia for our last winter break at Pace. For all first-year students, I hope you have thoroughly enjoyed your first semester here and the surprise snowstorm that gave the Pleasantville campus a much lighter look than usual.

In the excitement to pack up your things and head home for vacation, don't forget that finals are actually a real event, not just a scary college

student thought. Remember to use the mid-term study tips from the November issue and look at Dr. Benton's “Some Maternal Advice” article below for some final exam preparations. Also consider meeting with your professor to clarify what will material will be covered on your final exams and projects.

If your many textbooks are taking up space in your suitcases and car, get them out of your dorm room in a different way- return them! For books purchased on campus, return them to the bookstore and see how much you can earn from selling them back. Another option is to sell them online through well-known websites like Amazon.com or Ebay.com, where you can choose

the prices at which you would like to sell your material. You can also use these websites during the break to purchase textbooks for the upcoming Spring semester.

This December issue has some tips on how to “Better Spend your Winter Break” and the Honors College's unforgettable experience at the 2011 NCHC Conference in Phoenix, Arizona. In my first semester as Editor-in-Chief, I am really proud of SCHOLASTICA and I hope that you are all enjoying it as much as I am!



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Some Maternal Advice

From Honors College Director, Dr. Janetta Rebold Benton



The following is advice about how to prepare for tests, quizzes, and final exams:

Start now: Write all dates of tests, papers, and other assignments on a calendar – that is always with you.

Studying: You have (of course) already gone over your notes soon after each class. Read

your notes a few more times, slowly, carefully, thinking the entire time. rather than many times quickly or superficially. Mark important facts with a yellow highlighter. The next time you go through your notes, continue to be more selective and underline important information in red pen. Write adjectives, dates, and names you want to be sure to work into your test answers (to impress professors) in the margins of your notebook. Try to guess what will be asked on a test and figure out how you would answer those questions. Perhaps study with a friend.

When the test approaches, you are far behind, and panic sets in: Never stay up all night, or almost all night, before a test that lasts longer

than twenty minutes, nor before any test that requires you to think analytically. The all-nighter is one night earlier. Now you can eat anything you have denied yourself; all junk food is yours – *if you are learning!*

The night before the test: Schedule yourself nine hours in bed – you won't sleep all that time. Forget showering and ignore changing your clothes because ultimately, the test will prove more important. Also, eat decently beforehand:

don't load up on caffeine – coffee, tea, Coke, or chocolate. Eat a balanced breakfast and something substantial, such as a cheeseburger, or something nutritious that provides lasting energy rather than caffeine that brings you all the way up,

and all the way down, before the test is even over. **During the test:** Push yourself. You have spent days, weeks, and months preparing, so make it show. Use every minute. If you finish early, re-read your paper. Never hand in your paper until it is forcibly extracted from your grasp.



PACE UNIVERSITY, PLEASANTVILLE

- Janetta Rebold Benton, Ph.D.
Honors College Director
- Christopher Walther, M.S.
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Editor-in-Chief



UNV101 Halloween Party at the Pleasantville Cottage School

By John Robb



Honors College student, Christina Rufo with a skeleton-faced party participant.

Just two days before Halloween, the Honors College students were ready for the annual University 101 Honors Halloween Party. The party is meant to give the underprivileged children of the Pleasantville Cottage School, a residential treatment center, a fun-filled and spooky day. Instead of hosting the event on campus in Gottesman Room, as in previous years, Honors College students traveled to the Cottage School and transformed a recreational room with spooky decorations, black and orange tablecloths and lots of Halloween goodies.

Many of the Pace University students were dressed up in full Halloween attire, from elaborate Ghostbusters suits to various animal outfits. Soon the students of the Cottage School would be entertained with fun games, a magician, and of course, food and drink. Lots of activities were arranged around the room from “stick the eyeball on the skeleton” to “wrap the mummy in toilet paper.”

By completing one of these stations, the Cottage School student would get a sticker to put on the index card they had received upon arrival. These stickers, as Professor Walther says, “are like gold to children” because after completing five activities, they can finally get their candy. The Honors students were

highly interactive with both of the groups of Cottage School children that came to join the festivities. Many of these children seemed to form friendships with Pace students, spending a vast majority of the event together, accompanying each other from station to station, and even engaging in friendly competition with each other at the activities.

The games were a great success, as many of the children and students played at the stations over and over again. Some of the most popular stations were bowling, eyeball-throwing, and naturally the food and candy table. Many of the Cottage School children ventured to the face painting station, where they were transformed into superheroes, pumpkins, and animals. Sometimes it was hard to tell who was having more fun, those who were hosting the party or the attendees.

Of course during idle times between the group’s arrivals, the Pace students had to do test runs on the activities, where they got to play the games themselves. A fun time was had by all, and it was a great experience for both the faculty and students of the Cottage School and Pace University.



Honors College students, Jessica and Catherine, overseeing the Candy Wheel.

Honors Open Meeting

By Steven Calahan



Dr. Pastore giving his lecture on America’s current economic dilemma.

On Monday, November 7th, the Pforzheimer Honors College held their fall semester Open Meeting in the Gottesman Room of the Kessel Student Center. After all of the students had arrived and checked in with Honors College Advisor, Professor Christopher Walther, the meeting began. Dr. Janetta Benton, the Honors College Director,

took the stage and thanked the students for coming to the day’s event. She then introduced this year’s Open Meeting Speaker, Dr. Joseph Pastore of the Management Department.

Dr. Pastore spoke about the current economic hardships our society is facing— not only in the United States but all over the world, because various international nations are linked together in some way or form. He also spoke about how technology has changed our society and how it also has affected the American economy. After Dr. Pastore gave us his speech, Dr. Benton then introduced Professor John Cronin, who was awarded the 2011 National Jefferson Award for Public Service. Professor Cronin is going to be teaching a new Honors class in the spring called, “Environmental Roots and Rights: The Prac-

tice and Principles of American Environmentalism.” This students will study the roots of American society and how environmentalists have helped shape it. This course will close with a moot court case, where opposing student councils will present their cases to Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., a professor at Pace Law School.

Dr. Cronin also spoke about another new course that focuses solely on the nearby Hudson River. He told us how many cities were able to form successfully because of the river and how it allowed for transportation and protection. It was also a determining factor in the development of western cities and towns. Many think of the Hudson as a dirty body of water near the city, but Prof. Cronin promises that the course will prove the river to be far more than this, but an integral part of society’s progress.

After both speakers finished, all the professors in attendance were dismissed, allowing students’ voices to dominate the conversation. Dr. Benton took the stand and posed a series of questions to the crowd. She asked what kind of courses we would want the Honors College to offer in upcoming semesters and what teachers we would want to teach some of them. She also asked about our interest in the course that Professor Cronin had described. Then the students were allowed to voice our concerns. Some of us had issues will fulfilling requirements and others had some questions about upcoming events. Overall, the event was very successful, it is great to know that we have an active role in our education. Students also didn’t mind sampling the varied cookie and fruit display in the back of the room!

Trip to the United Nations

By Jonathon Zfira



Professor Walther's UNV101 class in the General Assembly chamber.

Friday, November 4th, 2011 dawned bright and cold for thirty or so Pforzheimer Honors College students, awaiting the buses to the United Nations World Headquarters in New York City. But neither the chilly weather nor the

slightly delayed buses could deter the students from what would turn out to be an enlightening tour through the world's preeminent diplomatic body.

Upon arriving at the complex and construction-riddled east side of Manhattan, we were met immediately by contrast. The stately Secretariat building, sheathed in austere marble and green glass, stands resolutely above the fluttering kaleidoscope of 193 national flags lined up along First Avenue. We were quickly herded through a makeshift security tent and into the expansive visitor's center, where an international crowd mingled beneath floating concrete terraces that seem to evoke another era.

The first stop on our tour was the magnificent General Assembly chamber, where large, open debates involving all

member states take place. With its soaring rotunda ceiling, abstract art, and soft paneling, this room balances the hard angles and intimidating exterior of the complex; indeed it invites one to imagine a beating heart to an organization sometimes criticized for its ineffectiveness. From our tour's seating in the press area, we were treated to a head on view of the granite podium and solid wood backdrop that, for the last seven decades, have framed the attempts of world leaders to bring about "friendly relations among nations." Finally, attached to each chair was the iconic earpiece worn to listen to the various translators who sit above the chamber, a system in continuous use since the building opened in 1952.

Outside and around the General Assembly chamber, the tour progressed through several exhibits. Some of these consisted of artwork, including an interpretation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and an assault rifle that had been fashioned into a guitar. Other displays focused on gifts that had been given to the UN over the years, while the final one illuminated the eight Millennium Development Goals adopted in 2002 to address worldly imperatives like poverty, universal education, and HIV/AIDS.

The final stop on our tour was the temporary Security Council chamber. This aging conference room has been converted to hold meetings while the permanent chamber is renovated. A palpable reverence befell the group as it marveled at the horseshoe table where the most intense and pertinent (its resolutions can be legally binding) organ of the UN weighs the collective peace and security of the world.

Wolf Conservation Presentation

By Colby Hochmuth



Atka surveying Gottesman Room.

Honors College students welcomed a furry visitor to campus on November 9th. His name is Atka, a traveling wolf ambassador from the Wolf Conservation Center (WCC) in Westchester. Atka

was accompanied by two Conservation Center speakers who came to advocate on behalf of Atka's wild, wolf brother and sisters. The Wolf Conservation Center in Westchester was founded in 1999 and promotes the preservation of wolves through active education. The WCC teaches young people about wolves and about mankind's role in protecting this once endangered species.

Speaker, Ms Maggie Howell, gave students a brief history of wolves in America, following their population decline and rise, and the crucial role they play in the environment. Ms Howell also discussed the difference between wolf species and the importance of keeping these interesting creatures at home in the wild.

The event was held in Gottesman Room and nine-year-old, Arctic Grey wolf Atka surveyed the crowd, guided by a trained representative from the WCC. Atka is the WCC's oldest wolf ambassador and travels all over the Northeast helping to

promote wolf conservation. In the last year alone, Atka has been to over 150 schools, museums, nature centers, and libraries teaching welcoming audiences about his life. Unlike most wolves, Atka enjoys all of the travelling his job entails.

Although students were not permitted to pet Atka, they still got an up-close look at this beautiful animal's massive coat and paws. Ms. Howell warned that unlike many domesticated pets, including the wolf's oldest living relative, the dog, wolves are very frightened by humans and tend to hide from our two-legged population. Senior accounting major Eddie Redden especially loved seeing the wolf up-close, saying "I've never seen a wolf that big before, it was really cool and definitely one of my favorite events so far."

If you missed this event and would like to learn more about the WCC, feel free to visit their website, www.nywolf.org. The WCC hosts many events that give people the opportunity to interact with the wolves, as well as observe them in their natural habitat, so I encourage you to visit their Westchester location!



Ms Howell reviewing different wolf species.

National Collegiate Honors College Conference, 2011

By John Mannhart



Pforzheimer Honors College representatives after presenting at a NCHC Session.

The National Collegiate Honors Council, also known as NCHC, holds annual conference hosted by different cities throughout the United States. Every year Professor Christopher Walther and two Honors College students attend the conference with hopes of finding new and interesting ways to help to improve our Pforzheimer Honors College. This year, student aids, John Mannhart and Diana Cavallo, were the

Honors College students selected to accompany Professor Walther to the NCHC Conference, which was held in Phoenix, Arizona, October 19-23, 2011.

Our three representatives departed from JFK airport in the early morning hours in very dark and cold conditions. When they arrived in Arizona, they were met by 95 degree, sunny weather in the early afternoon. The first thing on their To-Do List was to get used to the three-hour time difference, which they say was not an easy task. Next was to find the super shuttle to transport them to the Downtown Sheraton in Phoenix, where the Conference was being held. Upon Conference Check-In, each person was given a bag with a NCHC mini notebook, pen, flash drive, and more importantly the Conference Program, which gives the specific when and where details of each presentation.

Friday was a day full of presentations for Professor Walther, John, and Diana. Some of the more helpful presentations included: *Student Leadership during Honors Orientation* and *Undergraduate Honors Research Abroad*. The presentation entitled *Student Leadership during Honors Orientation* went into depth about how to help Honors students get more out of orientation. It also talked about exploring the possibility of starting an Honors Only Orientation and the pros and cons of what this experience would involve. *Undergraduate Honors Research Abroad* promoted the idea of getting more Honors students to travel. The presentation examined various ways to encourage more honors students to travel abroad and how to best acquire scholarship funding for these students. To prove their case, they included the various benefits given to the students who enrolled in study abroad courses.

After a long day of conference sessions, the Pforzheimer trio headed to the NCHC Carnival, which was located in the Arizona Science Center. Unlike many typical cotton

candy and clown oriented carnivals, this one allowed NCHC students and professors to experience the A.S.C on a more private level, as it was closed to the public during the conference event. This fun-filled reception also gave students and professors the opportunity to infuse the information learned from the academic presentations with hands-on technology and experimental exhibits.

On Saturday, October 22nd, Professor Walther, John, and Diana were going to give a presentation of their own! They worked on last minute changes, fine tuning, and presentation rehearsals Saturday morning before their session began. When the time came to give their presentation, titled *Documenting Honors History: Scrapbook and Website Design*, the three of them were more than prepared. Professor Walther handled the introduction and description of the presentation and Diana discussed the importance of the Honors College scrapbook and how to properly organize a student-managed scrapbook. John ended the presentation with the importance of an Honors College website and the key aspects that should be included in it. The presentation went well and many audience members remained after the session to continue discussing this topic.

Later that evening, Professor Walther, Diana and John attended the NCHC Awards Reception, located in the hotel's Phoenix Ballroom. Everyone was dressed in their best attire and waited anxiously to hear the winners of Conference Awards. As soon as the awards were given out, it was dinner time and the food did not disappoint! The entire reception ran smoothly and was an enjoyable evening for everyone involved.

Unfortunately, Sunday was the day of departure. They walked onto the plane leaving a sauna-like environment and then walking off the plane entering a typical east coast icebox. Now that Professor Walther, John, and Diana were back at Pace University, they were ready to share their new information and start implementing the various ideas they learned at the 2011 NCHC.



The trio at an historic Arizona gold mining town.



Professor Walther, Diana, and John at the Arizona Science Center for the NCHC Carnival.

Study Abroad: “Semester at Sea”

By Kaneez Ispahany

My Epic High Seas Experience



Kaneez’s dorm was a boat sailing the Mediterranean Sea during her study abroad.

Being endowed global citizenship is not something to take lightly. I will begin by telling you which countries I went to during my Semester at Sea, also known as SAS. We boarded our naval classroom in the Bahamas and then ventured to Spain, Italy, Morocco, Croatia, Greece, Bulgaria, and Turkey. Although most of the places we went to were in Europe, each country had its own unique culture and political situation going on during our travels. What I loved about the SAS program was that, although my classmates and I had no idea what was going on in the United States, we were kept up to date about the political situations in each country in which we studied. We were right in the middle of the action as every kind of transportation in Piraeus, Greece was on strike! Keep in mind that Harry Potter “The Deathly Hallows” part II was released at the same time as the transportation strike. Even while this directly affected our group, any true Harry Potter fan knows that walking on foot for seven miles to the nearest movie theater is not a problem because it means seeing the premiere of the final Harry Potter movie in a foreign theater.

My favorite country of study was definitely Turkey and I believe that visiting Istanbul truly changed my life. It showed me a different way of life and I was surrounded by mosques and sounds of the Azaan, the call to prayer in the faith of Islam. Although all my study abroad’s spiritual experiences happened in Turkey, Italy’s food blew me away! Croatia had the best views and scenery by far, and the underwater snorkeling experiences were also very remarkable. What I appreciated the most about Morocco was the nation’s very hospitable people, who would make you feel as if you were family before you departed.

The courses of the SAS program proved to be difficult. Battling sea sickness and final exam materials was definitely a challenge in itself. The only time classes were scheduled was during traveling time between the different cities.



Kaneez standing atop the Acropolis in Athens, Greece.

When our ship docked at each port, we were free to roam the city. A unique part of our courses was the field studies aspect, better known to students as educational field trips. These trips included visits anywhere from various historical and cultural sites to urban orphanages. My SAS experience also differed from studies in Pleasantville because of my high seas residency. Dorm life cannot compare to living on a ship. Falling asleep was the same as being rocked in a cradle, as opposed to the loud noises of living in a hallway filled with college students. Getting up for class was a cinch since all you had to do was walk up two flights of stairs to the classroom. Convenience definitely became a selling point!

The general rules and points of preparedness before embarking on a Semester at Sea include purchasing sea-sickness pills, remaining open minded throughout your world tour, and being willing to be pushed outside of your comfort zone. Semester at Sea was the most epic journey I have taken thus far. I was left speechless as we traveled through the gorgeous Mediterranean nations. The whirlwind of events on our sixty-six day journey are memories that will last me a lifetime and continue to inspire me to pursue future world travels. I would recommend Semester at Sea to anyone hoping to experience irreplaceable parts of the world, while still working to complete their college careers.



Kaneez’s favorite photograph of the “Grand Bazaar” in Istanbul, Turkey.



The famous Galata Tower located in Istanbul, Turkey.

To learn more about Semester at Sea opportunities, visit the Pace Website’s “Study Abroad” link in the A-Z Index!

Honors College First-Year Experience Fall 2011 Semester



Thomas Midolo
Brooklyn, New York
Major: Environmental
Studies

I attended Xaverian High School in Brooklyn and, although it helped to prepare me for college life, they are two totally different worlds.

Before I moved into Pace, I was filled with many different emotions. I was excited to start a new life, to further my education, to live on my own, and to make new friends. But at the same time, I was slightly nervous and anxious about those very same things because I did not know what to expect. Yet, after just a few short days, I easily adjusted and became extremely comfortable with Pace Pleasantville. Before move-in day, I was concerned that I would be very busy and overwhelmed with being responsible for my belongings, cleaning my room, doing laundry, getting food, etc. But dorm life wasn't as difficult to manage as I imagined and these things became second nature to me. Now, I am able to live on my own without a single problem.

Academic life at Pace also took some getting used to. My class schedule, variety of classes, and my professors have all been great. My favorite class this semester has been Business Law and my favorite professor is definitely Professor Edelstein, who also happens to teach this course. Although I have never been interested in law, I feel Professor Edelstein's teaching made me interested because he really engages students in the course material and keeps the atmosphere relaxed as well as educational.

In addition to living away from home and managing college classes, I am a member of the Pace baseball team. I play the catcher position and I am really enjoying playing on the team. I cannot wait until the spring season begins! However, being on an athletic team at Pace takes some serious time management skills, but I feel I have displayed them well already.

I believe University 101 is a great instructional tool to get first-year students better acquainted with the university. I like the fact that it is not a traditional class and is instead more like an exploration class. It helps students adjust to college life, meet new people, experience new things, get involved in activities, and so much more. Something that could be improved in this class is to go on more field trips to explore different areas of education.

At Open House and Preview Weekends sessions, I was told that being in the Honors College would be a challenge but would have many benefits as end results. After taking a semester in the Honors College, I feel that these statements held true. I felt myself being challenged, but at the same time handling the workload well, and enjoying my time here. I attended some interesting Honors events during this semester including, Make-A-Difference Day, the Trip to the United Nations, and the Wolf Conservation Center Presentation. Being in the Honors College has been a great experience so far and I look forward to the years ahead.



Catherine Whelan
Farmingville, NY
Major: Business
Management

Beginning college is an exciting time in a young adult's life. Leaving the security of home and starting a new adventure of living on your own raises

concern for many. In the months prior to attending Pace, I experienced a rush of emotions. I was excited but nervous, I wanted to leave home but at the same time to stay just a little longer. I was eager to see what Pace University had in store for me.

One of my concerns was adjusting to a roommate. I'm the type of person who needs my own space sometimes, so how was I going to adjust to a room half the size, with a small bed, and having to share it with someone else? I found that it was not as hard as I had imagined. Luckily, my roommate and I get along great! We decorated our room with bright colors and rugs, personalized our own spaces to really feel "at home." I also love my dorm, Dow Hall, which is unlike any other residence hall at Pace because of its large windows, hardwood floors, and giant staircases; having my own bathroom is a plus too!

When I received my schedule at orientation, I was very pleased with the way my classes had been arranged. From Critical Writing to Philosophy to Business Law, I knew I was getting a well-rounded education and being challenged everyday. Dr. Len Mitchell really makes me think in his philosophy-based Ethics in the Workplace class, and Professor Edelstien always keeps the class on point in Business Law. Yet, I'd have to say that my favorite class this semester is University 101 with Dr. Joseph Pastore. It's an unconventional class that is different every week. From trips to the UN and touring the Environmental Center, I can always count on Friday mornings to be interesting and fun. It's a great class for first-year students because it helps ease the transition into college. Dr. Pastore is a great professor. He genuinely cares about every student in his class and enjoys hearing what they have to say and what they are doing with their lives. He's a very approachable professor, one that I know I could always go to with any problem.

Living the Honors College is experience is something that I was really looking forward to when coming to Pace. Its unique opportunities are what attracted me the most to Pace. Various study abroad options, field trips, and events, and of course the internships. The presentations given at Open House and Preview Weekend made me feel that I would be challenged in my courses, but those challenges would come with great rewards. Being an honors student comes with a lot of perks, including Honors events. All Honors students must attend two events per semester; however it was not hard for me to find two events, in fact I signed up for four or five. I'm very pleased with the way Honors College has treated me thus far and it was the best decision I could have made for myself.

Student Showcase

The *Student Showcase* allows Honors College students to get to know more about their fellow Honors College members' campus leadership, academic successes, and career goals. Please let the *Scholastica* staff know who you would like to see showcased next: your classmate, roommate, or even yourself! Please e-mail your suggestions to editor-in-chief, Diana Cavallo, at dc76795n@pace.edu. Include the contact information of the student you are nominating, and the reasons why you feel they deserve to be recognized.

Victoria Keck



Victoria Keck an Honors College senior and Nursing major, has mastered the art of multi-tasking during her time at Pace. The Wappingers Falls, New York native has been a member of the Equestrian Team since fall 2008, a sister of Phi Sigma Sigma Sorority and Welcome Center Tour Guide since spring 2009, the Marketing and Publicity Chair of SAAC (the Student Athletic Advisory Committee) since fall 2010, and joined the Yearbook staff this semester. Victoria's favorite Pace memories are centered

around the incredible people she met at here, from transforming the simplest grocery store trips into full blown adventures, to dancing the night away at her first Relay for Life, and embracing the beginning of her first spring in Pleasantville.

"These are moments I will really miss when I graduate in a few short months" she confesses. After graduation, Victoria plans to study hard for the NCLEX exam to become a registered nurse. Her ultimate goal is to work in a hospital emergency room.

Victoria's involvement in the Honors College allowed her to take many interdisciplinary courses and broadened her horizons. "I never would have taken a course with Professor Weishaus [her favorite professor at Pace] if it weren't for the Honors College," she says. Victoria recommends Professor Weishaus to Honors Students taking any history, politics, or environmental-based classes. "Pathophysiology and the Media" was her favorite Honors College course because, "it combines two things I love, medicine and medical TV shows for a class for credit. It can't get much better than that!" Being in the Honors College also allowed her to meet an array of new people and listen to department presentations in her Honors University 101 class with Professor Walther. This helped her identify campus resources and she also fondly remembers that her UNV101 team, the Buchsbaum Billy Goats, won the "Quest for the Cup" that year.

Victoria's advice to Honors College first-year students is simply, "Get Involved!" "The people who hate their college experience are the same people who sit in their rooms and do nothing," she says. While she understands that college is initially an overwhelming experience, she encourages students to embrace this new place and join clubs, organizations, or sports teams. "Never be afraid to do something because none of your friends are doing it," Victoria says, "take advantage of every opportunity at Pace and I guarantee you will have unforgettable experiences like I did."

Tomas Pimentel



Originally from the Dominican Republic, Honors College senior, Tomas Pimentel, is graduating in May with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance. He has received an offer to work full-time next year with the JPMorgan Chase & Co. Operations Analyst Program. Tomas hopes to start his investment

banking career with JPMorgan. On campus, students recognize the now Brooklyn native, as a Hermano or brother, of La Unidad Latina, Lambda Upsilon Lambda Fraternity since spring of 2009. He was the Founding Hermano of the Beta Gamma Chapter in Pleasantville.

Tomas's favorite Pace memory was the opportunity to represent Pace Pleasantville at the National Conference of Student Leadership in Washington, D.C. This unique experience allowed Tomas to interact with student leaders and representatives from across the country. By working with different groups of students, he learned the fascinating ways in

which other schools and students facilitate events on their respective campuses.

Tomas's college experience was enhanced by being a prominent member of the Honors College. Like many students, he appreciates the chance to take intriguing and exclusive Honors courses. "These classes were challenging," he says, "but inherently interesting and thought-provoking, like "Religions of the Globe" and "Racial and Ethnic Minorities," his favorite course. The Honors College added what he called, "richness" to his academic careers by encouraging him to grow from each classroom and campus experience. He also attended many Honors College events during his time at Pace, including the "Make-A-Wish Foundation Presentation," the "NAMI Presentation," the annual "Wrapping Gifts for Underprivileged Children" event, the Honors Open Meeting and the Honors Independent Research Conference.

Tomas counts Dr. Marie Werner as one of his biggest inspirations because of her passionate drive to help and teach her students. He encourages Honors College first-year students to truly step out of their comfort zones and embrace all of the academic, social and service opportunities that Pace has to offer.

Organization Spotlight: Lambda Sigma

By Lisa Norfords

The *Organization Spotlight* section is dedicated to highlighting the outstanding achievements of the organizations, clubs, and societies in which Honors College students participate. The staff of *SCHOLASTICA* would like to hear from you! Please let us know which organization, club, or society you would like to see highlighted next. Please contact Diana Cavallo via email at dc76795n@pace.edu with the appropriate contact information and reasons why recognition is deserved.



Lambda Sigma National Honor Society was founded in the fall of 1922 at the University of Pittsburg. The society was created based upon the values of leadership and scholarship. These values also embodied in the letters of the society the “L” in Lambda is for Leadership and “S” in Sigma is for Scholarship.

A unique trait about Lambda Sigma is that it is a society specifically for sophomore students. The young men and women of Lambda Sigma National Honor Society are dedicated to carrying out their mission of promoting leadership, scholarship, fellowship, and service among college students. Pace University’s Pleasantville campus is home to the Beta Eta chapter of Lambda Sigma and consists of fifty sophomore students who not only uphold a 3.5 GPA, but also remain very involved in various community service and campus projects.

The members of Pace University’s Beta Eta chapter of Lambda Sigma include twenty-three current Honors College students. The current executive board of this chapter is

made up of five intelligent young women, four of whom are Honors College students: President, Lisa Norfords, Vice President, Meaghan McGinty, Treasurer, Nicole Rivera, and Co-Secretaries, Samantha Narog and Nicole Telepun. The job of the executive board is to actively work to fulfill and uphold all of the chapter’s responsibilities on both national and local levels, as well as coordinating and over-seeing all Lambda Sigma campus events.

During the fall 2011 semester, Lambda Sigma members made and distributed homework kits to underprivileged school children. The honor society has also participated in many fundraising events for the benefit of the Make-A-Wish Foundation, an organization dedicated to fulfilling the dreams of terminally ill children. Lambda Sigma members are also responsible for promoting an awareness of domestic violence by tying symbolic purple ribbons around trees on our Pleasantville campus. Lambda Sigma members have also participated in a campus Clothing Drive and made tie-blankets for the New York Presbyterian Children’s Psychological Ward.

To learn more information about Lambda Sigma National Honor Society, visit www.lambdasigma.org or speak with their faculty advisor, Ms Allyson King.

Better Ways to Spend Winter Break!

By Samantha Johnson



After a long and stressful semester most of us are looking forward to a relaxing winter break at home. The chaos of the semester winding down and the anxiety of final exams will finally be put to rest and the comforts of home become a much needed reward. Winter break can be a time to relax and regroup for the long spring semester, but don’t let your break pass you by. If you sit on your couch everyday watching TV and checking Facebook, the month-long vacation might just slip through your fingers. Be sure to take advantage of all your free time, plan activities, make time for friends from home, and do things you enjoy.

If you don’t mind the cold and snowy weather there are plenty of fun, outdoor activities to complete during January. Some people find the cold weather unattractive, but remember how much fun it was playing in the snow when you were younger? Gather up your friends or siblings and go play outside, away from the X-Box. Build a snowman, go ice skating, make snow angels, start a snowball fight or use a tray to go sledding. Make your memories of the “good, old days,” a part of your break!

If you’re trying to stay healthy and active, you will

definitely want to avoid the couch-potato-syndrome. Make exercise part of your day by simply going for a walk in the snow and playing outside, or you could take a more direct route and go to the gym or a yoga class. Don’t confuse relaxing over break with forgetting to exercise your body and mind as well. When was the last time you read a book ... for fun? Try it, and maybe you’ll see books for more than textbook reading before heading back to Pace.

During this month-long hiatus, make an effort to spend quality time with your friends and family. Take a road trip or go camping with the funniest people you know, or visit your local zoo or museum with someone you know would make it an adventurous time. Spending time with loved ones is important to do while you are home because you only have a limited amount of time before going back to the hectic schedules we are sure to endure during the spring. Cook a family dinner or offer to host a reunion party to make some new memories with everyone you care about before you start to pack up your things for Pace. Do something you would be proud to share with your Pace family upon your return.



Finding the Best Eats: Wings Edition

By John Mannhart

Finding the Best Eats is a new addition to *Scholastica* that will take you off campus and further into the town of Pleasantville to explore your local food options. Our goal is to find the *best of the best* in every type of cuisine, from pizza to seafood and deli sandwiches to dessert! If there is a specific restaurant or food you would like us to try, please contact John Mannhart via email at jm40115n@pace.edu with your suggestions!



My order of Buffalo Chicken Wings from Candlelight Inn.

Football season means bringing back weekends spent in front of the TV and the traditional Sunday night football food, wings. But what really makes a good chicken wing? Is it the chicken itself, the way that it's cooked, or the type of sauce that is used? Many places claim to have the "Best Wings" around and for this month's

edition of "Finding the Best Eats," I decided to figure out who had the best wings in our area. The three places I decided to visit this month are "Planet Wings," "Charcoals," and "Candlelight Inn." Each restaurant was unique, not only its appearance, but more importantly, the way their food tasted.

None of the three places had a truly inviting atmosphere and I wasn't exactly excited to sit and eat there. When you walk in to "Planet Wings" it looks exactly like you would expect a low-end fast food chain to appear. It was not dirty or messy, but it looked older and used, with no real pizzazz.

"Charcoals" was definitely more of a typical takeout restaurant. It only had a few tables to sit at and was not dirty just not visually appealing, much like "Planet Wings." Then there was "Candlelight Inn," which was slightly different from the first two locations. It is an older diner that doesn't hide its age, but uses it to give off the traditional "local hole-in-the wall" diner, frequented mostly by locals.

As in each edition of this article, I ordered the same exact meal at each of these three restaurants: six Buffalo wings and six Honey Barbeque wings. I chose two different types of wings to experience different tastes and cooking methods of each place, but also simply because they are my personal favorite types! Wing judging involved three key factors. I checked to see if I enjoyed the sauce used and how mild, bold, or memorable it was. I then looked at how much fat was left on each wing, because this takes away from the meat and is really unappealing to some people. Lastly, I wanted to see the differences between how the wings themselves were cooked at each restaurant.

"Planet Wings" chicken wings were clearly the smallest wings in size, with the least amount of chicken on them by far. I was still hungry after eating twelve wings, and this might leave other customers feeling as if they didn't get their money's worth. There was also no fat remain-



My Honey Barbeque Wing platter from Planet Wings.

ing on the wings, but because there was barely any chicken on them either, I was definitely not impressed. These wings were not breaded and were cooked with the sauce directly on the chicken meat. The sauces used were good, but they were the standard buffalo and honey barbeque sauces and didn't bring anything special to the dish. Overall, "Planet Wings" did not impress me and was my least favorite restaurant of the three.

The next location on my quest to finding the best wings in our area was "Charcoals." This restaurant came recommended to me by a friend, who described these wings as the best that he had ever eaten. Before even arriving at "Charcoals," I had very high expectations for my order. Once



The final stop on my journey.

my food arrived, I automatically noticed that the wings were definitely larger than those at "Planet Wings." I can safely say that I was satisfied after eating all twelve wings. There was no fat on the wings and they were cooked without any extra breading. The honey barbeque and buffalo sauces

"Charcoals" uses are fantastic and are full of flavor. These wings definitely had something special about them, unlike any other that I have tried, even outside of this taste test. The chicken was perfectly cooked and easily fell off the bone. "Charcoals" wings were easily my favorite out of the three.

The final stop on my journey was "Candle Light." Once I got passed the diner's grungy appearance and focused solely on the food, I realized that there was more than meets the eye here: there was quality. These chicken wings were by far the largest in size and by the end of my dining experience; I literally could not eat anymore. These wings did have a little bit of fat, but nothing that I was offended by and I think that most people would not have even noticed it there. "Candle Light's" chicken wings were the only ones made with bread crumbs and, personally, I usually like that taste better than non-breaded wings. I truly enjoyed this restaurant's buffalo sauce, as it was completely original and tasted amazing! "Candlelight Inn" came in a close second to "Charcoals" in taste, but they blew the competition away in size and quantity for the cost!

When you're thinking of what and where to order from before the many games next week, remember to keep "Charcoals" and "Candlelight Inn" in mind!



Fall Setter Sports Wrap-Up

By Diana Cavallo



Welcome Pace sports fans to the Fall 2011 Setter Season Wrap-Up. The time of year has returned to relive the season highlights of our impressive athletic community. We interviewed some of our student athletes to learn more about how they grew and ex-

celled this semester. Across the board, the consensus was that hard work, time management, and, above all, dedication, are the key components of successful student-athletes at Pace. Once again, Honors College athletes continue to shine not only in the classroom, but the various Pace sports fields as well. Many also strive for excellence because of their longstanding athletic backgrounds, as most Honors College athletes have been involved in their sports since early childhood.

One such student athlete is Ursula Vero, an Honors College senior who has been playing volleyball competitively since the fourth grade. She has been a member of Pace's Women's Volleyball team since her first year at Pace and is a Defensive Specialist, meaning that she subs in for front row players because of her defensive and serving skills. The Setter's current conference record is 10-5 and 20-10 overall, making them sixth in the Northeast 10 Conference. They are also ranked sixth in the East Region, which gives them a spot in the first round of Regionals in the NCAA Tournament. They will be playing Adelphi in the first round of playoffs. Vero says that the Setter's team goal for this year is to win the Northeast 10 Conference Championship and to make an appearance in the NCAA Regional Tournament. Another one of the team's more general goals is to learn how to work better together and continue playing their best levels. In her last season of college volleyball, Vero's personal goals include improving her defensive skills in terms of speed and agility, to serve receive passing, and increase her vertical jump. She notes that her defense and serve-receive skills have already improved. Vero was nationally ranked for Aces per Set in Division II.

She also recognizes the importance of the team's dedicated coaching staff. Head coach Karrin Moore returned to the Setters for a second season and this is Assistant Coach Michael Garcia's first season with the team. The players value Coach Moore's personal experience with the sport, as she was a student athlete in college as well. Of Moore's influence, Vero says, "Practices always feel that much more meaningful at the end of the day and we can walk out of the gym knowing we practiced hard." The team also appreciates Coach Garcia's willingness to give players great game insight during time outs, water breaks, and practices. "Both of our coaches really have a passion for the game which I think rubs off on my team," Vero says. Vero's biggest difficulty of balancing both academic and athletic commitments is time management, "With so many things going on, whether it's running to practice, travelling for away games, or watching game film, it sometimes feels there are not enough hours in the day." After four years, she has managed the routine and learned a lot along her journey. Advice she would give to prospective student-athletes is to avoid procrastination with To Do Lists.



Team photo of the Women's Volleyball Team.

Crossing items off gives her a sense of accomplishment and relief as well. She also highly recommends scheduling time to relax. "I've learned that you need to give yourself a break," she says, "do something fun and then refocus on what is stressing you out." She encourages future student-athletes not to miss out on other enjoyable college experiences completely.

Vero's teammate, Shawna Dykens, agrees that the balancing act of academics and athletics is a tough player opponent. She encourages potential student athletes to be aware of scheduling conflicting courses and include practice and game times in their decisions. Like Vero, she understands that student-athletes are also highly involved in many clubs and organizations on campus and that time management is crucial in dividing your attention between multiple commitments. It is a great challenge to maintain grades and still dedicate yourself to doing well at your sport, but this is what Dykens and other student-athletes thrive on. Being a member of the Honors College keeps this junior organized and on track during her third year on the volleyball team. Dykens had surgery on her shoulder over the summer and is unable to play this season, but this injury hasn't stopped her from remaining an active member of the team. She still practices, travels and participates in all of the team requirements. Next season, Dykens hopes to see her team communicate and



Pound and the Cross Country Team at a recent meet.

connect more on the court and is sure that continued guidance from Coaches Moore and Garcia will help them achieve new heights.

Kaylin Pound is an Honors College sophomore and

has been a member of Pace's Cross Country team since August 2011. She is thoroughly enjoying first year running cross country. "At the beginning of the season," Pound says, "we each met with our coach and set goals pertaining to running times we wanted to achieve this season." A great emphasis was placed on individual runner success. She is happy to report that all team and personal objectives were met this season and personal records were even set at the last cross country meet in the Northeast 10 Championships, held in Westfield, Massachusetts. The cross country coach is Ben Ogden, who is also a former Pace cross country and track runner. "Ben is really committed to our team," Pound says, "and you can tell that he is passionate about his job." His positive attitude motivates the team to work hard and continue to improve their overall status. While Pound enjoyed all of this season's meets, one that stands out to her in particular is the Northeast 10 Championships because the team did exceedingly well, personal running records were set, and it was an amazing bonding experience for her teammates. Being a part of the cross country team has also allowed her to contribute her efforts to the "greater Pace picture" and working with her teammates is a truly rewarding experience for her. Being an Honors College student has enhanced Pound's athletic abilities by teaching discipline, both in the classroom and on the track. It has provided her with the values necessary to make good decisions and strive to do her best in all aspects of her college life. The only change she would like to see for next season is to increase Pace community interest in the cross-country team. "It would be really nice to see some more Setter's fans at our meets," Pound says. The final meet of the season was the NCAA

Fall Setter Sports Wrap-Up



The Equestrian Team preparing for a show.

College junior, Amanda Lackaye. This is her second year with the Equestrian Team and she has been riding competitively since she was 10 years old. Lackaye rides in the Open Division over fences and on the flat. to reach our team goals and better our individual skills.” Some of her teammates qualify For regionals this spring, with hopes of reaching national rankings. The Setters Equestrian team has a successful season thus far and standings are currently being evaluated in this region. Coach Samuel Miller contributes his personal experiences as a college athlete. Lackaye also identifies scheduling as a major difficulty for student-athletes, but participating in a college sport, “truly enhances your personal growth and experience at college,” she says. Her Honors College experience reinforced time management skills and, more importantly, encouraged her to remain connected with her professors and coaches. “Communication is instrumental,” she notes, “especially when schedules can be conflicting, and it is important to be successful in both student and athlete roles.” An usual but memorable part of this season was the overnight trip the team took during the October snowstorm. Lackaye hopes to see her team continue to grow as riders and excel in regional, zone, and national competitions.

Courtney Hagen, a goalkeeper on our Women’s Soccer team, notes that some of her most memorable experiences this season include a six-game winning streak against quality teams during the second half of the season. These wins brought the team into good standing for the Conference Playoffs. Her favorite game from the season came in a 3-2 win against Franklin Pierce, an extremely competitive and intense game, and the first time the Setters had beat this opponent. As a junior, this is Hagen’s third year with the team and this season’s team goal was to finish within the top eight teams of the Northeast-10 Conference, qualifying for the playoffs. This goal was achieved through hard work and it marks the first time that Pace’s soccer program had participated in the playoffs since 2004. “This was extremely exciting moment for us,” Hagen says. Her personal goal of the season was to keep the number of goals permitted low and increase her save percentage. She was successful and Hagen



Hagen in the NorthEast-10 Quarterfinals.

finished this season with a 1.72 goals against average and a .803 save percentage. The team also won eight games, more than the previous two seasons combined! The soccer season closed on November 1st in a match against Merrimack College in the Northeast-10 Quarterfinals. Next season, Hagen wants to see the team continue excelling in their field performance and off field group chemistry. They finished seventh in the sixteen team Northeast-10 Conference, with an 8-8-1 record. The hard work Hagen shows in the net is reciprocated in the classroom and she recognizes her time in the Honors College as part of what makes her a well-rounded and successful student athlete.

Honors sophomore, Matthew McCann, is in his second year on the Men’s

East Regionals in Boston, Massachusetts on November 6th, but be sure to show your support next Fall!

Another student athlete who has been involved in her sport since childhood is Honors

Swim team and swims the 50 and 100 yard Freestyle, as well as the 100 and 200 Butterfly. His swimming history goes back to high school, where he swam in the State Championship meet in Buffalo, NY during his senior year. He called this season with the swimming Setters a “rebuilding year,” as the team lost many members, but he hopes to continue extensive recruiting and have a strong season. Last season, the men’s team had their first winning record of 5-1-1 and we won a crucial Invitational match of the NorthEast-10 teams. McCann says that coach, Sean Raffile, is extremely dedicated to the team and that each member prospers because of his efforts. He encourages interested students to join an athletic team at Pace, especially the Men’s Swim Team. While a collegiate sport is very challenging, McCann notes that swimming has helped him maintain his grades to continue swimming eligibility and keeps him active. Ironically, at the end of last season, he found that he procrastinated more because he did not have to focus on maintaining a good balance between athletics and academics. The team’s next home meet is January 14th and the season will continue until April, giving McCann and his teammates time to make new memories and achieve their season goals!

William Woodard is a senior and four-year veteran of Pace’s Football program. His position is Right Tackle on the Offensive Line and Woodward has been a starter for seventeen games during his college football career. He identifies the team’s main goal as, “changing the culture of football at Pace.” The team hopes to foster dedication in its players and promote strong values in their united goals and ideals of team work and success. Woodward’s personal goal for this season was to stay healthy and avoid injury, as shoulder pain became an issue for him during the summer. “The 2012 season is all about getting healthy and then lifting and agility training,” he says, “and then our season will start off stronger.” Woodward also notes that the team grew in numbers and new members are working hard and bonding with the team. “My Offensive Line Coach, John Tice, brings a wealth of football knowledge and experience to our team,” said Woodward, “because he played at just about every level of the game and knows true football mechanics.” Although the Setters finished last in the Northeast-10 Conference with a 1-9 record, they plan to create a more productive atmosphere. His biggest difficulty of being a student athlete is handling his many commitments, excelling in his classes, keeping to his athletic standards, being active in his fraternity, and maintaining his club positions. “Make sure it’s something you really want,” is Woodward’s advice to students considering becoming part of Pace’s athletic teams, “When you’re an athlete in college, it is your life.” Honors College studies have helped Woodward expand his game time mentality, giving examples of remembering plays as “it helps to know everyone else’s responsibilities in addition to mine on the field for each play.” His favorite memory this season was the first win against Stonehill noting, “Several of us, myself included, cried at the end of that game, I couldn’t have been happier.” Woodward is looking forward to off season scrimmage at the end of spring football in April of next year.

That wraps up the Fall 2011 Setters athletic season and we wish the best of luck to our Spring sports teams and participating Honors College students!



The Setter’s Football Team with mascot, T-Bone.

History Behind Horoscopes

By Diana Cavallo



With the New Year approaching, this is a good time for astrology-fans to review what each zodiac sign means and for those not so star-savvy to finally understand what the horoscope section of the newspaper is really talking about. Astrology is actually considered a philosophy and its study began more than 3,000 years ago with the ancient Chinese and Greek civilizations. The word "astrology" is actually Greek for the "science of the stars." Astrology is based on the idea that the sun and planets could affect future events depending on their location in the sky. It was used to predict what kind of season farmers would have, the fate of early nations at war, and the personal lives of people. The practice continued into the 1600s but was condemned by the Catholic Church until astrologer, William Lilly, renamed the practice "Christian Astrology" to make it more acceptable. This was instrumental in popularizing astrology and horoscopes. Today, astrology is still used to predict the distant and near future, according to the stars and signs. The Zodiac Signs are the animal symbols that refer to the patterns of stars in the galaxy. The Zodiac "Belt" is the circle around which the sun moves monthly throughout the year, transporting the energy of different star constellations to our Earth. This movement of the constellations is said to affect human behavior, creating the phrase, "It's not my fault, blame the stars!" Astrology is often confused with astronomy, which is the scientific study of all objects in the sky according to position and its historical relevance. Astronomy is accepted by the scientific community, whereas the validity of astrology is disputed.

The most recognizable aspects of astrology are the twelve masculine and feminine signs of the Zodiac. Aries, Gemini, Leo, Libra, Sagittarius, and Aquarius are the masculine signs, accompanied by Taurus, Cancer, Virgo, Scorpio, Capricorn, and Pisces, the feminine signs. The first sign is Aries and those born under this sign are said to be hard-working leaders who take initiative and are unafraid to explore their environments and work possibilities. These people know exactly what they want and have no problem going after goals. The following sign is Taurus, which can usually be described as "cautious," "practical" and "purposeful." These people are very prideful and have amazing persistence and dedication skills, but are highly opposed to anything inconsistent. People born in the time of the Gemini are all about their varied interests and focuses on intelligence and communication. They are quick-witted and thoughtful and often put their focus into physical exercise or activity. The fourth sign of the Zodiac is Cancer. Cancers are typically emotional people, who also exhibit very caring qualities and rely on their intuition to understand and support people and surroundings. They adapt easily and are not opposed to change. Next comes the attention-grabbing Leo, who immediately takes up the spotlight! Leos are known to be very energetic and friendly people, who like to engage others in competitive and motivational activities, while al-

ways excelling and fulfilling leadership roles. Unlike the Leo, the sixth Zodiac sign is known to be highly analytical and quite a perfectionist. Traditional Virgos demand high levels of organization and precise attentiveness to details. They are also described as having high expectations of themselves and others around them, and this constant criticism can lead to productive situations, as well as stressful environments. The sign following our critical Virgo, is the ever balancing Libra. Libras are known as the intellects and use their highly developed mediation skills to solve problems and connect to others around them. Libras are also very outgoing and use socialization to share their ideas and feelings.

The most misunderstood sign is definitely the Scorpio, who comes across as "too cool for school." Scorpions are emotional people who are intensely loyal and committed to loved ones and obligations but do not hesitate to become angry and have a reputation for executing vengeful moments. Scorpions are not afraid to see the dark side in a situation even though they hope for happiness and relaxation, allowing them to be represented by the scorpion. The Sagittarius sign is known as the most enthusiastic member of the Zodiac. Their positive energy and outlook on life makes this ninth sign one of the most popular. They also tend to be very lucky people and are not opposed to taking risks because they usually land on their feet. Sagittarian people are always willing to help others and therefore are surrounded by affection and most spend their lives hoping to grow as an individual. Capricorns are traditionally practical and down to earth, while being highly ambitious and success oriented. Capricorns sometimes lack self-esteem but never lose sight of their goals and always work hard to achieve them. In the current economy, you will notice that Capricorns prefer to save their money and are very cautious when investing it. The Aquarius sign is known as "the humanitarian" and uses progressive thinking to live an independent, original life, according to their own rules. They love to be different and have just enough "spunk" to remain quirky but strong. The final sign of the zodiac is Pisces, who can be best described as empathetic people. These compassionate hearts are unconditionally loving and understanding of everyone around them. They are the first to offer assistance and the last to ask for something in return. This sign is easily persuaded by tugging heart strings, but this sensitivity also leads to indecisiveness.

With a better understanding of how the stars may affect your friends, family, and co-workers on Earth, approach this New Year with a new outlook on individuals and your relationships with them. Maybe you will have even learned something new about yourself!

| Zodiac Sign Indicator | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Zodiac Sign | Birth Date Range |
| Aries | Mar 21 - Apr 20 |
| Taurus | Apr 21 - May 20 |
| Gemini | May 21 - Jun 21 |
| Cancer | Jun 22 - Jul 22 |
| Leo | Jul 23 - Aug 23 |
| Virgo | Aug 24 - Sep 23 |
| Libra | Sep 24 - Oct 23 |
| Scorpio | Oct 24 - Nov 22 |
| Sagittarius | Nov 23 - Dec 21 |
| Capricorn | Dec 22 - Jan 20 |
| Aquarius | Jan 21 - Feb 18 |
| Pisces | Feb 19 - Mar 20 |

Holiday Shopping with a College Wallet

By Christina Rufo



With the holiday season quickly approaching, the time has come to start thinking about gift shopping for our family and friends. For many college students, the thought of buying holiday gifts is a simultaneously joyful and stressful experience. College life comes with expenses that consume most, if not all, of our income, leaving a very limited amount of money to set aside for holiday spending. Finding the funds to buy a great gift may be difficult. The holidays are a time to promote happiness, so eliminate the shopping stress from your life. By simplifying the gift-giving process with some well-tested and helpful suggestions for holiday shopping with a college wallet.

Start by making a list of people for whom you would like to buy gifts for and prioritize the list according to the most important people in your life. Budgeting your money is a college-kid perfected technique that helps them pay for the many expenses that life-away-from-home throws their way. It can also work to help you avoid overspending, by deciding how much you can afford to spend on each person. I usually spend the most money on my immediate family, including my parents and brother. If I decide to buy their gifts last, the money I should have spent on their gifts would be gone because I over spent on other family members and friends.

Before you start shopping, check your email, home mailboxes, and store websites for coupons. Just about every store has sales and discounts this time of year and college students should take advantage of these seasonal opportunities and deals to save you precious time and money! Check out popular saving websites like www.couponcabin.com and www.thedailycoupon.com for deals in department stores, online merchandise stores, and shopping sites.

Another great idea is to start your gift shopping early. If you wait until the very last minute, your options are limited. Many stores sell out of popular items quickly and for the exclusive online shopper, your website may want to you pay extra to rush ship your order. If you start shopping early, you will have time to search different stores and pick out the perfect gift at a reasonable and manageable price.

Sometimes the perfect gift is something that cannot be purchased. Making a holiday gift is a great way to save money and give someone not only a present, but a sentimental moment as well. Scrapbooks, picture frames, orna-



ments, home videos and even baked goods make great gifts. Your thoughtful time spent can mean much more to a person than your money. "It is the thought that counts," so if you happen to have artistic capabilities, patience, and time, making a gift is the way to go.

Sharing a memorable experience with someone can also be more meaningful than a gift wrapped item. Browse sites like: www.Groupon.com, www.LivingSocial.com, and www.GiltGroupe.com, where you can find discounted packages for local services and holiday experiences. They have something for everyone, from spa deals to ski resort packages to discounted helicopter rides.

Group gift giving can be tough, but if you and a group of friends plan to exchange gifts, it would be a good idea to hold a Secret Santa or Grab Bag. This saves you the money of buying multiple gifts and gives you the fun experience of keeping your gift a secret from its recipient, while wondering who is going to be your "Santa."

Online shopping isn't popular for nothing, it's a great way to save time and money. A trip to the mall to shop for gifts can be time consuming and expensive. Just the experience of walking through a store to pick out a gift can be overwhelming, with so many options to choose from. It is not uncommon for people to pick up the more expensive items that are out of their budget, just because they are exhausted from the exhaust-



ing rush of shopping. Shopping online narrows your search, as you can select a specific category, choose a price range, and access more sizes and styles. Creating an online shopping bag for each store allows you to easily access your considered items at anytime, giving you more convenient options. You can avoid long cash-register lines and multiple trips to the same stores. This will give you extra time to spend on other things, like having holiday fun with loved ones. Also keep in mind that during the holiday season many online stores offer free shipping, extra discounts, and complimentary gift-wrapping services; a few more reasons to consider holiday and everyday shopping online.

If your college wallet isn't as full as you would like it to be or you are just looking to save some money this year, consider using helpful hints to get you through the holiday season without breaking the bank. Happy Shopping and Happy Holidays!



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Happy Holidays



Enjoy the Winter Break!

Thank you for reading the December SCHOLASTICA!