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Looking for a place to go?

Five short, fun and inexpensive trip ideas
for the five days of Spring Break, p. 12

THE CARROLL NEWS

Thursday, February 26, 2009 Serving John Carroll University Since 1925 Vol. 85, No. 16



The economy and JCU | **Fiscal year 2009-2010**

29 Proposed changes for increased revenues and reduced costs

What this could mean for you if you're:

Student

- Reduction of required credit hours to 120
- A "graduation guarantee" that helps ensure students earn a degree within four years

Faculty and Administration

- Reduced compensation for medical plans
- Increase in average class size
- 5 percent salary reduction for faculty paid more than \$100,000 per year
- Two-week furloughs; mandatory unpaid time off
- University VPs take five percent salary reduction
- Addition of parking fees of \$250 per year

Changes could save the school around \$2.9 million; proposals to affect budget long term

Katie Sheridan
Andrew Rafferty
The Carroll News



A four-year "graduation guarantee," wage cuts and increased class sizes are among 29 proposals that University officials presented to faculty and administrators this week to help John Carroll University combat the economic recession.

On Tuesday, CFO and Vice President for Finance Richard Mausser delivered a PowerPoint presentation that detailed the University's plan to adjust to financial troubles. Some measures, such as a reduction in cleaning staff, have already taken place. Other proposals will not be approved until after meetings between administrators and faculty members this week.

Mausser said, "There are people out there who might use this to say John Carroll is in a crisis. We are not in a crisis. We are acting prudently."

If all 29 suggestions are put into action, the estimated amount saved will be \$2.9 million.

"In some ways we are in a good place, but we arrived there with difficult decisions," said Jonathan Smith, vice president and assistant to the president.

Some cost saving techniques involve limiting services like cutting down on travel expenses, limiting business meals and department catering, requiring

These are necessary steps; they are painful and they hurt, but we can't allow this to diminish what we do as an institution."

Richard Mausser
CFO and VP for Finance

Please see FINANCES, p. 3

List of the 29 proposed changes, p. 3

What to do with the trash?



Caitlin Huey-Burns
Katie Sheridan
Campus Editors

Due to recent staff cuts to the custodial staff at John Carroll University, trash located in individual offices in the academic buildings and the Student Center will be collected once a week rather than daily.

The custodial staff is outsourced to SSC Service Solutions, who recently let go of ten employees. The change in trash collecting is a direct result of cost savings initiated by these staff cuts, said Carol Dietz, associate vice president of facilities.

Faculty have the option, however, to bring trash from their offices to the larger trash receptacles in their department meeting rooms, which will be removed daily. Faculty members were given trash bags by the facilities

Please see TRASH, p. 4

Inside this issue

Should have put a ring on it
National campaign promotes marriage, p. 5

Clinton tours Asia, p. 15



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Campus Briefs

Manresa Retreat Registration

Registration forms for the Manresa 15 Retreat are now available. Registration for the retreat will be held in the Campus Ministry hallway on March 11 at 2 p.m. In order to register, students must have a completed registration form and a non-refundable deposit of at least \$40 in either cash or check made payable to JCU. Registration forms can be found in Campus Ministry Room 31 or online through the Campus Ministry Web site.

The Manresa Retreat will take place April 17 to April 19 at the Villa Maria Retreat Center. The total cost of the retreat will be \$70. For more information contact Paula Fitzgerald at (216) 397-4709 or pfitzgerald@jcu.edu.

Millor Orator Deadline

All graduating seniors are eligible to apply to be the 2009 Millor Orator. The Millor Orator is the only speaker at Commencement. All applications and accompanying material is due to the Office of Student Activities, in Suite 201 of the Lombardo Student Center by 5 p.m. on Friday, March 13.

The application can be found at www.jcu.edu/osa/millor_orator. For more information contact Joel Mullner at jmullner07@jcu.edu.

South Africa Study Abroad Opportunity

There will be an opportunity for students to study abroad in South Africa. The trip will allow students to earn six credit hours. Students will explore the peaceful transition from apartheid to Democracy, meet veteran scholars of the anti-apartheid movement, explore issues such as AIDS, visit Cape Town and the prison on Robben Island, and experience a safari.

For more information, please contact the Center for Global Education at (216) 379-4320.

- Compiled by
Emily Gaffney

Get to Know: Sally Rummel

Sally Rummel is the Registration Services Specialist and has worked for JCU for 18 years. She hails from Lyndhurst, Ohio.

What do you want the John Carroll campus to know about the registrar's office?

We are a friendly place here to help everyone. We can help with mostly any issue on places to go, Banner or registration problems.

How do you describe your job in one word?

"Blessing" because it feels like family. It's also because my family and friends are here. It's a blessing for the students for our office to be here.

How would you describe John Carroll students?

"Cream of the crop." I can only count on one hand the number of rude comments students have made to me.

Some of them were simply frustrated at the time and came back later saying they were sorry.

What is the craziest request a student has asked for?

One time a pregnant lady came to the office looking for her husband in a panic because she thought she was going to deliver her baby. I looked up the husband's location, then I had the woman sit down in a chair while I went looking for him. He was not in his original room that night, which made it harder to find him. I found out he was in an auditorium watching a movie and she had to look around a dark room for her husband. She eventually found him.

Where in Ohio is your favorite place to travel?

Eldon Russell Park off of the Cuyahoga River. It is a good clean place for family fun. It is free to drop boats off as well and there are playgrounds for the children. My grandchildren love to play in the water catching various animals.



Photo by Courtney Maistros

Rummel's husband also works as a University van driver at JCU.

What is something that you have always wanted to do?

I have wanted to parasail, and for our 40th anniversary, my husband and I want to drive to the Florida Keys on our motorcycle.

Do you have any special talents/hobbies?

I like to garden, go camping, kayaking, canoeing and ride motorcycles as well as playing with my grandchildren.

What type of bagel would you be at Einstein's?

Cinnamon Raisin bagel.

If you were locked in the Administration building for a night what would you do?

I would go and talk to Ida, the cleaning lady or CSS because they have to lock up the building.

I would find someone to talk to because I wouldn't want to be alone.

-Compiled by Courtney Maistros

Students partake in regional business competition

Joe Bircher
The Carroll News

John Carroll University's Students in Free Enterprise will enter about 20 projects to compete with more than 400 SIFE teams at one of the 16 U.S. regional competitions being held across the country.

This is double the amount of projects submitted in last year's regional competition by JCU.

SIFE is a nonprofit organization that allows students to learn about the free enterprise system and challenges them to take their knowledge from the classroom and apply it to real-life situations.

JCU students will present their projects at the Cleveland Regional Competition on March 17 at the Marriott Cleveland Downtown at Key Center.

The SIFE regional competition is an event held every year in various countries around the world. SIFE teams compete with other area teams by presenting their projects in a 25-minute presentation to local business executives and managers.

Each team will compete in seven

categories: market economics, business ethics, financial literacy, entrepreneurship, environmental sustainability, success skills and team sustainability.

Senior Erin Currie, president of SIFE, is optimistic about this year's competition after rebuilding the

won for this year for all the hard work and dedication."

Currie said, "We'll see how March 17 goes, it all depends on the judges, and other teams, but either way everyone deserves a pat on the back."

Projects will be judged on how

"We have a lot of new members whose energy has helped to keep the club running and has increased our results."

-Erin Currie
President of SIFE

team last year.

"We have a lot of new members whose energy has helped to keep the club running and has increased our results," said Currie.

Currie credits the team's community effort and outreach.

"The team will do great at competition and to me, no matter what happens, [this team] has already

effectively the team measures and demonstrates how the project will generate economic opportunity by helping others.

All SIFE teams that have completed three or more projects in a year can register to go to the regional competitions.

The team that wins their regional competition will advance to the na-

tional and world competitions.

JCU SIFE has done well in the past few years, winning regionals in 2007 and advancing to nationals.

The team was matched with a new adviser, Scott Allen, professor of management, last year and had to spend time getting adjusted under a new administration and refocusing their efforts.

They also established a business advisory board made up of local business people and paired up with Greek Life to generate membership by attending recruiting events.

One of the projects by JCU students that will be featured at the regional competition is the Africa Project, which involves collecting computers and sending them to an orphanage in Ghana where they will be connecting them to the Internet and helping them to learn basic skills.

Also competing in the regional competition is the capital markets project, led by junior Bob Szeles.

This project is dedicated to helping students learn more about market economics and has gone to local schools with a presentation as well as created a Web site.

Campus Safety Log



February 18, 2009

Stolen property was found at Fairmount Shopping Center at 5:30 a.m.

February 19, 2009

A light fixture was reported stolen from the Bohannon Center at 3:08 p.m.

February 19, 2009

An alcohol violation was reported by the Auxiliary Drive near Sutowski at 8:11 p.m.

February 20, 2009

Criminal mischief was reported in Murphy Hall at 1:53 a.m.

February 21, 2009

It was reported that a large bag of salt had been dumped in front of a door in Hamlin Hall at 11:10 a.m.

February 21, 2009

A male was seen cutting the lock off a beer cooler at 6:20 p.m.

These incidents are taken from the files of Campus Safety Services, located in the lower level of the Lombardo Student Center. For more information contact x1615.

The University’s 29 proposed changes for increasing revenues and reducing costs	Savings
Revenue improvement:	Note: These proposals have not been finalized
1) Four-year graduation guarantee to ensure students graduate on time	TBD
2) Adoption of 120-hour graduation requirement to allow students to graduate early	TBD
3) Directly admit into major course of study, to allow students to take courses in their declared major earlier	TBD
4) New academic programs (Five new majors for Fall 2010) to attract more students to the University	TBD
Operating cost reductions:	
5) Curtail/outsource janitorial services, including Bohannon shutdown	\$515,000
6) Lease vs. buy computers and other equipment	\$250,000
7) Reduce use of desktop computers and migrate to network computers	TBD
8) Centralize Web site management	\$15,000
9) Permanently move commencement indoors to Cleveland State’s Wolstein Center	\$25,000
10) Invest in energy conservation through mechanical improvements	TBD
11) Pursue residential property real estate tax reductions	TBD
Policy adjustments:	
12) Limit travel to fundraising, recruiting, teaching and athletic programs	\$200,000
13) Strictly limit business meals, department food and catering	\$50,000
14) Require multiple price bids on all purchases in excess of \$5,000	\$25,000
15) Limit and justify part-time summer hires to enrolled students	\$50,000
Staff and administrators:	
16) Reduce compensation. Will still have Medical Mutual, but higher co-pays, deductibles and out-of-pocket shares. Incentives to choose generic drugs and mail order prescriptions	\$550,000
17) Parking fees to staff and administrators.	+\$250/pass (revenue increase)
18) Two-week staff and administrative furloughs (two weeks off w/o pay/year starting in 2010 fiscal year, equivalent to a 3.85 percent pay decrease)	TBD
19) Across-the-board salary reduction graduated from 2 to 5 percent (Items 18 and 19 were considered as either/or choices)	TBD
20) The University vice presidents have agreed to take a 5 percent salary reduction	TBD
21) Target compensation savings through restructuring/consolidation	TBD
Faculty:	TBD
22) Redesign med/drug plan	\$250,000
23) Increase average class size and reduce sections	TBD
24) Adopt a faculty retirement step-down program	TBD
25) Eliminate non-critical teaching load reduction	\$350,000
26) Link summer school compensation formula to class size	TBD
27) Assess parking fees to faculty at \$250/year	\$50,000
28) Across-the-board salary reduction at a 2.5 to 5 percent graduated rate	\$500,000
29) A 5 percent salary reduction for faculty paid in excess of \$100,000 a year	\$100,000

From FINANCE, p. 1

multiple price bids for all purchases over \$5,000 and limiting part-time summer hires to enrolled students.

Students will begin to see changes with future Commencement celebrations. Graduation ceremonies could permanently be moved inside to Cleveland State’s Wolstein Center. It would save the school an estimated \$25,000.

Suggestions affecting future students could include increased revenue by marketing a “four-year graduation guarantee” to ensure students graduate on time and the adoption of a 120-hour graduation requirement – opposed to the current 128 mandatory credit hours. Direct admission into major course study and the addition of five new majors

for fall 2010 are also suggested.

Staff and administrators might see reduced compensation. Currently 65 percent of JCU’s budget is used for salaries, wages and benefits.

According to Mausser’s presentation, “Earlier this quarter two surveys evaluated that [JCU’s] health care benefit is on the rich side.”

As of June 1, 2009, higher co-pays, deductibles and out-of-pocket share will go into effect. Incentive will be given for choice of generic medicines over name brands. These changes are projected to save \$550,000.

Although it has not yet been adopted, staff and administrators could be charged \$250 per year for parking fees or across-the-board salary reduction could be graduated

from 2 to 5 percent.

One of the biggest changes in the works is the addition of a furlough, or two weeks of unpaid vacation.

It is a mandatory two-week time period, without salary, per year. The two weeks do not need to be taken all at once.

Mausser said, “We are considering a variety of flexible options which are intended to result in furlough time being spread over the entire 12-month fiscal year so as to reduce financial hardship.”

It would begin in the 2009-10 fiscal year, and is equivalent to a 3.85 percent decrease in pay.

University vice presidents will also contribute to the solution by agreeing to take a 5 percent salary reduction.

A similar 5 percent salary cut is

proposed for faculty paid more than \$100,000 a year.

This concerned some of those in attendance at Tuesday’s meeting.

Marcy Milota, coordinator of gifts and marketing, feels there are plenty of opportunities for faculty input.

She said, “As long as the administration seeks mutual agreement among the various constitutes across the campus community, we should be able to come to satisfactory agreements.”

JCU President the Rev. Robert Niehoff first alerted the faculty and staff about these possible changes to the budget on Feb. 18.

In his note he said, “We have put measures in place to survive the immediate needs and demands that outside forces have placed on us.”

He went on to say that while those changes have sufficed for now, “The outlook for the following years suggests that we have even more challenges ahead.”

Additional changes could include the curtailing of janitorial services with the shutdown of Bohannon, leasing instead of purchasing new computers and reducing the use of desktop computers to network computers.

Money could also be saved from centralizing Web site management and investing in energy conservation through mechanical improvements.

“These are necessary steps. They are painful and they hurt, but we can’t allow this to diminish what we do as an institution,” said Mausser.

CAMPUS CALENDAR: FEB. 26-MAR. 3											
26	Thursday	27	Friday	28	Saturday	1	Sunday	2	Monday	3	Tuesday
“Carroll’s Own” will be held in the Underground at 9 p.m.		Residence halls close for Spring Break at 7 p.m.		Spring Break		Spring Break		Spring Break		S p r i n g Break	
		</									

Academic advising will move to the Web

Emily Gaffney

Assistant Campus Editor

The Academic Advising Office at John Carroll University is moving toward a “self-service” advising system.

Sophie Kus-Patena, the associate dean for academic advising, calls it a “self-service” form of advising because they are moving more information as well as making more tools available online to students. This change is meant to accommodate the preferences and needs of the students.

“These changes are in response to the millennial student, who likes to use technology as much as they can. We’re trying to meet students where they’re at,” said Kus-Patena.

The Academic Advising Office plans to put almost all of the paperwork on the Web site. For example, the academic petition form has already been made into an online format. Other forms such as the paperwork necessary to change an adviser or to declare a major are available online, but currently must be printed and filled out by hand. The plan is to change this eventually so that the majority of forms students must fill out are moved to a paperless format.

The hope is that not only will this change make JCU a more environmentally friendly campus, but the decreased use of paper will reduce costs as well. In addition, this will hopefully make filling out forms easier for students.

“I think going ‘paperless’ is a great step for any institution. It eliminates the problems of where to find these forms, who to have sign them, and where to go from there. I feel like

things will be much more efficient,” said junior Tina Pasquale, who has been working with the Academic Advising Office.

The paperless forms are not the only way that advising is becoming more “on demand” for students. Advising also has many tools on their Web site to guide students.

Some tools that are available to students on the Web site are a blog and video posts. These tools dispense advice to students on anything from how to study for exams to how to avoid conflict when scheduling classes.

“I also think our blog tool and our interviews with students and advisers will be helpful for students and parents as well,” said Pasquale. “Not everyone is comfortable setting up a meeting with his or her adviser and asking these types of questions. The blog gives everyone the opportunity to post questions or comments anonymously and at their own convenience, and still receive a quality answer.”

These tools may also benefit parents who have questions about how to help their students. Readily available information online makes it more accessible and easier for parents to find. Parents can find information about what to expect with their child in college or how to help their student.

The Academic Advising Web site also has valuable links for students.

The Degree Evaluation tool allows students to view what requirements they have met and what major requirements still need to be completed. Although the Degree Evaluation is done through Banner Web, the Academic Advising Office offers a link to guide students

“These changes are in response to the millennial student, who likes to use technology as much as they can. We’re trying to meet students where they’re at.”

Sophie Kus-Patena

Associate dean for academic advising

through the evaluation.

Academic Advising also offers other information that is important to students, but may be somewhat difficult or tedious to find otherwise. Features such as the Frequently Asked Question page or easy access to who your adviser is are meant to deliver this important information quickly to students.

Kus-Patena hopes that faculty will benefit from online tools as well.

“With less and less physical paperwork, faculty will be able to make a more efficient use of time,” said Kus-Patena.

Kus-Patena said many other departments, such as the Counseling Center and the Center for Career Services, are putting more and more information online, and it is important for students to be aware of it all. The goal is that students know where this information is and that they are able to access it whenever they need it.

“We want to empower students,” said Kus-Patena.

Some may feel that relying so heavily on

the Web may make it so there is much less personal interaction.

Pasquale counters this thought, however.

“I don’t think making more advising tools available on the Web will make the process any less personal; it will just eliminate the busy work and leave more time for the important stuff,” said Pasquale.

Academic Advising plans to bring more tools to the Web for students to utilize. They are working on creating a GPA calculator, including podcasts, as well as making more advising forms paperless.

“Technology has been evolving and we’re just catching up,” said Kus-Patena.

She does contend, however, that while the office is including new technology, they want to be careful to not exclude students who do not have all of this technology available to them.

“We can’t make assumptions. The technology is important for students and institutions, but we’re trying to be mindful of those who aren’t up to date [with technology].”

JCU wins top honors

Courtney Maistros

Staff Reporter

For the second year in a row, John Carroll University received recognition on the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll.

The award was created in 2006 to honor those in higher education for dedication to community service and service learning programs.

“It is a great recognition of both the students and faculty,” said JCU President, the Rev. Robert Niehoff.

According to the Corporation for National and Community Service Web site, this is the “highest federal recognition a college or university can get for its commitment to volunteering, service learning, and civic engagement.”

There are a variety of selection factors that the national committee focuses on when deciding if a school makes the list.

A few of these would be the percentage of total students enrolled in at least 20 hours of community service per semester, as well as the percentage of total student enrollment engaged in academic service learning courses.

Another part of the decision process would be what service the institution requires their students to do. For example, if service learning is a part of the core curriculum in at least one major, or if the institution rewards their faculty

for promoting service learning.

Margaret Finucane, director for the Center for Service and Social Action, was one of the people who filled out the paperwork in order for John Carroll to be eligible for the award.

Finucane said it is rewarding to be recognized. “Service has become a part of the John Carroll student experience,” she said.

Niehoff agreed and said that many people are involved in service at the University, not only students, but faculty as well.

Finucane said that there were a variety of clubs and organizations that were highlighted under this award. She said she tried to pick an array of programs to represent the University.

One of the programs that was highlighted was the Special Delivery program in which the Pre-Health Professions Honor Society are trained in basic newborn care.

The students then give new mothers at Huron Hospital the information about basic child care.

Another social initiative rewarded for its efforts was the “We, the People” program, in which students who are a part of the Leadership and Social Justice Learning Community partner with fifth graders to teach them about the United States



Courtesy of www.jcu.edu

JCU students take part in service through the University, which helped win the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll award.

Constitution.

Another program that Finucane chose to highlight was the Arrupe Scholar program in which students dedicate four years to classroom work and community issues.

Christina O’Keefe, a sophomore in the Arrupe program, said, “It’s amazing that JCU has these opportunities available to students to engage others besides the JCU community.”

She also said the Arrupe program is something that helps students prioritize their time more efficiently because the program becomes part of one’s life. O’Keefe has also been a part of the “We, the People” program that takes places at Saint Mary’s in Cleveland.

Some other schools that have previously won the award in Ohio include Baldwin-Wallace College, Case Western Reserve University, Miami University and Xavier University.

With budget cutbacks, how will the campus handle the garbage build-up?

From TRASH, p.1

department.

The Facilities Department is working out a plan to place more receptacles and recycling bins in the Student Center for student organizations, according to Rory Hill, facilities services coordinator.

This has prompted mixed feelings from faculty members, some of who eat in their offices.

“I do not really mind dumping the garbage, but I do get busy and forget,” said G.M. Kinebrew, professor of biology and chair of pre-health studies.

“I just hope this does not lead to pest problems,” he said.

The Rev. Harry Gensler, professor of philosophy, said he is not affected by the new cleaning system because he spends only a few hours a week in his office and understands it as a result of economics.

“Hey, both the school and the country are in a financial crisis, and we need to cut back where we can,” said Gensler.

Gensler is more concerned about other areas of waste production.

“Next, we need to turn the lights off or down when no one is around,” he said. “This school is very wasteful in this category.”

The Rev. Francis Ryan, chair of the English department, takes more issue with the staff cuts than with the new trash policy.

“The only serious regret in the whole affair is that people have lost their jobs,” he said.

“If faculty complain about taking out their own trash, it’s time

to close the University because we have become oppressors and not liberators.”

Duane Dukes, professor of sociology, sympathizes with the job losses.

“The schedule doesn’t bother me as much as the fact that people lost their jobs,” he said.

Dukes takes responsibility for his own individual office trash.

He said, “I wish I could feel irate about it but my office is such a mess because of my own fault that I guess I would have given up on it too, if I were the University, regardless of budgetary considerations.”

Classrooms are cleaned daily in the winter due to the snow and water brought in by students that dirties the carpets.

Trash bins in these rooms will also be collected every day.

Dietz has noticed an increase in trash in classrooms as a result of the Einstein’s Bros. Bagels being located in an academic building and students eating in classrooms.

All bathrooms will still be cleaned daily.

Although JCU is not responsible for the cleaning staff cuts, the facilities department met with SSC Service Solutions to configure the trash collecting system and believe the arrangement will be positive.

Dietz and her staff will continue to monitor the trash system because the system is not entirely permanent.

“It will take a few weeks to iron out all the kinks,” she said. “But we will keep an eye on the appearance of facilities and adjust the system if necessary.”

Promoting the integrity of marriage

Federal government is launching a \$5 million media campaign aimed toward young adults ages 18 to 30, promoting the virtues of marriage

Rachel Szuch
Arts & Life Editor

Senior Yana Lein is finishing her last semester at John Carroll University while planning her wedding, set for this coming October. That's right, at age 22, Lein is the exception to the norm.

With divorce rates on the rise, an increased amount of young adults are choosing not to wed, which is why the federal government will launch a \$5 million national advertising campaign highlighting the advantages of marriage, especially for individuals ages 18 to 30.

According to provisional federal statistics released last week, there were 7.1 marriages per 1,000 people in 2008, as opposed to 10 per 1,000 in 1986. Currently the average age for a first marriage is 26 for women and 28 for men.

With such a drastic drop in the marriage rate and an increase in the age when individuals marry, the media campaign will begin this month as part of the former Bush administration's effort called the federal Healthy Marriage Initiative.

Headed by the federally-funded National Healthy Marriage Resource Center under an agreement with the United States Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families, the campaign will promote the virtues of marriage through several types of advertising venues.

Advertisements will be placed in magazines, public transportation and on social networking Web sites that young people tend to use often, including Facebook and MySpace.

The campaign will also include spots on radio shows, videos on YouTube and, in an effort to initiate a national conversation about marriage, a new Web site called TwoOfUs.org will be launched.

According to Richard Grenici, a John Carroll University management, marketing and logistics professor, this type of marketing is risky but could have a good outcome.

"When your target audience is every 18 to 30-year-old in the country, \$5 million is not a whole lot of advertising dollars ... it wouldn't even pay for a one-minute spot during the Super Bowl," said Grenici.

"On the other hand, YouTube advertising is relatively cheap and it can take off when there are people to carry the torch. If the videos strike a chord, there's a chance that an impassioned segment of the population will be mass e-mailing links to their

friends, which could give the advertising some legs over time."

Grenici said that the effectiveness of Facebook and MySpace depends on how well the ad campaign uses the social networking sites. "Given the possibility of a total lack of interest on one extreme and viral-like exposure on the other, it's a high-risk/high-return approach," said Grenici.

There is some disagreement over whether or not the government should be using tax dollars to fund such a campaign and whether or not targeting younger adults is responsible.

Lein was proposed to on Christmas Eve 2008 by her 27-year-old boyfriend, Nate. They have been dating for the last year and a half and living together for the past year. She never considered her youth to be a factor.

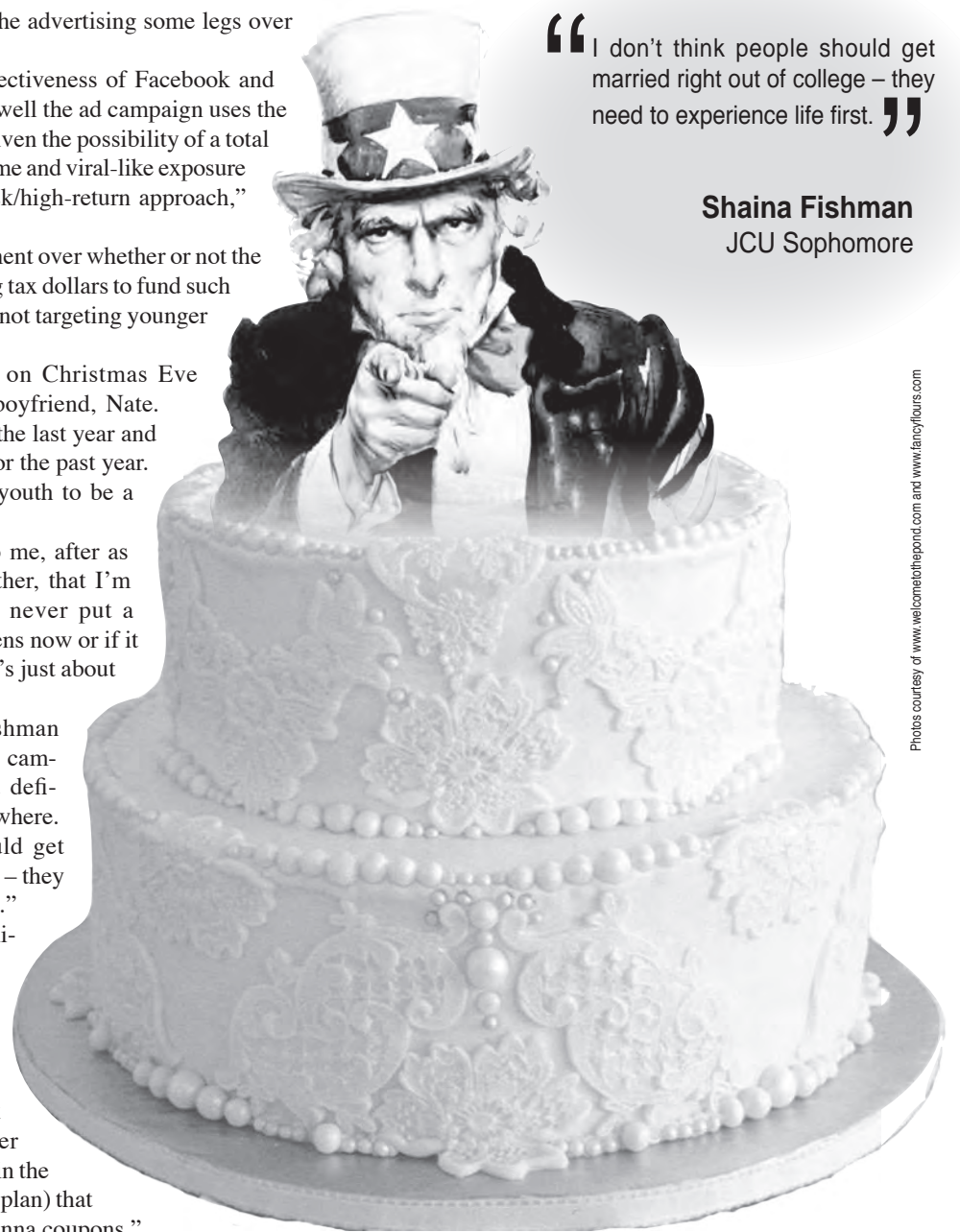
"It doesn't seem odd to me, after as much as we've been together, that I'm so young," said Lein. "I never put a time-stamp on it, if it happens now or if it happened when I was 35, it's just about meeting the right person."

Sophomore Shaina Fishman had a different take on the campaign. "The money could definitely be better spent elsewhere. I don't think people should get married right out of college – they need to experience life first."

Grenici said, "The worthiness of the ad campaign is relative to your own priorities. If it has any type of positive impact on marriage or divorce rates, then a lot of people would think that it was infinitely better spent than the \$65 million (in the near trillion dollar stimulus plan) that is slated for digital TV antenna coupons."

"I don't think people should get married right out of college – they need to experience life first."

Shaina Fishman
JCU Sophomore



Photos courtesy of www.welcometothepond.com and www.lancylours.com

iTunes offers video music lessons from the pros via GarageBand

Jurell Sison
The Carroll News

Have you ever wanted a guitar lesson from Colby Caillat or even John Mayer?

It's become a trend to have a guitar sitting in the corner of your room, adding to the feng shui created by your Abbey Road poster and Chuck Taylor's.

But now there is good news for the aspiring rock star. iTunes is now offering video music lessons for \$4.99 per song via GarageBand, the music editing software included in most Mac computers. But these aren't just any old video music lessons, these lessons are taught by the artists themselves.

On these videos, artists are recorded with multiple camera angles

and played in high-definition video. The artists show you where to place your hands on the guitar and they even tell you what key they enjoy and stories of how the song was written. Colby Caillat is just one of the many artists offering the lessons, along with Norah Jones, Sarah McLachlan and Ben Folds.

However, it's no secret that YouTube, the popular video-sharing site, offers many online music tutorials for free. The problem with this is that these tutorials can be posted by anyone, from a 42-year-old professional to a 13-year-old amateur.

According to USA Today, Phil Schiller, the senior vice president of Apple, said tutorials on YouTube "don't attempt to solve the whole problem: how to properly learn to play."

USA Today reported that Apple's high profile brings the idea of learning music online to a greater importance, while sophomore Jeff Bourdin thinks online tutorials make the learning process very impersonal.

Bourdin has been playing guitar for nine years and has been taking formal lessons from a local music shop for six years. He has learned to play everything from classical to rock and even metal. He said, "I think all this would be a big hit but it makes it so informal. One of the biggest things of learning how to play is learning one-on-one."

Sophomore Aidan Kelly is a self-taught guitarist and he disagrees with Schiller. He said, "Playing a song inaccurately doesn't mean it won't sound just as good."

Aidan has been playing since 8th grade and started out with a teacher but found it more convenient to teach himself through online guitar tablature and YouTube, both of which are free methods of learning.

When asked if he would use iTunes' new method, he said, "I would probably check it out once but after awhile it would get expensive."

He claims that he has done just fine teaching himself through tablature and YouTube.

When it all comes down to it, it doesn't matter if you're learning from a metalhead on YouTube, a hippie guitar teacher from the local music shop, or Colby Caillat via iTunes. Without some motivation and some genuine practice time, wanting to learn guitar is all just wishful thinking.

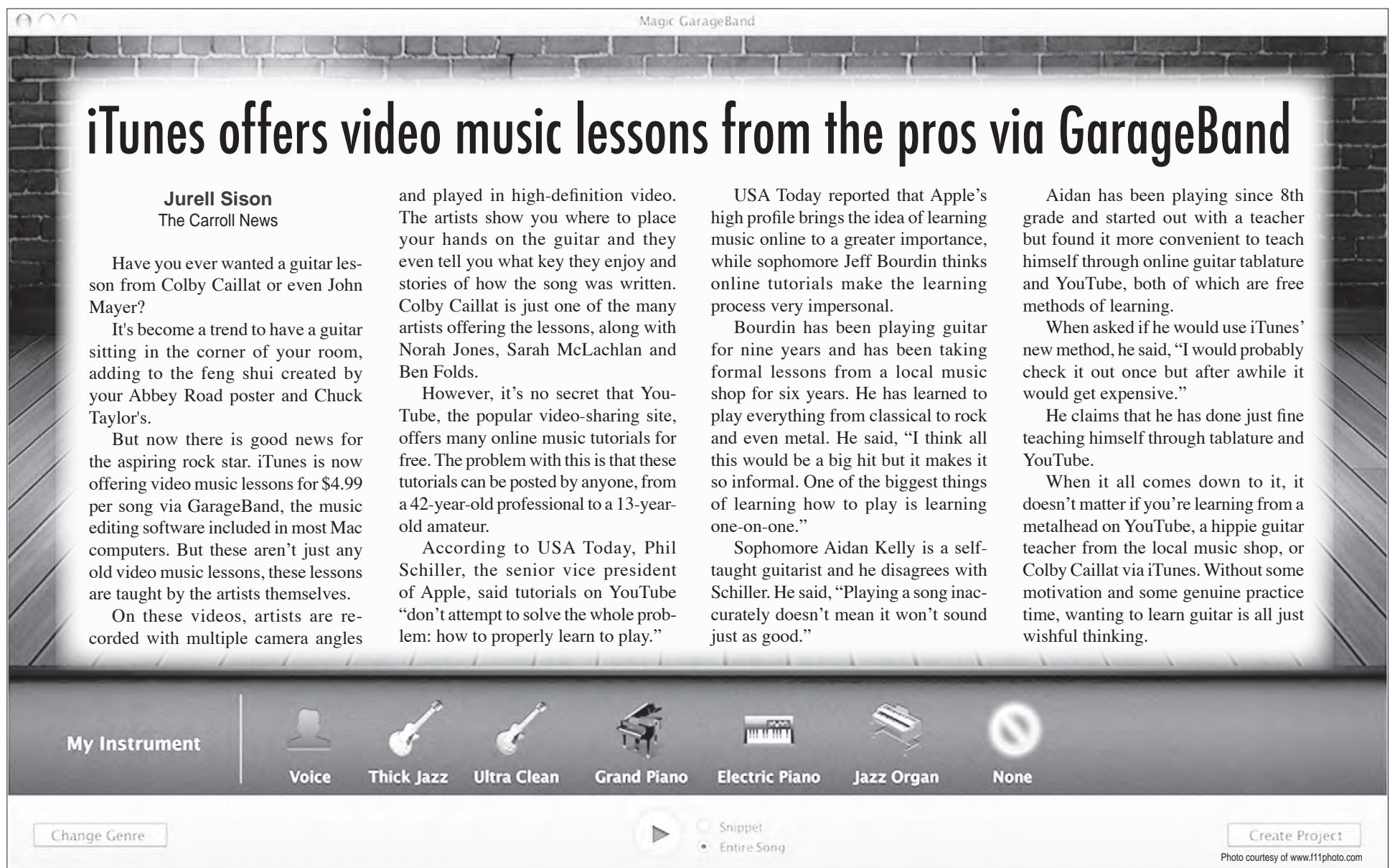


Photo courtesy of www.f11photo.com

New York Fashion Week

How to strut your stuff this spring: Haute Couture at affordable prices

Jennifer Holton
Staff Reporter

Amidst the continuous clapping, flashing cameras and runway paced music, the illustrious American and international designers wrapped up the Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week in New York last Friday.

The Fashion Week is a biannual fashion show in which designers show off their clothing creations to a crowd of buyers, journalists, celebrities and socialites. With its introduction on Feb. 13, to its conclusion the following Friday, designers did not let the dour economic recession hinder the look of their collections.

However, as college students it's obvious that most of us can't afford these high-end pieces that delve into our checking accounts upon purchase, removing penny by penny our hard-earned savings.

But try not to fret—it is possible to save cash and still get these New York runway styles for less.

The look of the Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week suggested bold, standout colors and designs for women and more subtle tones for men.

According to Glamour Fashion, there are numerous designers who have worked with retail stores to sell their designs for less. Matthew Williamson's pieces for H&M will premiere in May and Charlotte Ronson's line "I Heart Ronson" will be sold in JCPenney.

"I think it's nice because these stores have a lot of locations throughout the United States and their products are targeted toward teenagers," said freshman Brian Means. "It gives the young adult group more accessibility to go to different places to find great deals."

Target, the "mothership" of bargain fashion, will premiere Alexander McQueen and Felix Ray's fashion starting

in late March, bringing consumers a collection of bags and clutches along with tees and skinny jeans.

Junior Gina Fabian said, "These designers selling their fashion at stores such as H&M and Target helps them reach out and really promote their items."

Shoes are also an important look to master in the transition from winter to spring fashion.

Designer Abaeté and Lela Rose have collaborated with Payless Shoes to create their line of designer heels with price tags starting at \$40. DSW is also another great place for bargain shoes, as well as Target.

Not only can these items be purchased at low prices, but also there are monthly offers given by stores. If you offer your phone number and address to Express or The Limited, you're guaranteed coupons in the mail that take at least \$15 off your total. DSW offers a rewards card that will send you \$10 coupons in the mail as well.

A model wears fall 2009 fashion by Miss Sixty during Fashion Week in New York, Feb. 15.

HOW TO GET THE LOOK FOR LESS:

The jacket worn by this model inspires an eye-catching design that looks as if someone collaged magazine covers onto fabric. However, it's not essential to take it to this extreme. Military style jackets, high necked and tight fitting, go well with spring dresses or skinny jeans, adding a touch of sophistication. You can find these at stores such as The Limited, Dillard's, H&M or Forever 21.

The oversized bag and belts are two accessories you can't go wrong with. Hot pink seems like it might be the color of 2009, outing the popular cobalt blue of 2008.

The bright colored accessories can be found at Express, The Limited and H&M starting at just under \$10.

-Compiled by Jennifer Holton

Fall 2009 fashion from the Diesel Black Gold collection modeled during Fashion Week in New York, Feb. 17.

HOW TO GET THE LOOK FOR LESS:

On both men and women, dark wash jeans are the look of the season. Whether you're going to class during the day or out for the night, the dark look is a must for this season.

Also for men, the look of pairing a charcoal or black colored vest with a tie and button down is crisp and classic. If you're having trouble finding a button-down vest, try Target or H&M—you'll be guaranteed to find one costing no more than \$35.

-Compiled by Jennifer Holton



Such and Szuch

Keeping a Lenten Promise



Rachel Szuch
Arts & Life Editor

In trying to decide what to give up for Lent, I began to think about what it really means to go without something you enjoy during this season.

I don't think many people reflect on the real meaning of the 40 days before Easter and why we fast and refrain from certain things during this time.

Growing up, I had never been able to remain 100 percent successful in keeping my Lenten promise, until I was a junior in high school. I know this sounds awful, and I honestly did try to stick to whatever promise I had made each year, but I tended to slip up at least once – sometimes not even realizing I had broken the promise until after it was too late.

The first year I did go 40 days without breaking my promise was the year I learned the meaning of Lent. I went to an all-girls Catholic high school in Lakewood (not far from JCU) and they took the Lenten season very seriously.

Prior to this, I had always known I was suppose to give something up, but I had never really considered the meaning of this period of fasting. Of course I had been taught in grade school, but I never truly understood it until my junior year.

In high school, I learned that Lent was a season for reflection and self-meditation and by giving something up we are sort of repenting for things we indulge in that are either sinful or not necessarily good for us. It is a way of showing our appreciation for what we have. We do this because Jesus fasted for 40 days and 40 nights when he retreated into the desert, and it was then that he was tempted, but he did not falter.

So that year, I decided to give up all meat. Being an avid burger-eater, it was definitely something that tested my willpower, but also something that helped me to improve myself and reflect on all of the things I took for granted. (Not to mention, it always gave the cashiers at burger joints and restaurants a little giggle when I'd order a cheeseburger with no meat and extra, extra pickles.)

My point is, it wasn't until I understood the actual meaning of Lent that I was willing to truly commit myself to sacrificing something I enjoyed. Sometimes understanding is the only motivation that you need – knowing the meaning of something, not just Lent, can help you stick to your guns. After all, there's no point in participating in something you don't understand.

So, when you're feeling as though your Lenten promise is getting to be too much to handle, remember what it means and why you chose to make it.

Contact Rachel Szuch at
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'Slumdog' dominates the Oscars

Craig Willert
Movie Critic

As the stars paraded down the red carpet during the 81st Annual Academy Awards, a sense of anxiety and anticipation was evident in the faces of the nominees.

Who would win best director? Best picture? Actor? Actress? The questions loomed over the crowd like a morning mist. It wasn't until late Sunday night that the mist cleared and dreams had been either made or broken.

Kicking off the show was host Hugh Jackman's comical song and dance about some of the movies of 2008. It set the tone for the rest of the show, and set the bar high for what was to follow.

The show didn't disappoint.

Senior Gabriella Pelosi said, "The show was great. It was organized well and overall it was fun to watch all the stars interact and show sides of them we normally wouldn't see," she said.

Out of the 24 categories, one movie seemed to dominate the show throughout. "Slumdog Millionaire" dominated the awards, winning eight of the categories. Some were impressed that it won against some of the bigger named movies.

Junior Jill White said, "I was very impressed. I've wanted to see the movie for quite some time already, and now, I'm definitely going to watch it as soon as possible. It seems phenomenal."

"Slumdog," directed by Danny Boyle, didn't contain any Hollywood stars, as actor Dev Patel and actress Freida Pinto starred as the two leading roles. Up against "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button," "Milk," "The Reader" and "Frost/Nixon" for Best Picture of 2008, "Slumdog Millionaire" once again showed that big names and budgets aren't the ingredients for an Oscar recipe.

The low-budget production also won

"Slumdog Millionaire" took the best-picture Academy Award and seven other Oscars, including director for Danny Boyle.

Picture	"Slumdog Millionaire"
Actor	Sean Penn, "Milk"
Actress	Kate Winslet, "The Reader"
Supporting actor	Heath Ledger, "The Dark Knight"
Supporting actress	Penelope Cruz, "Vicky Cristina Barcelona"
Director	Danny Boyle, "Slumdog Millionaire"
Adapted screenplay	Simon Beaufoy, "Slumdog Millionaire"
Original screenplay	Dustin Lance Black, "Milk"
Animated feature	"WALL-E"
Foreign language film	"Departures," Japan
Documentary feature	"Man on Wire"

SOURCE: Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences



AP

Best Director, Adapted Screenplay, Cinematography, Film Editing, Original Score, Original Song and Sound Mixing.

"Slumdog Millionaire" has made more than \$98, 019, 715 in the United States, making its success astounding because of its near release straight to DVD.

Sophomore Michael Eden was surprised by the wins for Best Actor and Actress in a leading role. "[Kate] Winslet and Sean Penn came as a shock. They are both great performers, but I didn't see this coming. I thought Mickey Rourke and Meryl Streep were the sure winners," he said.

Kate Winslet and Sean Penn won best actress and actor awards for their roles in "The Reader" and "Milk." Penn came as a surprise due to his past history as a controversial political activist against former President George W. Bush, calling for Bush

to be impeached.

This brought unwanted negative publicity to the Academy, resulting in tension between Penn and the Academy.

The late Heath Ledger won an Oscar for his supporting role in the Dark Knight. The question remains as to whether Ledger should have won the award despite his death.

Freshman Katie O'Donnell believes he should have, and said, "He performed so well as the Joker. No doubt he should have won that award...hands down."

Junior Kaitlin Geosano thought differently, and said, "I think his death almost pushed him to the top of the list. He was good, but there were some others I thought may have been better."

To check out the complete list of winners, go to www.oscar.com.

New documentary shows a shift in comedy

Anne McCarthy
Asst. Arts & Life Editor

Times are changing. Whether it's the rise in average marriage age or the dip in the job market, people are being forced to adjust to new social norms. The lighter side of life is no exception.

Recently PBS aired the documentary series, "Make 'Em Laugh: The Funny Business of America," about the changing face of comedy. It is now available on DVD.

The part-humor, part-historical series focuses on American comedy, and its style shifts throughout the years. The talented and charming Billy Crystal plays host to the show, which boasts an impressive roster of interviews with some comedic heavy hitters.

Comedy gurus like Joan Rivers, "Seinfeld" creator Larry David, Roseanne Barr, Carol Burnett, Richard Lewis, Whoopi Goldberg and the late George Carlin are featured discussing everything from the

genius of Richard Pryor, to what makes something funny.

The main theme that is present throughout the documentary is the fluctuating nature of comedy style and tastes with each new generation. Looking at popular movies of the last several decades, the changes in film are evident.

During the days when "Saturday Night Live" players like John Belushi, Bill Murray and Chevy Chase ruled at the movie theater with hits like "Caddyshack," "Blues Brothers," "Animal House," and "Ghostbusters," this type of sophomoric, gag comedy was the obvious style that accompanied these actors and their films.

Later, films featuring Mike Myers and Jim Carrey dominated and provided characters of a very physical and eccentric manner in movies like "Austin Powers," "Wayne's World," "The Mask" and "Dumb and Dumber."

However, recent years have further proven the transformative nature of com-

edy as stars like Seth Rogen, Jonah Hill, and Paul Rudd arrive at the forefront of the genre.

The Will Ferrell craze and a slew of young Judd Apatow-nurtured films have garnered millions in box office earnings, proving that rhetoric-centered, stoner comedies sell big.

Why this recent change in popular comedy?

John Carroll University junior Bill Myers said, "I think college students want as little intellectual stimulation as possible when watching comedy films. This keeps their minds refreshed and ready for the next school day."

Communications and Theatre Arts professor Karen Gygli said, "In some ways comedy has gotten more frank than it was in decades past. Students today have become less patient with the styles of Lucille Ball and Jackie Gleason. Today there is a greater frankness with topics like sex among comedy."

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Entertainment Calendar

Check out what's happening in Cleveland this week!

2.27

Black Tide

Beachland Ballroom

7 p.m.

advance \$13.50

door \$16.00

2.28

Gaelic Storm

House of Blues

8 p.m.

\$18.50 - \$26.00

3.01

The Temptations

Palace Theatre

7:30 p.m.

\$10.00 - \$49.50

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For consideration, please contact Ben and Teri Chmielewski at 216-577-0114.

Men's basketball captures conference title

Blue Streaks' winning streak grows to school-record 16 games

Charlie Duggan
Staff Reporter

The John Carroll University men's basketball championship banner that hangs in the rafters in the DeCarlo Varsity Center is coming down to add on another year.

JCU won the regular season championship outright on Saturday with a 75-72 victory at Wilmington College. It was the Blue Streaks fourth championship in the past six years.

"This is a good feeling, but we have a long way to go," said junior guard Chris Zajac.

Saturday's game was a rematch from earlier in the season when JCU knocked off the Quakers 92-66, Wilmington's worst loss of the season.

As if a hungry Wilmington team wasn't a big enough challenge, the Blue Streaks had to face a three and a half hour bus ride.

Early on, it looked like they were affected by the travel as JCU struggled early to find their offense. The team that ranks No. 1 in the OAC in scoring offense, scored just 36 points and turned the ball over 14 times in the first half, finding themselves down one at halftime.

The second half would be one of the most entertaining halves JCU played all season.

Every time Wilmington seemed ready to break open the game, JCU would respond and take a lead.

With Wilmington trailing by two points with under a minute left and needing a defensive stop, the Blue Streaks worked the ball around the perimeter trying to find an open shot.

However, contrary to their name, the Quakers put up quite a fight in protecting the basket. With the shot clock winding down, Zajac drove left and hoisted an 18-foot jumper over two defenders that fell through the cylinder in dramatic fashion.

Wilmington was forced to foul the rest of the way, and junior guard Brian Dandrea went 4-4 from the stripe as JCU escaped with a 75-72 victory.

Junior Rudy Kirbus carried the offense with 24 points, but it was a game in which every Blue Streak contributed. Junior guard Brian Dandrea and freshman Joey Meyer hit crucial second half three-pointers that kept JCU in the game.

Sophomore center Maurice Haynes turned in 10 points and eight boards. Junior Tyler Kirsch also grabbed eight rebounds, none bigger than the one he took coast-to-coast for his only bucket of the game and tied the game with four minutes left.

"It's a great win for us, it's how we wanted to wrap up the regular season," said Kirsch after the game.

In a postgame talk with the team, head coach Mike Moran addressed his squad and could really only find

one thing to tell them.

"There was a few things we could've done better, but you know, you guys are special," he said.

The win gave the Blue Streaks the title outright, avoiding a tie with Capital University.

The Blue Streaks cut down the nets Wednesday, Feb. 18 when they clinched a share of first place after a win against Baldwin-Wallace College. But winning the conference was more important than just being a notch on the Blue Streaks belt.

Had JCU lost, they would have been tied for first with Capital. Between the two teams, the Crusaders owned the tiebreaker for home court in the OAC tournament; a court that has not been a pleasure to play on for the Blue Streaks.

"I can't remember the last time we won there," said graduate assistant coach Conor Donelon.

But that won't have to be a concern for JCU as they will host all of their OAC tournament games at the DeCarlo Varsity Center, a place where they are 9-0 this season.

The Blue Streaks now have an upper hand in pursuing their goal of winning the OAC tournament and earning the automatic bid to the NCAA Division III tournament that comes with it.

Editor's note: Results of last night's opening round game against Heidelberg were unavailable before The Carroll News went to print.



Photo courtesy of JCU Sports Information Dept.

Junior point guard Chris Zajac is one of many Blue Streaks who had a big hand in JCU capturing the OAC regular season title. In his first season as the starting point guard, he ranks sixth in the conference in steals and is the OAC leader in steals by almost a steal per game.

Women's basketball team has their season ended early

Chris Koller
Staff Reporter

The John Carroll University women's basketball team had their season come to an end on Tuesday night at the hands of Muskingum College in the quarterfinal round of the Ohio Athletic Conference tournament.

The Blue Streaks came up short against the Muskies, 70-57. The loss dropped the Blue Streaks to 14-12.

The season was a roller coaster of sorts, as there were plenty of highs and lows throughout the year.

Losing in the quarterfinal round on Tuesday ended the ride.

Having their season end this early was certainly not where the Blue Streaks envisioned.

The season opened with the team predicted to finish third in the Ohio Athletic Conference coaches' preseason poll.

Unfortunately, the Blue Streaks were never able to play up to those lofty expectations, struggling through tough stretches of their schedule.

After starting the conference schedule 2-2, they traveled out to California for the Posada Royale Tournament during Winter Break.

The Blue Streaks won two games by a combined three points to capture the title.

"It was one of the biggest moments of the season," sophomore



Photo by Mike Spinelli

Wilmington's Kortney Kim scored 28 points against the Blue Streaks on Saturday. None of them came on this play as sophomore Lee Jennings rejected Kim's shot. Jennings had four blocks in the game.

Lee Jennings said. "It showed us that we were good and shouldn't doubt our talent."

JCU hoped that their success out West would come back East with them.

However, following those two wins in California, they would fall in six straight conference competitions, dropping them to the basement in the standings.

"Losing those six straight games was the lowest point in our season," said junior Caitlin Sureck. "At that point it basically turned in to just trying to get one win and work from there."

One bright spot during the losing streak came when senior Rachael Price scored her 1,000th career point at home against Muskingum College.

"It feels really special to be part of something that not many people have accomplished," Price said of the milestone. "It meant a lot to me that my parents were able to be here for the moment, along with a lot of my friends from JCU."

The Blue Streaks eventually played their way out of the losing streak and were able to string together four straight wins going into

the last week of the season.

"For a while, we were not playing with any sense of urgency," Price said. "This is one of the most competitive conferences in the country and when you do not play consistent all of the time you are likely to be caught on the losing end of some games."

The women would split their final two games of the season to go into the OAC postseason tournament a winner in five of their last six regular season games.

The late success elevated them to the sixth seed which proved to be no favor as it set up a date with a very good team from Muskingum.

With the season now over, the Blue Streaks are able to look back at the 2008-09 season as a learning process and building point for the next couple seasons.

The 2009-10 team will have a different look as JCU will lose four players who saw significant playing time in coach Kristie Maravalli's nine-player rotation.

They will, however, return four of their top five scorers from this season.

The team will be turned over to Sureck and Jennings, two players who are already established.

Other underclassmen this year will be called on next year to fill the shoes of players who have left a significant footprint in the history of JCU women's basketball.

Lights, Camera, Action

Brian Fitts
Staff Reporter

Students at John Carroll University who are enrolled in the television sports broadcasting class have received a glimpse of what it takes to cover sports for television.

These students have the opportunity to work on the production of basketball and football broadcasts, giving students a unique opportunity to learn the tools of the trade by working in the production truck and working cameras at JCU basketball games.

JCU administrators decided to cover 11 athletic events during this spring semester alone on SportsTime Ohio, and the crew that works on these games is made up almost entirely of JCU students.

For a 3 p.m. basketball game, students have to arrive at the De-Carlo Varsity Center at 8 a.m.

When the production truck arrives, JCU students are there to assist in the unloading of the truck.

Students are not properly trained to handle the electrical setup, so Paul Ditchey, the class instructor, and John Skrada, the owner of the production truck, handle that.

But from there on out, it's all hands-on for the students.

Four students handle the cameras out in the arena while four other students work in the truck to work on the quality aspect of the production.

Ditchey produces and Skrada directs, but JCU students operate the machinery that controls the replay system.

Ditchey is a big believer in students doing rather than watching. He points out that other colleges have programs that pertain to sports broadcasting, but at other schools the professionals do the work and the students sit around and observe.

The way in which the class is conducted at JCU with the students carrying some of the workload makes this opportunity unique.

"Nobody in the country is doing anything like this," Ditchey said of his students playing such a major role in the production.

"Watching is OK, but doing is better. When you learn a skill, it's a lot easier when you're actually hands-on than simply watching," Ditchey said.

Students have been "doing" rather than watching since the class started in the spring semester of 2007. Back then, students did four games per semester.

The ability to do more games goes back to the students' ability to cover the games. As they get better at what they do, there are more possibilities to cover a wider variety of events.

Ditchey is pleased at the progress the students have made at their tasks overall as the semester has progressed.

"A few people have gotten so good that they've kept coming back and become regulars at their jobs,"

The 101 on CO 399

This semester, the class met once a week for three hours each Tuesday in the Television Studio.

The class first met on Tuesday, January 13. The very next day the students were thrown into the fire, covering the women's basketball game against Baldwin-Wallace College.

All of the games the students produced aired on SportsTime Ohio on tape delay. Each game would debut a few hours after the completion of the game, and would be played two to three times over the next few days.

For a 3 p.m. game, setup begins at 8 a.m. After the game, a "strike" period to load all the equipment back onto the truck usually lasts two hours. Working in sports television may not be your average 9 to 5 job, but you certainly put in the hours.



he said.

He believes that as the students gain experience, quality improves.

"The goal is to have the game get better as it goes on. If the game starts off bad then gets better by the end, the students have learned something. If the entire game is bad, then they haven't learned a thing."

There are currently 21 students participating in the class, but Ditchey hopes for the class to grow as time goes on.

"It's a special topics class now, but one day I'd like to see it become permanent. I'd also like to see students get paid, maybe through a work-study program."

Another goal would be to have more student involvement and less

teacher involvement. "Ultimately, I'd like for students to direct and produce broadcasts," said Ditchey.

Director of Athletics and Recreation Laurie Massa believes the publicity JCU receives from being on television can benefit the athletic teams, but also the school as a whole.

"Basketball and football coaches can tell recruits that they're on television, and that's certainly not a negative thing," said Massa.

She also believes the students getting the experience for their résumés gives them an edge after graduation.

"I know we've had some students get internships at places like ESPN and places like that. The

practical experience the students receive really helps them after they graduate," said Massa.

Senior Jim Perkins, a communications major, is one of the students currently enrolled in the class.

Perkins does play-by-play work for JCU games on WJCU and the Webcast feeds over the Internet for the Sports Information Department, but here he found out what it truly takes to broadcast a game.

"You watch games on TV all the time and never think about all the work that goes into it," he said. "When you get back in the truck you start to realize what it takes."

Junior Joe Hinkel is another student in the broadcasting class.

Hinkel, also a communications

major, believes the class has helped him learn things he would never have learned in a classroom.

"By working the replays, the cameras, and in the truck, I get to see things up front and in person, instead of reading about it in a textbook," said Hinkel.

"Even if I don't go into this field after I graduate, it's good to know I have experience in broadcasting," he said.

Like Ditchey, Hinkel believes the class will only grow with time.

"I think there are just too many students who don't know the extent to which the class can help them. Hopefully, more people will give it a shot in the fall."



Photos by Mike Spinelli

Above: Juniors Katy Finucane and John McInerney receive instruction from director John Skrada of S&S Productions on how to operate the audio equipment during a basketball game.

Left: Junior Ryan Martin, left, and sophomore Tim Ertle, right, work in the production truck for a women's basketball game. Martin served as technical director while Ertle operated the instant replay machine.

OAC tournament recaps

Tim Ertle
Sports Editor

WRESTLING

As the winter sports season comes to an end, a few John Carroll University athletes have earned the right to keep competing as a result of their success at last weekend’s Ohio Athletic Conference Championships.

In the wrestling tournament hosted by Muskingum College in New Concord, Ohio, senior Dan Mizener and junior Ben Adams won their respective weight classes to advance to the NCAA Division III Championships in Cedar Rapids, Iowa on March 6 and 7.

For Adams, it was his second consecutive individual title at 184 pounds.

As a result of his high seed, Adams needed only three matches to capture the title.

His biggest win came in the semifinals when he avenged his only loss of the OAC season by knocking off Ohio Northern University’s Matt Alexander.

There was no hangover effect in the title bout as Adams knocked off Mount Union College’s Chad Teague 8-0 to repeat as champion.

For Mizener, this was his first OAC title after coming close the previous two years. He lost in the 149-pound title match a year ago, and used that as inspiration for this season.

“My goal is to be an All-American,” Mizener said. “But in order to reach that goal, I had to win the OAC first. I didn’t know how much it would mean to me until I took a minute after the match and realized that my goal was now a definite possibility.”

As a team, the Blue Streaks placed third out of seven teams.

Aside from the two Blue Streaks that were individual champions, senior Elie Naoum at 125 pounds, sophomore Adam Kriwinsky at 133 pounds and senior Matt Harmon at 197 pounds all placed second in their respective weight classes.

Mizener remembers what it felt like to place second.

“My heart goes out to those three guys,” said Mizener of the trio that lost in their title bout. “Especially Elie and Matt, to see all the hard work they put in over these last four years come to an end was really heartbreaking.”

SWIMMING

The swimming program was also busy competing in the conference tournament this past weekend and came away with impressive results.

Of the five teams competing, the women’s team placed second, while the men finished third.

“We knew it wasn’t going to be easy to win the championship this year,” said freshman Samantha Mossman. “Ohio Northern had been swimming really well all year, and we knew they wouldn’t just hand us the title.”

A year ago, the women captured the title while the men’s team finished in fourth. Two swimmers who weren’t even on last year’s team were the ones who anchored both the men and women’s team.

Freshman Samantha Mossman led the charge for the women, racking up the team’s only titles. She captured both the 100-meter and 200-meter breaststroke crowns.

In order to win the 200-meter breaststroke, she had to knock off Ohio Northern’s Lacey Shumate, the two-time defending champion in that event. Mossman finished in 2:11.20 and Shumate was right be-

hind her, coming in at 2:11.51.

The exciting win in the 200-meter breaststroke came a day after Mossman had broken a 15-year OAC record.

Mossman swam a 1:00.15 in the preliminary qualifying round of the 100-meter breaststroke. That broke the record of 1:00.90 that was set in 1994.

“I didn’t even know that I had broken a record until I walked over to the coaches and they told me,” Mossman said. “I was absolutely shocked.”

Another Blue Streak who really stood out was sophomore Heidi Benson. By placing in the top-three in all three of her races, she earned All-OAC status in each event.

For the men, freshman Alex Vereshchagin stole the show. His individual highlight came on Saturday when he broke a 17-year record in the 100-meter freestyle preliminaries.

He showed that was no fluke by coming back in the evening and winning the event.

Vereshchagin’s classmate Eric Davis also achieved All-OAC status by placing second in the 200-meter fly.

Davis and Vereshchagin then teamed with freshman Tony Russo and sophomore Nick Grady to place second in the 400-meter freestyle relay.

The strong performances by the underclassmen will aid coach Matt Lenhart in replacing some of his graduating seniors.

Seniors Heather Gilmour, Theresa Kaschak and Andrea Kovacs all had notable OAC achievements during their careers. On the men’s side, Tom Barden, Matt Finney and Ryan Flaherty will depart.

After this weekend, however, it’s clear that the JCU swimming program will be left in good hands.

JCU ATHLETICS
SCOREBOARD

FEB. 18 - FEB. 24

Men’s Basketball

JCU 86
Baldwin-Wallace 71

JCU 75
Wilmington 72

JCU Leaders -
Points:
Rudy Kirbus 44
Rebounds:
Matt Crozier 17
Assists:
Tyler Kirsch 8

Hockey

JCU 6
Duquesne 11

JCU Leaders -
Goals:
James Stanley 4
Assists:
Louis Caracci 2
Curt Kassigkeit 2
Nick Morici 2
Geoff Abrahams 2
Saves:
Nick Fabrizio 22

Women’s Basketball

JCU 54
Baldwin-Wallace 71

JCU 70
Wilmington 57

JCU
Muskingum 75
62

JCU Leaders -
Points:
Caitlin Hubach 39
Rebounds:
Caitlin Hubach 25
Assists:
Lee Jennings 12

Track and Field

Greater Cleveland

Men - third of eight teams
Women - third of nine teams

JCU Leaders -
David Hickey
First-place: 500m run
First-place: 4x400m relay

Alicia Giannell
First-place: Long jump
First-place: Triple jump

This week ...

The track and field team will compete in the Marietta Invitational on Saturday.

The tennis team will make their annual spring trip. They’ll head down to Orlando, Fla. and will be able to play outdoors over the next week.



STREAKS OF THE WEEK



Men’s Basketball



Rudy Kirbus
junior

- Kirbus scored a game-high 24 points and pulled down five boards in the Blue Streaks victory over Wilmington College, handing JCU the Ohio Athletic Conference regular season title.



Women’s Basketball



Caitlin Hubach
senior

- In her final game at the DeCarlo Varsity Center, Hubach made the most of “Senior Day” as she had her best game of the season, scoring 16 points and pulling down 11 rebounds.



Wrestling



Ben Adams
junior

- Adams and teammate Dan Mizener both captured OAC crowns in their respective weight classes as JCU placed third. Adams won his 184-pound weight class for the second year in a row.



Swimming and Diving



Alex Vereshchagin
freshman

- Vereshchagin won his first career OAC title in the 100-meter free, breaking a 17-year OAC record while doing so. He posted times of 46.44 and 46.87 seconds in the event.



Swimming and Diving



Samantha Mossman
freshman

- Mossman won the 100 and 200-meter breaststroke events at the OAC Championships. She broke a 15-year OAC record in the 100-meter breaststroke during the preliminary round.

STUCK FOR SPRING BREAK? HERE ARE SOME IDEAS

Single day trips over five days

**Monday
March 2**

Niagara Falls

WHERE:

To get to Niagara Falls, Canada, take Interstate 90 East through Pennsylvania and New York. The more lively side of Niagara Falls is located directly across the Canadian border, 215 miles from Cleveland and is approximately a three-hour and 45-minute drive.

WHY:

The Canadian side of Niagara Falls provides students ample opportunities to enjoy Spring Break 2009. Unlike the United States, the legal gambling and drinking age is 19 in Ontario. Many JCU students would be able to enjoy activities in Ontario they otherwise would not be allowed to participate in the States. The Clifton Hill neighborhood of Niagara Falls is an area full of restaurants, bars, nightclubs and casinos that is a friendly space for younger people. The two major casinos in town, Casino Niagara and Fallsview Casino Resort Hotel anchor the casino and gambling industries.

Clifton Hill is also known for some of Niagara Falls' more prominent structures, including the Skylon Tower. Opened in 1964, the Skylon Tower soars more than 500 feet and allows tourists some of the best views of the falls.

Also near Clifton Hill is the Ripley's Believe It or Not! Museum. Home to some of the most unusual human achievements, the museum is one of the largest attractions for tourists visiting Niagara Falls. The bizarre exhibits and attractions feature accomplishments from all over the world.

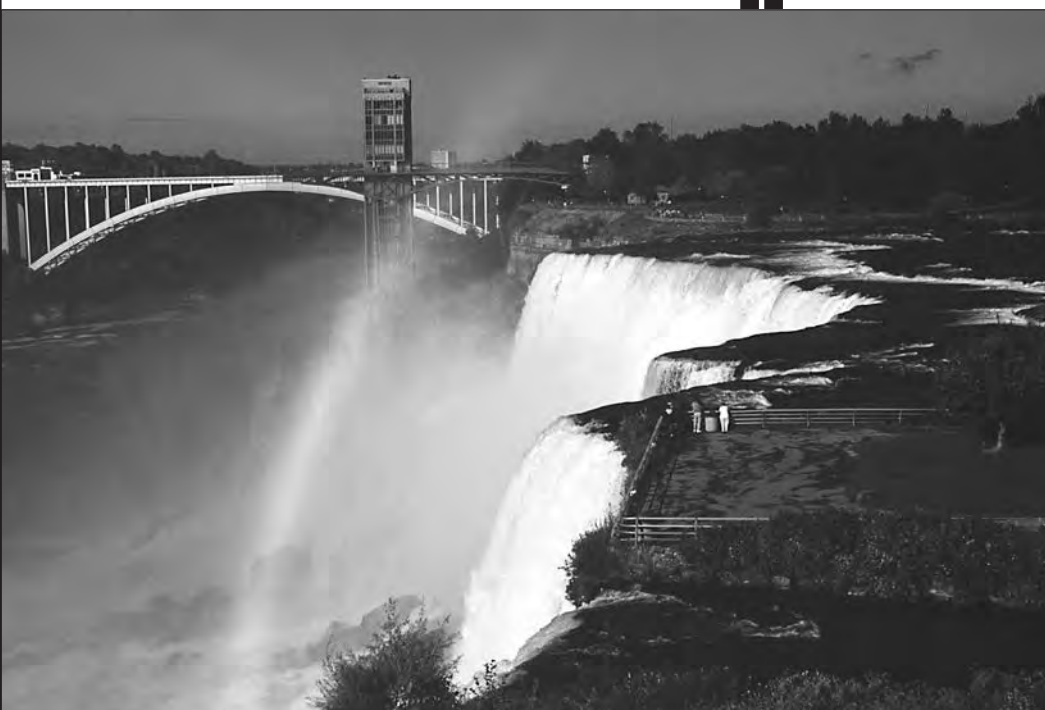


Photo courtesy of www.empire.state.ny.us

**Tuesday
March 3**

Presque Isle Downs

WHERE:

Located northeast in Erie, Pa., Presque Isle Downs can be conveniently found off Interstate 90, which offers easy access from Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Youngstown and Buffalo, as well as Erie. From Cleveland, the casino is about 100 miles away and is a quick hour and a half drive.



Photo courtesy of www.boston.com

WHY:

With more than 2,000 slot machines, Presque Isle Downs is one of the largest new casinos on the East Coast. In addition to the slots that provide visitors with a typical casino experience, Presque Isle is also home to a racetrack.

Within the immediate area of the casino, the city of Erie maintains a large base of hotels to accommodate overnight visitors. Near Interstate 90 is Splash Lagoon Indoor Waterpark, along with six hotels serving the area.

While some individuals and students choose to take bus tours to the casino, others can drive.

If Spring Break 2009 doesn't work for you, don't worry. The casino is open 365 days a year to patrons. However, unlike Niagara Falls, Canada, students must be 21 years of age to gamble under Pennsylvania law.

Not far from the casino is the U.S. Brig Niagara & Erie Maritime Museum. The museum contains the reconstructed Brig Niagara used in the War of 1812. The museum is also home to one of the largest collections of War of 1812 memorabilia in the United States.

Compiled by Colin Beisel
and Bob Seeholzer

**Wednesday
March 4**



Photo courtesy of www.thebuddgroup.com

Caesars Windsor Casino

WHERE:

Take Interstate 90 West to Interstate 75 North. Located just across the Canadian border, Windsor is approximately 170 miles from Cleveland and is two hours and 50 minutes by car.

WHY:

The city of Windsor is the busiest border crossing between Canada and the United States, but crossing the border to Caesars Windsor is easier than you might expect. Unlike crossing the US/Canadian border in other places, you can cross the border to Windsor at any time without a passport. Caesars Essentials is a gift shop that carries apparel, jewelry accessories and even a wide variety of Cuban cigars.

Local attractions include the Coventry Gardens & Peace Fountain, which is located minutes away from the casino itself. This saucer-shaped fountain shoots more than 15,000 gallons of water per minute 70 feet into the air and creates a unique water and colored light display.

If you're up for a more intellectually stimulating experience, then head over to the Art Gallery of Windsor. The gallery is known for collecting, conserving, and presenting Canadian art. It's a great opportunity to view significant works of art by local, regional and national artists.

If gambling is more your thing, the Legends Sports Bar is where you can wager on games while following the action live from arenas around the world. There's also poker, slots, and table games for guests to enjoy.

**Thursday
March 5**

Pro Football Hall of Fame



Photo courtesy of ballislife.com

WHERE:

Just a short trip down Interstate 77 South in Canton, Ohio, the Professional Football Hall of Fame is located directly off the highway. Fawcett Stadium can be seen from the exit. From Cleveland, the Hall is 53 miles away and is a short 67-minute drive.

WHY:

Professional football is a big deal to John Carroll students. From the Browns to the Steelers to the Bills and beyond, students are passionate about their favorite teams, and there's no better way to celebrate your team in March than by visiting the Professional Football Hall of Fame.

Some of the busts you'll be able to view include JCU alumnus and former-NFL coach Don Shula. Other players whose exhibits you can visit are former Browns legend Jim Brown, former Bills quarterback Jim Kelly, and even the much-maligned O.J. Simpson. The most famous voice in the NFL and the biggest name in sports video games, John Madden also has his bust in Canton. No matter who you are a fan of, the Professional Football Hall of Fame will have something for you.

**Friday
March 6**

Bischwind Bed and Breakfast

WHERE:

To get to Bear Creek, Pa. (the Pocono Mountains), take Interstate 80 East. Bischwind is located outside of Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 370 miles from Cleveland; by car, the travel time is roughly 6 hours.

WHY:

As "a jewel in the crown of the Pocono Mountains," the Bischwind Inc. Bed and Breakfast provides a quaint getaway from the stress of college life during Spring Break.

If you're into history, then Bischwind has plenty. The Presidential Dining Room has hosted Presidents Theodore Roosevelt and William Howard Taft, and the bed and breakfast offers the

opportunity to spend a night in the Roosevelt Bed. If you're more interested in the breakfast than the bed, the Bischwind offers four-course breakfasts that feature filet mignon and filet of salmon among other more traditional menu items.

For those interested in getting in their exercise while on the road, there are graveled trails around the 100-acre lake, which is surrounded by a pine forest. There's plenty of room for activities such as hiking, biking, skiing, golfing, rafting or even reading in this Pocono paradise.



Photo courtesy of www.virtualcities.com

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FRIDAY:	9:00 - 9:00
SATURDAY:	10:00 - 7:00
SUNDAY:	10:00 - 9:00

<p>JAMAICAN-ME TAN</p> <p>FREE BOTTLE OF TOTAL IMMERSION AFTER-TAN MOISTURIZER WITH PURCHASE OF ANY NEW 2009 LOTION BOTTLE</p> <p>MUST PRESENT COUPON VALID UNTIL 3/15/09</p>	<p>JAMAICAN-ME TAN</p> <p>STUDENT SINGLE SESSION TAN</p> <p>\$5.59 EVERYDAY</p> <p>VALID IN BASE BEDS ONLY MUST PRESENT STUDENT ID</p>	<p>JAMAICAN-ME TAN</p> <p>BEGINNING 2/12/09, BUY A PACKET OR BOTTLE OF DISCIPLE OR NANO LUX LOTION & ENTER YOUR NAME IN OUR DRAWING FOR LOTS OF FREE-BEES</p> <p>- STOP IN TO ENTER -</p>
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Tough questions arise in Iran

Administration may rethink approach to engaging Iran

Mike Zurn
World News Editor

Amid tackling the domestic economic meltdown, President Barack Obama might also have to focus on relations with Iran. Just a few weeks ago, the country successfully launched its first satellite into space, stirring uneasiness among world leaders and members of the U.S. administration.

The launch signals the possibility that Iran is capable of hitting close U.S. allies, including Israel, with missiles.

It also comes at the height of speculation about Iran’s nuclear intentions, as many world leaders accuse the country of actively pursuing nuclear weapons. According to a recent U.N. report, Iran is closer to making a nuclear bomb than previously expected.

The nation has enough low-enriched uranium, which if more fully enriched, could make a nuclear bomb. However, Iran upholds the position that its nuclear program is used strictly for the peaceful purpose of generating enough electricity and power to support a growing population.

“Left to its own devices, Iran will develop a nuclear weapon, and the only way to stop that is through war or negotiations.”

Brent Brossman
John Carroll University
Professor of Comm. and theatre arts

Under the administration of former President George W. Bush, the United States pursued a hard-line strategy against Iran that proved to be unsuccessful. Brent Brossmann, professor of communications at John Carroll University, extensively researched and studied Iran while coaching debate last year. Brossman said Bush’s strategy in regards to Iran did not work because the administration tried to force Iran to concede every issue, from nuclear to borders to negotiations.

Unlike Bush, the Obama administration has expressed willingness to open direct negotiations with the country. On Monday, it appointed Dennis Ross, a long-time Middle East negotiator, to assist Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in engaging Iran.

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad also expressed interest in holding direct talks with the administration, but previously said the United States will have to accept a nuclear-powered Iran in order for relations to progress. So even though negotiations will likely force the United States to make sacrifices, they might also open options.

“Negotiations do not necessarily lead to an immediate solution, but have a far better chance of succeeding than isolation,” said Brossmann.

This is a dramatic shift in U.S. foreign policy because the United States has not had direct relations with Iran since the Islamic Revolution in 1979.

At the same time, however, the administration has signaled that it might push for tougher sanctions against Iran. Despite the fact that engagement and sanctions seem counter-productive to one another, ultimately, combining them might produce the best possible outcome.

“The concept can work by balancing carrots and sticks, rewarding the good and punishing the bad. Sanctions give bargaining chips,” said Brossmann. At the same time, the United States should press for constant International Atomic Energy Agency supervision. “Trust, but verify,” he said.

Therefore, the United States and Iran might be able to find a package both can live with, but Obama has clearly said that the world cannot allow Iran to acquire nuclear weapons. Through negotiations, parties could possibly discover a way to allow Iran to use nuclear power cleanly and not have a weapon. Russia, for example, could be a fuel bank for Iran’s uranium.

Regardless, engaging Iran will be a tough battle for the new administration and might not produce the desired result. However, the potential consequence of not negotiating could be much worse.

“Left to its own devices, Iran will develop a nuclear weapon, and the only way to stop that is through war or negotiations,” said Brossmann.

Combat troops out in 2010

Obama administration signals major troop withdrawals from Iraq by August 2010

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) – President Barack Obama plans to remove all U.S. combat troops from Iraq by August 2010, administration officials said Tuesday, ending the war that defined his upstart presidential campaign three months later than he had promised.

The withdrawal plan calls for leaving a large contingent of troops behind, between 30,000 and 50,000 troops, to advise and train Iraqi security forces and to protect U.S. interests.

Obama built enormous grass-roots support for his White House bid by pledging to withdraw troops 16 months after taking office. That schedule, based on removing roughly one brigade a month, was predicated on commanders determining that it would not endanger U.S. troops left behind or Iraq’s fragile security.

The contingent remaining will include intelligence and surveillance specialists and their equipment, including unmanned aircraft, according to two administration officials who spoke on condition of anonymity because the plan has not been made public.

The complete withdrawal of American forces will take place by December 2011, the period by which the U.S. agreed with Iraq to remove all troops.

About 142,000 U.S. troops are in Iraq, roughly 14 brigades, about 11,000 more than the total in Iraq when President George W. Bush announced in January 2007 that he would “surge” the force to put down the insurgency. He sent an additional 21,000 combat troops to Baghdad and Anbar province.

Although the number of combat brigades has dropped from 20 to 14, the U.S. has increased the number of logistical and other support troops. A brigade is usually about 3,000 to 5,000 troops.

Removing so many people and tons of equipment presents logistical difficulties. The 19-month strategy is a compromise between commanders and advisers who worry that security gains could backslide in Iraq and those who think the bulk of U.S. combat work is long since done.

The White House considered at least two other options – one that followed Obama’s 16-month timeline and one



AP Photo

A helicopter flies over a U.S. envoy traveling through Iraq.

that stretched withdrawal over 23 months.

Marine Maj. Gen. John Kelly, who just left his job overseeing U.S. operations in Anbar Province, said Tuesday that he saw violence drop to an almost “meaningless” level over the past year.

“There is still a security issue there, but in the province I just left the (Iraqi) army and the police are more than handling the remnants of what used to be al-Qaida,” Kelly said. “There’s other parts of Iraq that aren’t going quite as well, but all of Iraq is doing pretty well.”

According to officials, Obama had requested a range of options from his top military advisers, including one that would have withdrawn troops in 16 months. Defense Secretary Robert Gates and Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, had recently forwarded withdrawal alternatives to the White House for Obama’s consideration.

There are more than 200 U.S. military installations in Iraq. According to Army officials interviewed by the Government Accountability Office, it can take up to two months to shut down small outposts that hold up to 300 troops. Larger entrenched facilities, like Balad Air Base, could take up to 18 months to close, according to the GAO.

As of Monday, at least 4,250 members of the U.S. military have died in the Iraq war since it began in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. More than 31,000 have been injured. An additional 35,841 have received medical air transport due to non-hostile incidents.

Clinton’s first trip is to East Asia

The chief foreign diplomat takes her first trip to Asia, not Europe

Max Flessner
Projects Editor

Hillary Clinton made her first tour as secretary of state to East Asia, an unusual initial trip for the nations chief foreign diplomat. Her week-long trip to South Korea, Indonesia, China and Japan signified the ever-growing importance that Asia now plays on the international stage.

“I think her visit to Asia early in the new administration reflects the growing importance of Asia on the world stage,” said Pamela Mason, John Carroll University political science professor. “It shows the cultural importance of our relationship with each of these countries, especially relating to security, the global economy and the environment.”

Clinton addressed Japan’s military status and how that will affect U.S. military bases in Japan, especially in Okinawa, of which around 20 percent of the total population is U.S. personnel.

The deal that Clinton oversaw will close down one U.S. base and move it to another part of Okinawa and ship a large number of U.S. soldiers to a base in Guam, which is a U.S. protectorate. This will largely be done at Japan’s expense.

Another issue addressed was the Japanese constitution, which the United States insisted on creating and implementing after World War II. The current constitution precludes Japan from maintaining an offensive army.

The United States is in favor of Japan creating an army capable of offensive actions, especially with the increasing threat of North Korea in the region.

Although Japan has been an ally of the United States for the past 60 years, the relationship has been “lopsided in favor of the U.S., but that’s beginning to change,” said Mason.

Clinton addressed North Korea’s growing threat of long-range ballistic missiles and the importance of North Korea’s transition of power as their current leader, Kim Jung Il, is

reportedly ill in his old age.

Although Mason and JCU history professor Roger Purdy agree North Korea has hardened its rhetorical stance in the region, they disagree on the threat level of North Korea.

Mason believes that it’s “a scary situation. North Korea is a real threat to the stability of East Asia because it is not a country that acts predictably.”

Yet Purdy does not believe that the threat lies in the security or rationality of the country, but in the economic constraints.

“North Korea does a lot of things for show,” Purdy said. “A ballistic missile is not the biggest threat [to the world] – if they launched one, they’d be annihilated. The concern America should have is it [North Korea] is so economically strapped they could sell a missile to terrorists or a rogue nation.”

Clinton’s stop in Indonesia, a country where President Barack Obama spent part of his youth, demonstrated how Democracy and Islam can peacefully coexist. This was seen by many as an olive branch to the majority of the Muslim world.

“This stop allowed the U.S. to put a new face on the attitude it takes towards Islam,” Purdy said. “We don’t see Islam as a threat; we see terrorism as a threat.”

Indonesia is the largest Muslim Democracy in the world.

The last stop on the trip was in China, a country that about 18 months ago became the largest creditor to the United States.

As America continues to pass stimulus legislation that will largely be paid for by borrowed money, it is especially important for Clinton to stop in China so that they do not stop purchasing U.S. Treasury Department bonds.

Purdy said that may be the reason that Clinton didn’t publicly humiliate China on the issue of human rights, an issue that has been hotly contested between the United States and China.

The prime minister of Japan arrives in Washington, D.C. today to follow up on Clinton’s progress and discuss the security of the region and will also focus on economic ties, but the priority will remain security.

Three things you should know about this week:



President Barack Obama outside the White House on Feb. 19.

1. Obama aims to reduce record deficit and debt

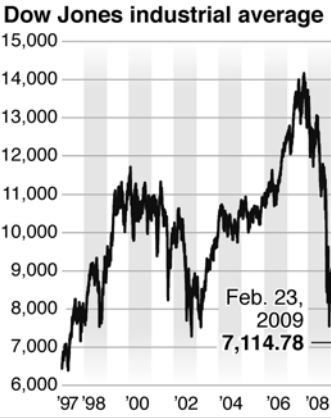
On Monday, President Barack Obama announced his intention to cut the country’s outstanding deficit in half by the end of his term in 2013. Currently, the deficit stands at about \$1.3 trillion and the debt at almost \$11 trillion. Obama said from now on, any increases in spending or decreases in revenue will have to be offset by either cuts in other areas of spending or increased tax cuts. He also said that withdrawing troops from Iraq and raising taxes on the rich will significantly help to close the gap. However, his plans to increase troop levels in Afghanistan may reduce the gains from leaving Iraq. Furthermore, although he promised during his campaign to repeal Bush’s tax cuts right away, he has signaled that instead, he will now wait until they expire in 2010 to prevent from further hurting the economy.

2. Dow and S&P drop to lowest level in over a decade

On Monday, the Dow Jones and the S&P 500 stock indexes fell to their lowest levels since 1997. Investors are nervous over the increasing possibility that the Obama administration may nationalize major banks that are insolvent. The administration, led by Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner, introduced its plan to improve the financial industry a few weeks ago. Although both Geithner and President Obama have said they want banks to stay in private hands, the plan lacked important details and left open the possibility of nationalization. On Tuesday, however, after Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke gave an optimistic speech to Congress, the stock markets regained some of the ground they lost the day before. Bernanke said the recession might end this year, and that regulators are not going to try to nationalize banks.

Backtracking

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 251 points Monday to its lowest level since 1997.



3. United States will help Gaza rebuild after war with Israel

An Obama administration official leaked information on Tuesday that the United States is going to offer \$900 million in aid to Gaza, where 1,300 people died and 21,000 homes were destroyed in a three-week long war with Israel in January. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton will make the official announcement during a trip to the Middle East next week. Because the U.S. considers Hamas, the organization that controls the Gaza Strip, a terrorist group, it will give the aid to the United Nations and Palestinian Authority to administer. Estimates put the cost of reconstruction at around \$2 billion. In addition to the United States’ offer, Saudi Arabia has also offered \$1 billion and Qatar has offered \$250 million.

Compiled by Sean Webster



AP Photo

Dr. Khalil Ibrahim, center, leader of Darfur’s strongest rebel group known as the Justice and Equality Movement, at the Darfur peace talks two weeks ago in Doha, Qatar.

Peace closer with Sudan agreement

Sean Webster
Asst. World News Editor

After a week of talks, the Sudanese government and Darfur’s strongest rebel group, the Justice and Equality Movement, reached a “confidence building agreement” that will lead the way to further peace negotiations.

The two parties hope to reach a peace deal soon that will put an end to a six-year war between the Arab-led Sudanese government and non-Arab tribes in the Darfur region of western Sudan.

According to the United Nations, the violence in Darfur has killed 300,000 people and displaced more than 2.5 million civilians.

While rebel leaders are vying for the disbandment of government-supported Arab militias, known as the janjaweed, and for more political representation, negotiations will first focus on establishing a ceasefire and a prisoner exchange.

According to Mindy Peden, professor of political science at John Carroll University, a legitimate ceasefire is an essential first step to the peace process in more ways than one.

Besides subduing hostilities, if only for the short term, a ceasefire also “signals to the people that they [the leaders of JEM and the Sudanese government] have legitimacy ... It’s important to know who is speaking for the constituencies and why,” Peden said.

Only hours after last week’s agreement, Khalil Ibrahim, the leader of JEM, accused the Sudanese army of attacking two rebel positions. In the absence of a ceasefire, such attacks are likely to continue.

Negotiations may also be hindered if the International Criminal Court issues a warrant for the arrest of Omar al-Bashir, the president of Sudan.

The warrant was requested by the chief prosecutor of the ICC, who holds Bashir responsible for the genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity committed in Darfur.

Some critics, doubtful that Bashir

United Nations Mission in Sudan duties:

- Support implementation of a comprehensive peace agreement.
- Facilitate and coordinate humanitarian assistance and the return of displaced refugees.
- Assist in providing demining services, technical advice and coordination activities.
- Aid in the development and protection of human rights in Sudan, especially toward displaced groups of people.

is committed to long-term peace, view the current negotiations as nothing more than the government’s attempt to keep the ICC from issuing the warrant.

While Egypt has asked the ICC to delay its decision for at least a year to allow the peace talks to develop, the BBC recently reported that the ICC will announce its decision next week.

Although the Sudanese government does not recognize the authority of the ICC, rebel groups have indicated that if the warrant is released, they will try to apprehend Bashir for the ICC. Peden also said the role of international peacekeepers may be affected if the warrant is issued.

Even if a final peace agreement is reached, its legitimacy may be undermined by the lack of involvement from other rebel groups in the negotiations.

While JEM is the dominate rebel group, controlling areas of both north and west Darfur, another rebel group known as the Sudan Liberation Army also has a considerable amount of support.

Both JEM and SLM also have multiple splinter factions.

Peden said leaving these groups out of the negotiations “can make them more powerful and more militant.”

“Everybody has to be at the table ... even the most marginalized groups, who tend to be the most radical,” she said.

In 2006, the Sudanese government arranged a peace deal with SLM, the main Darfur rebel group at the time.

However, the deal quickly collapsed after it was met with opposition from JEM and even from some members of SLM.

In mid-2007, the U.N. decided to send a peacekeeping force to Darfur to bolster the failing efforts of African Union peacekeepers.

Although its deployment has been somewhat delayed, the combined U.N.-AU force will total 26,000 peacekeepers by this November.

However, many critics question how effective more peacekeepers will be when there is no peace to keep in the first place.

In the midst of continued violence, peacekeepers find it increasingly difficult to establish and maintain order and stability.

Rome is Zurning



Mike Zurn

World News Editor

Pay my mortgage

The current mortgage crisis has helped propel the United States economy into one of the worst recessions in the nation's history. Many argue that the current state parallels that of the Great Depression, and others say the worst is yet to come.

In order to combat rising home foreclosures, President Obama is set to propose a plan intended to prevent those at risk of losing their homes. Ideally, this sounds like the right thing to do, but it is not.

Essentially, the government plans to take \$75 billion and subsidize at-risk mortgages by reducing homeowners' monthly payments. Without venturing into whether or not the government can afford \$75 billion more in debt, it is easy to point out other flaws of the plan. Specifically, the plan proposes no solution to fix the underlying problems and is unfair to those who act responsibly.

One of the major reasons why the United States is experiencing this type of crisis is because many people were given loans they could not afford. Banks were granting loans to subprime borrowers perceived to be at high risk of default.

In many instances this lending was forced on banks by the federal government through various laws and regulations, such as the Community Reinvestment Act of 1977. Although this was not the only cause of the crisis, it was a major contributor.

The proposed Obama mortgage plan does nothing to correct this problem. Rather, it bails out the culprits of lending and borrowing by paying for their reckless behavior. According to a Washington Post report outlining the plan, lenders will "receive an up-front fee of \$1,000 for each eligible modification," and also be "awarded monthly as long as the borrower stays current on the loan."

Moreover, as long as the borrower pays on time, "the initiative will provide a monthly balance reduction payment." In addition, "he or she can get up to \$1,000 each year for five years." These are just certain parts of the many handing out money within the plan.

Maybe I am wrong, but how will receiving payments and rate reductions encourage responsible lending and borrowing? To me it looks like this actually encourages people to stop paying their mortgage to receive potential benefits, which include government subsidies and rate reductions.

If people have the opportunity to "beat the system" without consequence, they probably will. I just hope the government bails out students with lofty credit card debt so I too can beat the system. Thus is the American dream.

Forcing responsible borrowers to pay for the irresponsible behavior of others is wrong. In addition, renters and others who realized they could not afford a home are wronged. In essence, they are missing out due to their decisions to act responsibly and not buy a home. Unlike those who will be able to keep their homes, renters will have nothing to show for acting sensibly.

To put it all in perspective, this is like paying me to go to class after having a failing grade and poor attendance. As awesome as this would be, it would not be fair to my studious peers. However, I urge John Carroll to look into it anyway, because I hate going to class.

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Even Arnold can't terminate state debt

Meghan Wolf
Staff Reporter

California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger has made the decision, albeit in the face of falling economic output, to raise taxes. On Feb. 2, in a closed ceremony, he signed a set of bills that endorsed actions to combat the \$42 billion shortfall in the budget over the next year and a half.

A three-year drought has plagued the agricultural sector of California's economy and is spelling trouble for the rest of the United States, which trades heavily in the state's exports. California is the country's largest producer of dozens of crops, including grapes, almonds, avocados, artichokes and onions.

A downslide in the production of crops has also turned into an increased unemployment rate for both those who produce and pick them.

California has tallied the 2008 drought losses to \$300 million, and economists predict this year's losses could come to \$2 billion, with a loss of 80,000 jobs.

A recent storm in California, the largest of the season, boosted wintertime rainfall, but water officials said that it was not enough to make up for the weather conditions of the past couple of years.

The bills signed by the Republican governor will raise taxes across the board, which has not happened in 17 years. Moreover, lawmakers set up massive spending cuts that will largely affect public institutions across the state. Over the next 16 months, state spending will be reduced by 11 percent.

Andrew Welki, a professor of economics at John Carroll University, explained the interconnecting logistics of such economic policies as they work during such a severe recession.

"Usually in recessionary times such as this, the state governments face a very difficult situation, because many services are provided by the state rather than federal governments," said Welki. "You have pressures placed on all units of government that rely on property taxes, including school systems," he said.



AP Photo

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger signs the state budget in Sacramento, Calif. The package reduces the state's spending by nearly \$13 billion for this fiscal year.

In addition, economic hardships created by unemployment and various decreases in income mean less tax revenues for the state. Thus, for California, the combination of the recession and state budget problems is crushing the state's economy.

"When unemployment rises, income falls, so income tax falls," said Welki.

Welki explained that in addition to cutting expenses, state governments need to turn to other sources for funding besides income tax.

Moreover, unlike the federal government, state governments are required to balance their budgets either every year or two, necessitating the need for quick action in hard financial times.

The federal stimulus package recently approved by Congress, which endorses the allotting of money to the individual states, has received vehement disapproval from Republican politicians.

They include governors such as Mark Sanford of South Carolina, who said that he might refuse federal aid offered to his state, and Bobby Jindal of Louisiana and Haley Bar-

bour of Mississippi, who said that they might reject offered stimulus package portions.

However, Schwarzenegger said that he would gladly accept stimulus money for his state, giving praise, along with Florida governor Charlie Christ, to the \$787 billion plan at the National Governor's Association winter meetings in Washington, D.C.

"Gov. Sanford says that he does not want to take the money...and I want to say to him: I'll take it," said Schwarzenegger on the ABC show "This Week With George Stephanopoulos."

"I'm more than happy to take his money or any other governor in this country that doesn't want to take this money," he said.

According to Schwarzenegger, the "terrific package" would put \$80 billion into his state's economy, with \$35 billion in tax cuts, and \$45 billion into such areas as health care, transportation and education.

Schwarzenegger said California's economy might start recovering in a year, but that full recovery might not be achieved for a long time, and that it might take "years from now to get back to where we were."

U.S. automakers ask for more bailout funds

Matt Greene
The Carroll News

Last week General Motors and Chrysler made their plea to President Barack Obama for additional financial aid in hopes that it will prevent the companies from full collapse.

All together, GM and Chrysler are requesting that they receive \$39 billion in aid, a \$14 billion increase from the initial amount. This would add to GM's already outstanding debt of \$47 billion.

Even so, Andrew Welki, professor of economics at John Carroll University, called Chrysler's survival "unlikely." Moreover, U.S. manufacturers might be "delaying the inevitable."

"[GM and Chrysler] have been unwilling to face realities," said Welki.

The company failed to meet a Feb. 17 deadline set by the government. On that date, the company was supposed to reach an agreement with the United Auto Workers and shareholders regarding GM's massive debt. However, lawmakers have decided not to penalize GM for failing to meet the proposed deadline.

If the federal government grants the propose demand, both companies promised to make drastic reductions at all levels of operation. GM claims that it will let go of 47,000 workers and terminate five plants, cutting the total number down from 38 to 33 in North America.

As a result of the cuts, GM plans to eliminate its Saturn brand and possibly phase out

Pontiac. The company's executives determined with certainty that Chevrolet, Cadillac, GMC and Buick would be the prime recipients of any aid package.

Chrysler plans to take similar steps as GM by eliminating more than 3,000 jobs. Moreover, the automaker's Dodge Durango, PT Cruiser and Chrysler Aspen models will no longer be manufactured.

Much smaller than both GM and Ford, Chrysler is asking for \$9 billion, an amount much higher than its previous \$3 billion request in December. The company has already made sizable cuts since it was purchased in 2007 by the equity firm Cerberus Capital Management.

GM and Chrysler have also been discussing conflicting matters with the UAW.

Much of the controversy surrounding U.S. automakers health is partly attributed to the UAW, which has controlled negotiations among the manufacturers since the 1970s.

Before the recession, GM attempted to sever ties with UAW members by offering buyouts to workers. In some cases, the company would pay a worker \$120,000 just to leave the company. GM hoped to replace the union members with non-union workers.

The move was made in order to place GM in a better position to compete with foreign manufacturers like Honda and Toyota, which do not pay employees close to that of U.S. manufacturers.

If GM or Chrysler ends up surviving, Welki believes the U.S. automakers must develop a business model consistent with that

of Toyota and Honda "based on the willingness to suspect levels of performance that are suspect."

GM wants a deal with the union to decrease its debt from \$27 billion to \$9 billion. A main concern of the UAW is how the two companies will secure retirement and health care benefits for employees.

Workers worry that reducing costs will make these benefits more difficult to finance. However, Welki said the UAW will have to give in some to ensure survival. This includes evaluating legacy costs and retirement benefits provided for such labor.

Neither option is appealing to Obama. GM and Chrysler have made little improvement with the aid packages they have received thus far, leaving the president skeptical. This means Obama could potentially veto any increase in funds for the manufacturers.

The companies claim, however, the \$39 billion would be less costly than having to file for bankruptcy, which is the other option. Filing for bankruptcy would force the companies to liquidate, resulting in massive job losses. However, Welki believes that bankruptcy might be the preferred option.

"It creates a different sense of urgency and willingness to make changes," he said.

The direction Obama will undertake is unclear at this point. The Department of Treasury is in the process of preparing \$40 billion in case the automakers do need it. On the other hand, officials close to Obama assure that having the automakers file for bankruptcy is still being strongly considered.



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**The
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SUDOKU

Easy

1		3						5
7	2	6			8			
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Tough

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Super Tough

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Last Week's Super Tough Sudoku Winner



Jocelyn Ralutz - Sophomore

Just fill out the "Super Tough" puzzle correctly and drop it off in The Carroll News' mail slot with your name and e-mail to win for next week

The first person to get the correct answer for the "Super Tough" Sudoku will get his/her picture and name in next week's paper!

Spring Break Destinations

CLMEMORLANDOASRE
IGSNBLKPCLYMIAMI
LCHAARIUANTSSMEG
BPCREMRNPJIAOAIC
USASJAYTUACLUHSP
PUERTOVALARTAPI
ECBLEATCCEMOHBPN
RSAREMAAODAOPA IH
NONPIGNNNCNLASOS
AUOSICNAIOAADANY
CTTIUPLALMPSTRVS
IHYNTEMUSASVEGLE
NBAEVALTROSERIKS
IEDEJULIETLGZEEI
MALMTASYUFRANCEU
OCIROTREUPRSUBJR
DHRBTBINOZBIRRCAC

- CANCUN
ROME
ORLANDO
PANAMA CITY
ACAPULCO
PARIS
LOS ANGELES
HOME
CLEVELAND
BAHAMAS
DAYTONA BEACH
HONOLULU
PUERTO RICO
- SOUTH PADRE
GRAND CAYMAN
LAS VEGAS
ITALY
FRANCE
CRUISES
SKI RESORT
PUNTA CANA
MIAMI
BRAZIL
JAMAICA
CABO
SOUTH BEACH
- PUERTO VALLARTA

Editorial

Advantageous advising system

Whether a student has had to drop a class or petition for a new adviser, it is a well-known fact that academic advising can be a nightmare. In an effort to meet the needs of the tech-savvy college generation, the Academic Advising Office at John Carroll University is moving toward Web-based communication.

This new “self-service” advising system includes the transfer of paper form to electronic form, as well as offering students useful educational information like studying for exams and scheduling via blogs and videos. Also, the system offers students a degree evaluation link to assist them in meeting major and core class requirements.

The decision to move from paper to Web-based form for academic advising was tremendously needed and will serve as a great resource to students and faculty. The Academic Advising Office made a needed change to cater to the needs of students by offering a simple, quick and efficient method to ease advising woes.

Before, finding the correct offices and getting various people to sign forms was a hassle.

Now students will be able to declare their major and submit academic forms with the click of a button. This type of system also offers students another way to communicate with an adviser or ask questions. By being able to participate in chat forums or create postings, students can address issues that they may have been uncomfortable about in the past.

Another great product of the online advising system is simplifying the work of advisers. Professors will no longer have to deal with tedious and time consuming paperwork. Lastly, while doing a service for students and faculty, this system is also doing a service for the environment. Going paperless will decrease the amount of waste and will essentially save the University money.

The “self-service” advising system is sure to be a useful resource and will hopefully alleviate a lot of the stress that comes with the advising process.

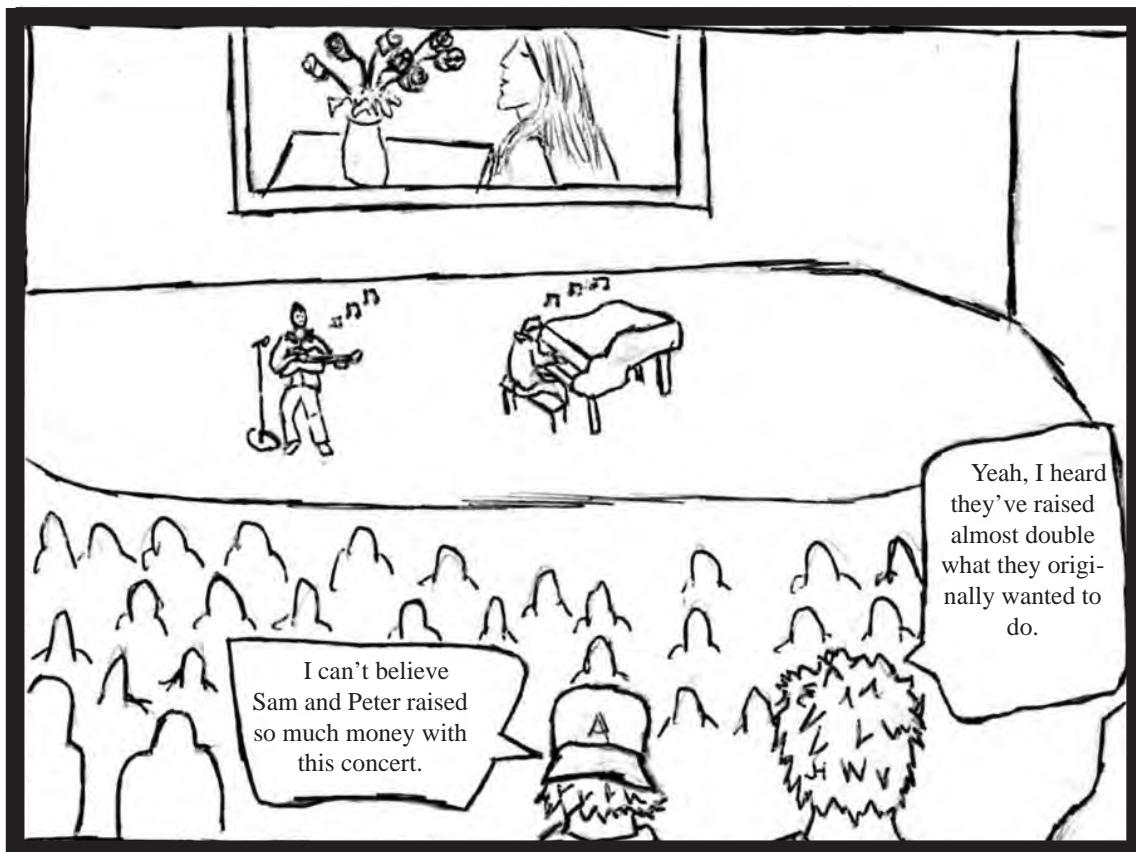
Editorial

Student initiative goes far

Typically, weekend events at John Carroll University are sponsored by the Student Union Programming Board or another student organization. But last weekend, an event took place that was the product of a purely grassroots idea. Seniors Rose Petitti, Sam Brenner and Peter Niro coordinated “The Concert for Lindsay.” This was a concert to commemorate Lindsay Matthews, the sister of senior Scotty Matthews and 2007 graduate Mark Matthews, who passed away this fall. The Friday night tribute was created to raise money for a scholarship fund in Lindsay’s name.

While many organizations support various causes by sponsoring events, it is inspiring to see a group of students who are not linked by an organization, create and execute an event that affects the lives of so many JCU students. The concert raised more than \$2,000, which is \$1,000 more than the initial goal and is proof that assertive students are successful. Petitti, Brenner and Niro should be commended for taking the initiative to design such a positive show. The determination and creativity that these students displayed should be duplicated by other students with grassroots ideas.

With student apathy plaguing different areas of campus life, like running for a Student Union position or football attendance, we hope “The Concert for Lindsay” encourages others to pursue and build on the ideas from the ground up.



Cartoon by Joe Hinkel

NOTABLE QUOTABLE



“House is gone... friends are gone... this is total destruction.”

-Australian resident Simon Hudson, on the wildfires that have killed more than 208 people and displaced 7,000. Weather forecasts are predicting another potentially devastating heat wave for next week.

HIT & miss

Hit: The Oscars **Hit:** Spring Break starts tomorrow **Hit:** “The Concert for Lindsay” **miss:** SSC Service Solutions cuts ten workers **Hit:** JCU men’s basketball hosts first round of OAC tournament **Hit:** Musicians offer music lessons through Apple’s GarageBand **Hit:** Youngstown’s Middleweight Kelly Pavlik beats Marco Antonio Rubio **Hit:** Cleveland’s Restaurant Week **miss:** Donald Trump Entertainment Resorts files for bankruptcy **Hit:** Great Lakes Theatre performs in Marinello Little Theatre **Hit:** New JCU Fair Trade Web site **miss:** Pet chimpanzee killed after injuring woman **Hit:** Wing and Spa Night **miss:** Jimmy Fallon replaces Conan O’Brien on NBC’s “Late Night” slot **Hit:** Carnivale and Mardi Gras

The Carroll News

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OURVIEW

Taking a closer look at things far away



Tim Ertle
Sports Editor

Feb. 26, 2003, exactly six years ago today, is credited with being the starting date for the war in Darfur.

We have heard about Darfur and the horrific things happening there, but how many of us truly care?

I am as guilty as anybody.

I'll be the first to admit that the only time I ever listen to anything regarding world news is each Thursday at The Carroll News planning meeting when World News editor Mike Zurn tells the rest of the staff what is going on in the world and what we can look forward to in the next edition.

This semester, I'm taking an international journalism course and each week we take time to investigate and talk about what is happening across the globe and how it influences us.

On those three days we meet, I'll take a quick gander at CNN.com and see what's taking place, but outside of that class and newspaper meetings, I'm clueless.

I don't know a thing about foreign affairs, and truth be told, I know next to nothing about what is happening here in the United States.

I log onto Cleveland.com and I see these stories about President Barack Obama signing the stimulus package, but I skip that and click on the sports tab to see what is going on with the Tribe in spring training.

Want to talk about economics in this country?

I'm speechless.

Care to discuss economics in terms of sports contracts? Now we're talking.

My point is, we all have specific subjects that peak our interests. I'm willing to guess that some people got excited when they read the recent news that Nicole Richie was pregnant with her second kid, while others watched programs awarding fashion grades to our favorite stars at the Academy Awards.

To us, this is news. A story about

a meeting between leaders from countries we couldn't locate on a map? Most of us pass. I'm apathetic toward most news, and I know that on this campus, I'm certainly not alone.

The war in Darfur is just an example. Most of us have heard about it, but in six years have we even blinked at the news that some 450,000 have lost their lives? Because it happens in the western region of Sudan, and far away from our comfortable lifestyles, we probably don't give it the time of day.

If it's not going to impact us today, we can worry about it later.

I, for one, am going to start trying. I'm going to make a conscious effort to sacrifice one of my dozen daily checks of ESPN.com to try and become informed about what's happening in our world.

It does affect us, and matters like these deserve our attention no matter how miniscule they may appear.

We're at John Carroll University to prepare for our future, but so much of our future, and the future of our world, is being shaped by the present.

Let's start paying attention.

Lo Castro's Lowdown



Jenna Lo Castro
Editorial & Op/Ed Editor

Gettin' the word on:

The horrific downhill progression of horror

I was first introduced to Freddy when I was five-years-old. A lot of people think this is a little too young for a child to be introduced to a character of the horror world genre. But having a 13-year-old brother without a brain filter for a babysitter didn't give me the choice of opting out of "Nightmare on Elm Street" marathons.

I'm not sure if this early exposure created a soft spot for horror movies in me, but I truly love a classic "Halloween" or "Child's Play." And I really stress the word "classic." Contrastingly, I have no taste for the genre of horror that has taken over the silver screen in recent years. I'm talking about the plotless gore fests that feature torturous and/or obscure story lines, the kind of movies that leave you asking, "What the hell just happened?" as you walk out of the theater.

For me, movies like the "Saw" series, "Touristas" and "House of Wax" all fit the prototype of a sub par scary movie. While I understand that the evolution of these movies is due in part to quench the thirst of our evolving culture, I didn't know tact and plot had to be compromised in doing so.

Last weekend, I saw the newest rendition of "Friday the 13th" and wow — who knew that sitting for two hours in a theatre full of patrons screaming at the screen could be so painful. On top of that, the movie downright sucked. Now I don't know if the director was trying to get his audiences to "relate" to the amateur actors, but the opening scene introduced five beach blonde college kids who go to Camp Crystal (Jason Voorhees' stomping ground) because there's a lot of pot growing in the surrounding woods with their names on it. Little do they know, the pot actually belongs to the seven-foot psycho-

path killer who lives there. You can imagine what happened next. I'm not sure what the whole marijuana theme added to the movie, but if I had to venture a suggestion, I'd propose reverting back to a more legitimate reason to be in the woods, like camping or perhaps working on an Eagle Scout badge.

The second half of the movie read like a hybrid between a "Girls Gone Wild" video and an Emeril Lagasse cooking show. It was literally scene after scene of graphic, tactless sex and impalement; not stabbing or asphyxiating or being thrown from a third-story window. Every character died by comical impalement: a deer's antlers, a pool stick, a fishing rod, etc. I'm not sure if there was some sub-textual idea here, but if it is that Jason Voorhees' favorite food is shish kabobs, then I'm willing to take him to an Out-back Steakhouse.

My disdain for the newest of horror films has left me wondering what happened to good old-fashioned creativity. Today, it seems like the element of surprise has been replaced by the element of torture. You don't need to show a woman digging through her soulmate's intestines to achieve fright. Also, you don't need to show a woman's flaccid breasts every five minutes to keep the audience interested, although guys, I'm sure you'd disagree with me on that one.

All in all, it doesn't take much to be effective in the horror world. At least, I don't think it does. By relying on the formula of combining A-list actors (Paris Hilton doesn't count) with simple but unique plots and quasi-realistic murder sequences, you can't fail; this is why even at 22, I still can't look at a pizza without thinking about Freddy Kruger's face.

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Wonderword
What does sybarite mean?

"Someone who's from Siberia."
Craig Sidol,
sophomore



"A dating Web site."
Sara Nunney,
junior



"The backup lightsaber for a Jedi knight."
Jeff Sigmund,
freshman

A **sybarite** is a person who is devoted to luxury and pleasure.

That's what See said: 25 Lenten sacrifices about me



Bob Seeholzer
Features Editor

Yesterday was Ash Wednesday so I feel the need to discuss my Lenten sacrifices with my readers. In honor of the annoyingly popular 25 things lists on Facebook, I'm going to borrow that format for this column and we'll see how high I get before I run into my name and e-mail address.

I think I need to clarify right away that sacrifice doesn't neces-

sarily mean to give something up. It has an alternate meaning: to do something extra that is difficult for you to do. This secondary meaning is easier for me to make up things for; therefore, it'll be my primary definition. The great part about using that definition is that right now I'm pretty much too lazy to do anything that makes just about any ambitious action fair game as a sacrifice of my time.

1. Judge the girls on campus by their character rather than the length of their skirts.

2. Start doing homework.

3. Prove Rafferty wrong.

4. Skate better. That's it, just skate better.

5. Stop making references to the Disney Channel original movie

"Brink" because nobody probably got that last one.

6. Get the scoop on the lowdown before Lo Castro does.

7. Stop hating dogs and cats. Seriously, I hate them, but hate is wrong (in most cases).

8. Start hating koalas. (I need to fill that void somehow.)

9. Pay 50 cents a day to support a malnourished child in a Third World country.

10. Keep my cool when I find out that Bruce Willis is dead at the end of "The Sixth Sense."

11. Stop saying, "That's what See said!" after flatulating. I realize it's not very classy.

12. Go to the Corbo to actually workout instead of just to watch girls on the treadmills.

13. Prove that chivalry isn't dead.

14. Write more good-er.

15. Take something, anything at all, seriously.

16. Stop consuming carbonated beverages and chocolate.

17. Starting to run out of ideas, so brainstorm more often.

18. Put a lower quota on my lists.

19. Go to JCU sporting events to support the team instead of going to support the dance team and cheerleaders.

20. Focus in class (e.g. stop doing The CN's super tough sudoku).

21. Get older faster. (It's this number on the list for a reason.)

22. Show some maturity.

23. Pray more often that the

people who read this have a sense of humor.

24. Stop relying on religious events for inspiration.

25. Stop relying on Facebook for ideas.

Well, those didn't take up as much room as I thought they would, so I'll make a prediction on how successful I'll be at achieving all 25 of them.

I won't.

I'll do what I do every other year during Lent and fail to meet any of my sacrificial goals. I like to think that Jesus respect my ambition and forgives my inability to succeed.

And in the end, isn't that faith in Jesus really what it's all about?

Contact Bob Seeholzer at
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You're wrong, I'm Rafferty:



Andrew Rafferty
Editor in Chief

Last week, New York University students barricaded themselves in an on-campus dining hall and started making demands to school administrators.

They hung signs off a balcony demanding NYU be affordable. Well in that case, the best way to protest NYU is to not go there. You knew how much it was before you sent your application in.

In fact, I'm protesting NYU right now by not giving them any money. But regardless of the rhyme or reason, if you're like me, the first thing that goes through your head when you hear about a protest at a university is, "Wow, that could never happen here."

Imagine 70 students blocking off the entrances to Schott Dining Hall with tables and chairs. CSS wouldn't be able to handle it, so they would have to call University Heights police. UHPD has never seen anything like this, so I doubt they would know what to do.

The end result would probably be a cafeteria filled with pepper spray and a few students in the hospital after a harsh beating with a nightstick. It would make some pretty compelling images if Channel 19 "Action News" caught it. The bottom line is, I think we could do some damage.

But JCU students are too apathetic for anything like that, right? Not exactly.

While we cannot compare our level of political activity to that of some NYU students, we also can't sell ourselves short by labeling the student body as lazy.

Friday night was a perfect example of how students can care. There was a benefit concert organized and performed entirely by students. It earned upwards of \$2,000 to go to-

Sometimes all it takes is a nudge

ward a scholarship fund to honor a girl who few people at JCU actually knew. This wasn't an SUPB thing, this was grassroots organizing.

But showing up to a concert is easy. It's not the same as protesting something with the risk of suspension or expulsion. After all, Friday's concert was fun and had free food.

So maybe the JCU student body is really all about fund-raisers. Maybe that's our thing.

I mean, look at Relay for Life. Its first year on this campus it established itself as one of the most successful events in the country for a school our size.

Leadership is what last Friday's concert and Relay for Life have in common.

In both cases, there were a group of dedicated students who made sure every member of the JCU community knew what was happening, where it was happening and at what time. Even if not everyone showed up, everyone knew what was going down.

More importantly, these student leaders got their friends to go. And so the friends of their friends went. If there is something JCU is good at, it's supporting each other and supporting good causes.

So when I hear "apathy" and JCU in the same sentence, I cringe a little. The student body cares; we just might need a nudge from some of our peers who are good at exciting others.

You'll never get a good crowd at your pro-life/pro-choice rally. We don't do well with divisive issues. We do really well with the stuff we agree on. Students will give up their time and energy to help their peers succeed.

We might just need a little nudge.

Contact Andrew Rafferty at arafferty09@jcu.edu



BUSINESS CORNER

Low mortgage interest rates and the typical college student



Tim Evanko
The Carroll News

Over the past year our government, in coordination with both the Federal Reserve System and Treasury Department, has made an effort to keep interest rates low on new loans.

This has been done as an attempt to keep businesses and individuals borrowing money so they can spend it and boost the economy. An important interest rate that has been kept low is the rate on new mortgages.

Currently, the interest rate on a 30-year conventional fixed rate (this means the rate will not change over the life of the loan) mortgage is 5.26 percent. This very low rate is considerably lower than mortgage rates in the past 15 to 20 years, when most of your parents purchased the homes that you grew up in and may still be living in.

For example, mortgage rates in 1990 were around 10 percent. Today's very low mortgage interest rates give homeowners the unique

opportunity to refinance their homes at a lower rate of interest. Let's break down the potential of saving from refinancing.

Suppose your parents took out a 30-year fixed rate mortgage in 1990 at the market interest rate of 10 percent. The monthly payment on that loan would be \$878 per month and that loan will be paid off in the year 2020. As of today, your parents would still owe \$70,000 on that loan. As you can see, very little comes off the loan balance (principal amount) until near the end of the life of the loan. This is due to the fact that you pay heavy amounts of interest early in the life of the loan.

What if your parents refinanced the remaining \$70,000 they owe on this mortgage at today's lower rate of 5.26 percent interest? They would take out a new loan for the remaining 11 years at 5.26 percent interest and would have a monthly payment of \$700 per month. This equates to a \$178 savings per month, a \$2,130 savings per year and a \$23,000 savings over the life of the loan. A good rule of thumb to go by is that when market interest rates drop 2 percent or more below the rate on your current mortgage, you should look into refinancing.

Clearly refinancing seems like a no-brainer, but what are the costs?

Your parents will have to go to a mortgage banker and go through a new loan origination process, just as if you were purchasing a new home. That means the banker will charge you for his or her services. Typically, refinancing fees range in the range of \$1,000 to \$5,000. Clearly, even if you had to pay \$5,000 today to refinance, you would still be up \$18,000 over the life of the loan.

Also, the banker may be able to simply add the fees to the new mortgage balance so you won't even have to pay them up front.

In today's poor economy, lots of families are strapped for cash and looking for ways to reduce bills. Being a young, educated reader of The Carroll News Business Corner, you now have the tools to present your household with a cost-savings option.

And if you have a little entrepreneur in you, you may even be able to finagle a way to get your parents to share some of those cost-savings with you in the form of additional payments for your tuition, rent, etc.

All in all, rocky times call for creative measures and refinancing a home mortgage may be a measure that can help your family's financial position.

-Evanko is a senior finance major.

The Carroll News wishes
you a safe and fun
Spring Break!
See you in March.



The Carroll News reserves the right to edit letters for length and to reject letters if they are libelous or do not conform to standards of good taste. All letters received become the property of The Carroll News. Anonymous letters will not be published unless the source reveals his or her identity to The Carroll News and the situation is deemed appropriate in its anonymity. Letters to the editor must not exceed 500 words and must be submitted to jcunews@jcu.edu by 5 p.m. Sunday night.

CLASSIFIEDS

For Rent

Houses for rent walking distance to JCU for 2008-2009 year. Call Grace at 216-751-4519.

For Rent, on Warrensville Center Rd. near John Carroll. 2 Family houses, 2 or 3 bedroom suites available. Very clean and well maintained. Large rooms, garage space, all appliances included. Available June 1st 2009. THE GOOD ONES GO FAST, SO GET STARTED NOW!! Call Mike: Sr. (440)724-6654 or Jr (440)336-4254.

5 bedroom house for rent. Close to campus. Washing machine, dryer, dishwasher, and refrigerator included. Hardwood floors throughout, 1 1/2 bathrooms. new furnace and plenty of parking. \$1550 per month. Please call Steve Gruber at (216) 513-1544 for more information.

5 bedroom single family 10 minutes from JCU available 6-1-09 \$1250/month call Charles 216-402-9653

2 bedroom 1st floor double: Across the street from the John Carroll Annex on Green Road. Within walking distance to shopping. All appliances, washer and dryer included. Spacious rooms, Large closets, and garage parking. \$750/mnth. 440-542-0232

HOUSE FOR RENT - Great Condition. 3 Miles from JCU. 3 bedrooms. Will only rent to 3 or fewer. Call Greg at 216-397-4361

3 Bedroom 2nd Floor double. Located at 2544 Warrensville Center Rd. Central Air, Kitchen Appliances, FREE INTERNET, Washer and Dryer all included. Large living areas and closets, Garage parking. \$925/ mnth. 440-542-0232

COVENTRY AREA HOME FOR RENT! Spacious 4 bedroom, 2 bath! Hardwood Floors throughout. Includes new refrigerator, new dishwasher and stove. Rent is negotiable. This one won't last! Call Ted (216) 402-9662 or Mike (216) 789-7772 for an appointment.

GREAT LOCATION - SHORT WALK TO JCU. Single Family Colonial, 3 Upstairs Bedrooms, 1.5 Bath. Spacious 1st floor, Finished Basement. Kitchen Appliances and Washer/Dryer at NO Charge. 2 Car attached garage with space for 3rd - No need to move cars. Price Negotiable. 2459 Warrensville, 216.870.1640

For Rent 2532 Warrensville, 6 Bedrooms. Water and Sewer Included. 2 Blocks From Campus. Finished Basement with Bar. Available June 1st 2009. Call 704-560-5274

4 BEDROOM, 2.5 BATH HOUSE FOR RENT. Very clean and well-maintained. Includes all appliances, air-conditioning, finished basement. Covered patio for grilling and relaxing! Lots of parking. Close to campus. You get a nice, full-amenity house and your own room for LESS than the cost of a crowded, limited dorm room!! 440-336-2929

For rent on Washington Blvd. 5 bedroom house. All appliances. Available June 1, 2009 \$1200/month 440-341-8494

Two Family House; walking distance to JCU. Each Unit has 2 BR, 1 Bath, Living Room, Dining Area (All Hardwood Floors), Kitchen, Den/Office (or additional bedroom). 2 finished rooms in basement. All appliances included. Garage. Available starting July. E-mail L9297M@sbcglobal.net OR call (216)401-7755

2 HOUSES FOR RENT: 5 Bedroom & 4 Bedroom house for rent in South Euclid. Close to everything. Available June '09. Rent \$1200 - \$1400. Call Jeff at 440.479.2835 for more details.

Great house for rent starting June 2009. 5 bedrooms 2 Full Baths 1800 Sqft 2 miles from campus. sellersna@gmail.com or 216-469-4402

WALK TO CAMPUS 3-4-5 Bedrooms, all new appliances, dishwasher, deck, 2 full bath, AC, and lots of closet space. Will go fast! 216-832-3269

We cater to John Carroll students 1 mile from campus 4 bedroom 1/2 bath. Newly refurbished Lots of parking For 2009 2010 season These will go fast! Call Michael at 330-388-7798

Beat the rush. 3 bedroom single family house 3941 Washington Blvd. Stove, Fridge, Dishwasher, Washer and Dryer, Two Car garage. Dining rm. and Living room, finished attic. Walking distance to JCU 440-526-1723

Warrensville and Meadowbrook Duplex - 8 minute walk, two 3 bedroom suites. Living Room, Dining Room, Kitchen. All appliances including dishwasher, alarm system and AC. Call 440.821.6415

HOUSE FOR RENT/SALE 3932MEADOWBROOK - Walk to JCU! JCU Alumni owned, 4 bdrm, 1.5 bath, finished basement, partially furnished home for Rent or Purchase. Available June 2009. All newer appliances including washer & dryer. Home has 2car garage with opener. Sign on Bonus before 12/15! Call Margie at 216.409.1948 or email at jennind1@mac.com

House For Rent - 4073 Conover: 2min walk to JCU, 4 bed, 2.5 bath, includes kitchen appliances/washer/dryer. 1 year Lease starting in June \$1600 includes lawncare and snow removal. Open House 2-4 pm Sunday 2/22/09 or view by appointment. Email clevelandhouses@gmail.com to get application in advance or call 216-212-1253 with questions

University Hts. Duplex Home for Rent \$750-\$950. 1st Floor: Remodeled, 2 bedrooms, full bath, kitchen, living room, dining room, plus basement with 2 1/2 additional bedrooms and full bath. 2nd Floor: Remodeled 2 1/2 bedrooms, full bath, kitchen, living room, dining room. Both units have newer furnaces and air conditioning and share laundry room, garage and driveway. Contact Dan at 216-374-5220

5 BEDROOM HOUSE FOR RENT. Neat, clean, 2.5 bath. All appliances, including FREE washer and dryer usage, A/C, finished basement. Sun room, large deck with in-ground gas grill. Plenty of parking. Close to campus. Less \$\$\$ for 12 months of your own room/house than 9 months of a shared/cramped dorm room!! CALL TODAY! 440-336-2929

2 Bedroom First Floor unit. Located on Warrensville Center Rd, Central Air, Kitchen Appliances, large living area Washer/Dryer all included. \$750/mnth. 440-542-0232

Univ. Hts. Walking distance to campus 4-5-6 Bedroom houses are available. All with plenty of parking, AC, newer appliances, washers and dryers. Currently rented by JCU students. Only a few blocks and within walking distance from campus!. Don't wait, ac fast! Leases to begin in June. Call Anthony at (216)374-7164

Single Family Home for Rent on Wyncote Rd near Cedar and Belvoir, 4 bedrooms, 1.5 bath, AC, appliances, finished basement. \$1200/month Call 239-233-5770

HOUSE FOR RENT: 3 & 1/2 BEDROOMS, 1 1/2 BATHS. WALKING DISTANCE TO CAMPUS. FULLY UPDATED KITCHEN HARDWOOD FLOORS ALL APPLIANCES INCLUDED WASHER AND DRYER AS WELL.

3 bedroom e.a. floor-dining room, living room (good sized), kitchen (eat in), bath, and xtra room in lower level for e.a. floor - washer-dryer-air. Looking for 6 ladies or 6 men - call 216.932.6488

NICE HOUSE to rent, S. Belvoir, 3 rooms/ 1.5 baths, lots of space, new renovations, bar in basement, washer/dryer, garage, walking distance to jcu. (\$400 plus utilities per/person). 216-210-8913.

JCU home for Sale/Rent, corner of Miramar & Meadowbrook, 150 feet across street to Murphy dorm. 4BR, laundry, parking, \$525/mo/br or \$229k purchase. Call 330.219.1448 or email rp Pratt@neo.rr.com for details

HOUSE FOR RENT UNIVERSITY HTS. JUST OFF WARRENSVILLE CENTER RD. Walking distance to JCU. 4 bedroom, 2 full baths, all appliances including washer/dryer, lawn/sewer/snow removal included, finished basement, fireplace, balcony, front and back deck. 216- 870-1886

Duplex for Rent. Spacious & Well-Maintained. Each Unit has 3 Bdrms, 1 ½ Bath. ¼ Mile from JCU.Call JCU Alumni @ 440.336.2437.

First floor two bedroom unit for Rent: Across the street from the John Carroll annex on Green Road. Within walking distance to shopping. All appliances, including washer and dryer included. Spacious rooms, Large closets, and garage parking. Available June Rent \$750/mnth. 440-542-0232.

Help Wanted

HELP WANTED - young men to stock shelves in a party goods store - flexible hours 14437 Cedar - 216.381.7273

NEED HELP TAKING TESTS - READING AND USING COLLEGE TEXTBOOKS? LET ME HELP YOU!! Includes: PRAXIS - LSAT - MCAT - DAT. CONTACT CAROL KERRETT - EMAIL: ckerrett@jcu.edu (recently retired JCU college reading and test instructor for 28 years)

After School Babysitting Needed - 10 minutes from JCU; flexible days; approx. 4-6pm; great opportunity; call 216-534-3128 or 216-346-7376

Looking for Homework Assistant/ Babysitter for my 10 & 12 year old sons. Need 2 days/week from 3pm-6pm in our Pepper Pike Home (days can be flexible). Education/psychology major preferred. Need car. Need to start 2nd week of January. Call Tracy 216-464-7744

The UPS Store
Now Hiring for customer service positions. Part time-flexible hours. We need responsible students who are friendly and outgoing with good typing & data entry skills. JUST MINUTES FROM JCU Located at Cedar and Warrensville Cntr Rds Apply in person 216-371-9300 store1240@theupsstore.com for more information.

Classified ads cost \$5.00 for the first 10 words and \$0.25 for each additional word.

To be placed, ads must be typed or handwritten clearly and legibly and sent to or dropped off at The Carroll News office with payment.

Classified ads will not be run without pre-payment.

Classifieds will not be taken over the phone. Deadline for classifieds is noon of the Monday prior to publication.

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Federal Law bans discrimination by race, sex, religion, color, national origin, family status and handicap in all Ohio rental property. The Carroll News will not knowingly accept advertising in violation of this law. As a consequence, The Carroll News will not accept rental ads that stipulate the gender of the tenants.

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