



# THE PRINCIPIA PILOT

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## Harassed

by Maija Baldauf  
Staff writer

Students have recently come forward to criticize Principia's handling of harassment cases. Though the college already has processes in place for dealing with harassment, students say the administration's actions in facilitating resolutions to such cases have been frustrating and opaque.

Two students, junior Keith Duvall and senior Noelle Matteson, spoke with the *Pilot* and shared their individual experiences with reporting cases of harassment, as well as their common concern that it is too often left up to the student filing a harassment complaint to make sure his or her case progresses.

Last year, Matteson called then-Dean of Students Chestnut Booth for help after a male student trapped her in a room with the lights off and would not allow her to leave. Matteson said that she knew of at least two other female students who had reported this student in the past, but suggested that those previous reports were "obviously not effective."

Booth, Matteson, and the student Matteson reported, who must remain anonymous for legal reasons, sat down together to talk through the incident. Booth offered to metaphysically support the accused student in the

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Benjamin Chernivsky/photo

Noelle revisits the site of her incident, the first floor laundry room in Joe McNabb

## The truth about turbines

Principia attends the 2009 Wind Power Exposition by Ben Kniola

Staff writer

Students and faculty visited the 2009 Wind Power Expo in Chicago on Monday and Tuesday of Week 6 to explore the possibility of acquiring three wind turbines for the college.

Professors Ben Snyder and John Broere, Assistant Dean of Academics Joe Ritter, freshman Amber Dahlin and sophomore Rich Chatterton attended the exposition to learn about steps Principia would need to take to run on its own wind power.

The group is considering purchasing three additional turbines to accompany the current meteorological tower on North Farm, across from the gatehouse. While the site for the three new turbines has yet to be determined, it is probable that they will be installed at North Farm.

Ritter explained both the benefits of North Farm including a closer proximity to the electrical sub-station across Beltrees Road and the symbolic significance of a wind turbine. He added that the data has shown the area maintaining a higher average windspeed than East Farm, the alternative site. These benefits make

the site ideal for generating electrical power.

Snyder said, "Depending on how much [wind power] we create, it would help overall in reducing energy costs." He added that the college could create revenue from producing surplus wind energy.

However, there is one downside to relying on wind power.

"The negative side is there is the least amount of wind in summer when we [the Principia community] need energy for air conditioning," said Snyder.

The turbine research investigation continues work done a year ago by Chatterton to establish the second meteorological tower on North Farm, which was designed for collecting wind data.

Snyder commented on the current progress of the project, saying we are still in the research stages and that there are many variables still unknown.

The largest variable remains finding a source of funding for the estimated \$8 million procurement, construction, and maintenance of the windmills.

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## New fees proposed

by Katie Ward  
Staff writer

College President Jonathan Palmer has proposed a new series of student fees that are designed to increase revenue while more closely aligning Principia with regional schools.

A first draft of the proposal was discussed May 2 at a joint meeting of Presidential Board and Student Activities Board. Proposed fees include an extra \$500 for abroads, \$100 annually for parking, and \$300 annually for athletics.

Palmer said that there were "things that we are supporting institutionally that people outside the institution are taking advantage of."

"Essentially," Palmer said, "are we giving things away for free that people would be willing to pay for, and should be thinking about paying for?"

Other proposed fees addressed independent courses, tickets to speaker events, overnight accommodations fees, and campus technology costs. Student Body President Will Buchanan

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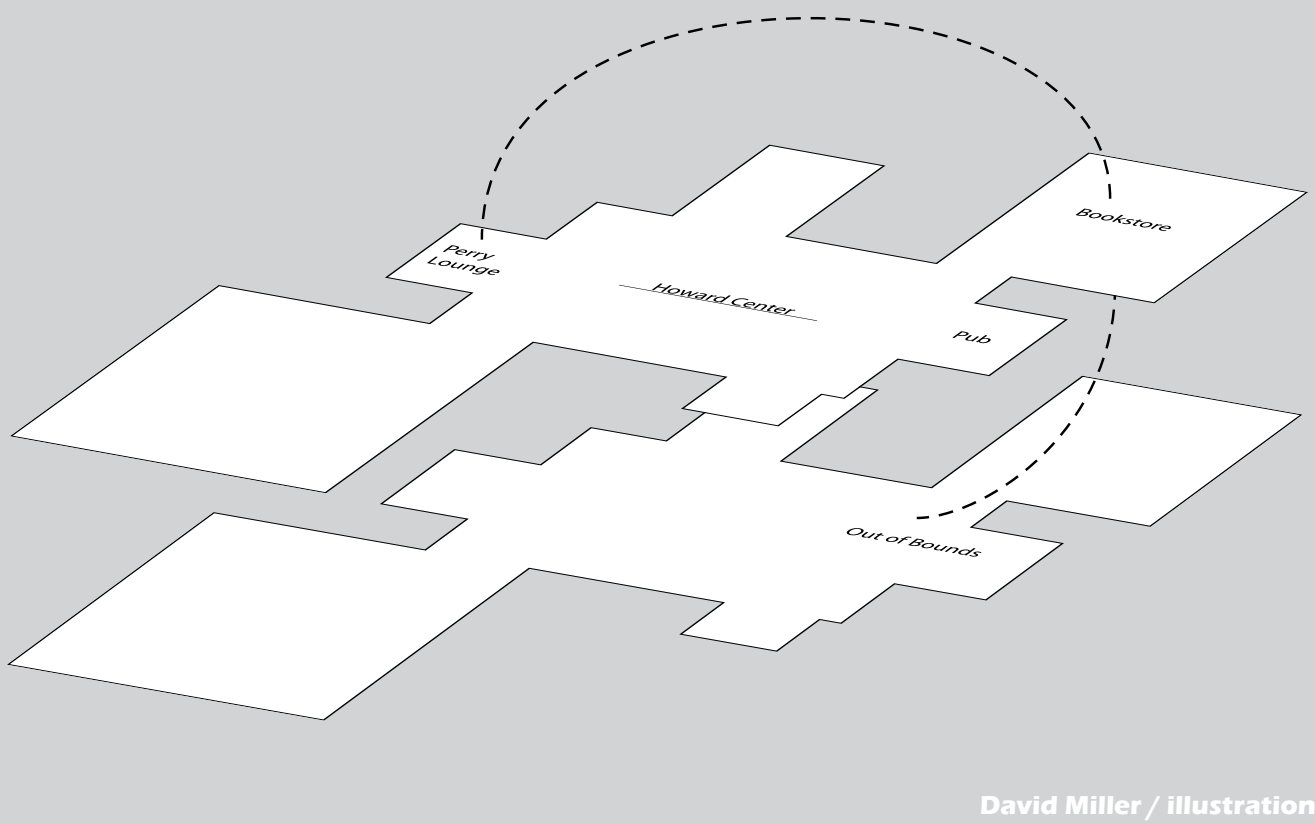
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Out of Bounds relocation

The proposed change to the layout of the Howard Center would establish a Student Center in the current location of the Bookstore. Open 24/7, the Student Center could be serviced by the pub, provide satellite televisions for the public, and include the ping pong and pool tables from Out of Bounds. The Bookstore would move either to Perry Lounge or Out of Bounds. Finally, the Student Government Office would move into the Student Center and the Office would become a convenience store – possibly open 24/7.



by Megan Scott  
Staff writer

Student government leaders are in ongoing discussions with the administration about moving the Bookstore into Out of Bounds or Perry Lounge and converting the Bookstore space into a Student Center. The Student Government Office would move into the Student Center, and the office would become a convenience store that would serve food and essentials for extended hours - possibly 24/7.

Last week on the Principia College campus, students were given a survey asking for opinions about switching the locations of the Bookstore and Out of Bounds. The votes showed that the majority of the participants are in favor of this switch.

The general consensus is that Out of Bounds, as it now exists in the basement below the Pub, is getting little to no use. In an interview with Student Body President Will Buchanan, he stated that this lack of use is due largely to three factors: Out of Bounds is in the basement and out of sight, runners from the Pub don't bring food down and the one TV that is down there does not get satellite channels. When asked about his thoughts on the matter, Buchanan said, "students need a social space ... If we can create a Student Center that the students will like and use and keep the Bookstore happy, let's do it." Buchanan also stated that right now, there is no real place on campus for "students to call their own." By renovating Out of Bounds and moving it into the space that the Bookstore currently occupies, the students could finally have a place that is convenient,

visible and inviting and that will be in direct contact with the Pub. If a student hanging out in the Student Center wants to order a shake or food, the runners from the Pub may run food to the Center as well. Additionally, satellite televisions will offer students sports and entertainment programs. As Buchanan put it, the goal is to "... transform the concourse into a place where students want to spend time. If we create the Student Center with services that students will like and connect it to the Pub, I think we will really improve the social life on campus."

In an interview, Out of Bounds manager Ricardo Jordao stated that this project is a great idea and one that will substantially increase the attendance at Out of Bounds/Student Center. "I think [the switch] is going to increase attendance and create a playful atmosphere for Out of Bounds... Even the students who don't go down to Out of Bounds tell me it will be really cool to have Out of Bounds next to the Pub." This new Out of Bounds/Student Center will contain some of the same attributes as the current Out of Bounds such as a ping pong table and a pool table, but also a satellite TV so students can watch sporting events and keep up with their favorite television shows.

The main issue with this move is where the Bookstore will go. In an interview with Bookstore manager Cheryl Craft, she expressed her desire to have the Bookstore be moved into Perry Lounge instead of Out of Bounds. As Craft put it, "I am totally open to [moving the Bookstore's location]; I am a firm believer

in what blesses one blesses all." It is true that this move will cause some challenges for the Bookstore, but nothing they feel they cannot overcome. In order to fit into Perry Lounge, the place of choice by all involved, the Bookstore may have to downsize by offering a smaller selection of products.

As Craft said, "it's not what you put into a space or where the space is; it's what you bring to it." This holds true for this move ... which will ultimately benefit the entire school. The students will finally have a place close to the Pub where they can watch television or play ping pong, and the Bookstore will still exist and be around for the necessities. There is no specific timeline regarding when action on the topic will take place; however, \$50,000 has already been approved by the Trustees to move the Student Government Office. Some of these funds may end up contributing to the relocation of Out of Bounds and the Bookstore.

- In a mealtime survey of 216 students:**
- 72% said they were in favor of relocating the Bookstore and Out of Bounds
  - 18% said they were neutral on the subject
  - 9% said they were opposed to the change



# A vehicle for spiritual growth

by Lily Jones  
Staff writer

Sustainability has become an increasingly important topic, as the effects of climate change are becoming more globally accepted. From the attempts of governments and private sectors working to diminish the consequences of climate change, many breakthroughs have been made. Now the question is, in this time of heightened awareness of environmentally sound practices, has solar power lost the initial wonder it once held? The Principia College Solar Car Team says no.

Principia has gained a great deal of prestige over the years from the team's accomplishments. "It's neat because it's an area where the world can see our students perform on a world class level," said Steve Shedd, advisor to the team. The foundational support and acknowledgement for the team's triumphs venture even further than the confines of the Christian Science community. Junior Katie Farquhar, business advisor for the team, said, "We have over 1,000 e-mail contacts," these being the people who receive the latest information concerning the team. Freshman Megan Brown said, "We're one of the two things on Wikipedia about Prin."

The Principia College Solar Car

Team was formed in 1991 as a not-for-credit extension to an advanced physics class. The first car, completed in 1995, was the Ra. The name comes from the ancient Egyptian god of sun. Shown in hieroglyphics as a falcon, Ra symbolizes a source of energy, speed, agility, and precision, all of which are qualities the team represents. The solar car team boasts an impressive track record that includes achievements such as six redesigned 'Ra' cars since the first. The team took 1st place in the 2001 Grand Prix in Michigan, 3rd place at the invite only Cultural Olympiad for the Summer Olympic Games in Athens, Greece in 2004, and 2nd place in the North American Solar Challenge (NASC) in 2008. The team members have proven themselves capable of some extraordinary things.

This does not mean that mass production of solar cars as a general means of transportation is the next step. "It's a good way to generate power, but it's not practical," said Shedd. At this time the solar car team is a form of project-centered learning that Principia embraces to provide the multilevel requirements that are vital to a well-rounded education at a liberal arts institution.

The team welcomes the participation of all who are interested. "It's

not a project just for science nerds," said Shedd, explaining the various jobs that a member of the team may be appointed to handle. They range from the technical infrastructure of the solar car itself to the design of the team's website. We're grateful for the support



The 2009 Principia solar car team

from students from all majors," said Shedd.

"It's an open, but very bonded group," said Freshman Kendall McMurray. McMurray and Freshman Ross Vincent said the team's motto is, "Jump in, and just do it," a mantra that surely inspires the creativity and ingenuity that has kept the program alive for over a decade. As Joe Ritter, a faculty advisor for the team, said, "It's a vehicle for spiritual growth."

At this time of change within the

Principia community, stressed budgets and the upcoming change from quarters to semesters included, there are aspects of Principia that are being left behind. Shedd and Ritter do not see the solar car as one of them. Shedd explained that the change to semesters is a non-issue since most of their competitors are not on a quarter system. Also, if solar car was ever terminated it would "not be a funding decision at all," said Shedd. If money ever became a problem the team believes that between the students, the faculty advisors, and the donations from their various supporters, they could generate the finances they need. Both the team and the advisors believe that as long as there is a desire among the students, there will be a solar car team or something like it.

The team will be traveling to Australia in the fall for the 10th World Solar Car Challenge. Plans are being made for another North American race for 2010, but all that is still in the works. When it comes to sustainability on campus, Ritter believes the possibilities are endless. Maybe one day the solar car team will be morphed into a team working on an electric vehicle or building greener houses with straw bale insulation. For now, the solar car team is going to keep running on sunshine.

# How to fell a tree by Nepali standards

by Amber Dahlin  
Staff writer

We use many hands to cut down one tree, but here, one man can cut down a forest" said Shankar Lakhey, describing one difference between Principia and Nepal's Institute of Forestry (IOF). Lakhey and his colleagues, Lakshman Shrestha and Raj Babu Pahadi, are three faculty members at the IOF visiting Principia during Weeks 6 and 7.

Their visit is part of a faculty development program started by the Conservation Leaders Memorial Center of Excellence, or MemCoE. They have each received research grants, and are observing advising and teaching styles in order to develop both a center for excellence and a mentoring program for students, faculty, and staff at the IOF.

Shrestha said: "I've seen a lot of difference—no comparison. . . . Teachers actually facilitate to students [as] advisors, but we are teacher-centered in our education." In Nepal, the teachers do and say all.

Biology professor Mike Rechlin, who has lived and worked in Nepal, is organizing their schedule while they're here. He said that the three have had meetings with all of the advising offices on campus, sat in on many classes, given presentations in Rechlin's own classes, and taken a boat tour of the Mississippi. They are also giving a campus-wide presentation on Thursday.

MemCoE was established by the IOF, Virginia Tech, Principia College, and Yale University to commemorate the death of 24 renowned conservationists in a 2006 helicopter crash in Taplejung, Nepal. Its mission, quoted in a MemCoE newsletter, is to "help assure that Nepal has highly qualified conservation leaders for the future."

Another difference that the professors pointed out is in the curriculum. Principia professors redesign their courses every semester or as they see fit, whereas the curriculum in Nepal is designed by many different people in the institution, and is not reviewed for at least ten years.

Shrestha said that in Nepal, teachers

are tense."

Pahadi was particularly enthralled by Principia's library. He pointed out that its design and "cozy environment" invites students in, and that the architect thought twice about these things before building. He also mentioned the good upkeep of resources in Principia's library. At the IOF library in Nepal,



Mike Rechlin / photo

Lakshman Shrestha, Raj Babu Pahadi, and Shankar Lakhey take in the views on the Mississippi

are confined largely to teaching what is in the curriculum. Their job is to finish their course in time and report to the administration. He said: "Teachers do not consult. . . . I am working for [my students'] future. At least they can respect me."

Perhaps the most stark difference lies in teacher-student relations. Pahadi said, "We demand more formality in Nepal." Students here are friendly with their teachers, while in Nepal, Shrestha said, "We are tense, the students

books are simply stacked, and often damaged by mildew and dust.

Shrestha said he hopes that their visit will also prompt changes in equipment and materials. They have a very limited supply of books at the IOF, and Mike Rechlin has already ordered some for the institute. Lakhey mentioned that usually, their textbooks are prescribed by the administration instead of chosen by the teachers, and that they often have to use an old edition.

There are many ecological differences between the U.S. and Nepal as well. For such a small country, Lakhey said, "you've got a big altitudinal variance," from 66 meters to over 6000 meters, with a climate ranging from tropical to alpine.

Regarding teacher-student relations outside of the classroom, Pahadi said: "We are more into politics, so if the politics of students and teacher match, then it's fine. [But if there's] no match of politics, then there's no friendly behavior." He also said that politics can become dominant, and harmful to the academic environment.

When Lakhey spoke of the number of hands it takes to fell a tree, he was speaking not only of Principia and the IOF, but of the greater differences between developed and developing countries. Pahadi said that they only needed to go to one developed country in order to improve their situation at home. Shrestha said: "We are a developing country. Education depends on [our] resources. Practice makes perfect."

Their visit with members of Principia's Academic and Career Advising program impressed upon the professors the amount of involvement that Principia has with each student's life during and after college. Pahadi said that in contrast, their institute simply gives students certificates. He said he hoped they could incorporate more involvement into their program at the IOF.

The professors said they look forward to seeing Principia students in Nepal for the 2010 abroad. They also hope that students from the IOF can come here to do some kind of collaborative research.

All three conveyed a great amount of hope for the institute in Nepal, and said they look forward to sharing what they've learned here with their colleagues.



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aftermath of the incident. Matteson said that she felt as if she deserved a similar level of support after the ordeal she had been through. She added that Booth did email one of her professors after the incident so that Matteson could have an extension, but only after Matteson asked her to do so.

According to Matteson, Booth asked her if she wanted the student who had harassed her to lose his on-campus job or to be kept from graduating. “I didn’t want [the choice] to be all my responsibility,” said Matteson.

Duvall began to feel “targeted by sexual harassment” during winter quarter of his freshman year when he received a series of “inappropriate phone calls.” After speaking with his Resident Counselor, Duvall was referred to Katherine Milner, who was head of Human Resources at the time. Duvall said he was able to initiate a conversation with Milner several days after calling her, but “because [he] couldn’t point a finger [at the perpetrator], there was no way to move forward [with the case].”

Duvall said he felt that the people he told about his situation were “not proactive” in supporting him or helping him through the process. Duvall added that he had difficulty arranging meetings with the right people. The unwanted phone calls continued throughout Duvall’s freshman year, but because he had no reason to suspect anyone in particular, his case could not move forward. He said, “I felt as if I couldn’t ensure my own safety.”

Duvall received additional inappropriate phone calls, including homophobic slurs directed at him, this quarter. This time, Duvall forwarded his phone line to the gatehouse so that a security guard could trace the calls back to a student. However, even though Duvall could name the person harassing him, he was still unable to get the help he wanted. Duvall said, “It was clear that I had been harassed. But because they could not [directly] confirm anything of a sexual nature, they couldn’t take disciplinary action.”

Matteson also shared that a few of her friends have experienced instances of harassment and that many of them believe the issue is often “swept under the rug” at Principia. Current Dean of Students Dorsie Glen responded to this perception by saying that students may not like the harassment reporting process because they do not agree with the outcome of their cases. In contrast, Booth said, “I have been very grateful for the number of times that these cases have resulted in real growth.”

When coming forward with an instance of harassment of any kind, students are asked whether they would like to file an informal or formal complaint. Although a student cannot be forced to take action against his or her harasser, filing a complaint is always helpful. Glen explained, “If you don’t file a complaint [about harassment] and it happens to someone else, you might have been able to prevent it.”

However, Matteson said that she was never referred to Human Resources to report her incident and added, “I don’t

think [Booth] ever offered to take the legal route.”

An informal complaint might take the form of a letter or a conversation between the harassed and the harasser, whereas a formal complaint requires the harassed student to write a report about the specific incident concerned.

Milner said that when a formal complaint of harassment was filed, she would “drop everything” for 24 to 48 hours in order to “do the fact-finding to make sure everything jived.” In some cases, a professional fact finder is brought in from off campus to look into a case.

The data collected during the fact-finding process makes its way to Principia’s Legal Counsel, Phil Riley. Riley’s job is to determine whether the instance reported is a violation of Principia’s code of conduct, not whether the incident qualifies as a breach of federal law.

According to Riley, if a case is investigated for evidence of sexual harassment and information is discovered during the fact finding process that suggests the reported student broke another facet of Principia’s code of conduct, that information cannot be used against that student. Hypothetically, if legal counsel determines that a student did not violate Principia’s harassment policy but also discovers that the student was drunk at the time of the reported incident, that student cannot be punished for drinking because alcohol use was not the behavior called into question in the first place.

Riley said that after ten years in the Office of Legal Counsel, 98% of the cases he has handled have been related to what students considered sexual harassment. According to Riley, over 90% of those cases have not qualified as sexual harassment according to Prin policy. Duvall’s case falls under this category.

Matteson said, “[we have an] old-fashioned idea of what sexual harassment is. People should be free to report any kind of harassment.”

Both Matteson and Duvall also shared that they initially did not know who to talk to in order to report instances of harassment. Currently, Beth Williams in Human Resources is the primary contact for harassment cases. Now that Williams is on maternity leave, Liisa Hilbert on the St. Louis campus has taken over Williams’ responsibilities as the contact for issues of harassment.

Milner, who handled sexual harassment cases for 16 years before her resignation in July of 2008, used to ask students what role they wanted her to play in their individual cases. Milner said that she would never take any steps without the student’s consent. She commented that the process is “very thorough, [but] it is misunderstood sometimes.”

Although Milner said she always did

her best to stay close to students and keep them informed throughout the process, Duvall commented, “Being harassed makes you feel alone.”

Because harassment cases of any kind have legal implications, the details of these cases are typically kept confidential. Glen said, “Sometimes it’s just so confidential that it might seem as if it’s been forgotten.” To address this, Duvall said that there should be “more transparency with the case.” He added, “We’re so concerned about keeping [a case] private, we’re making it hard to see when a student needs help.”

Even after Matteson’s case was given attention, she continued to experience difficulties with the student she had

plaint and the student against whom the complaint was filed after the grievance is handled.

Although the student Matteson reported last year was not permitted to graduate, Matteson said it was unclear whether this was because of his tendency toward harassment or his failing grades.

Milner said that the severity of a harassment case has something to do with whether or not a student is expelled. In some instances, students accused of harassing their peers have been suspended but eventually return to campus. Milner said that students are often readmitted because “we do want to keep the door open for healing.”

Matteson said plainly, “If they are not healed, they should not be on campus.”

Milner stressed the idea that “everybody needs to get on the same page” when it comes to handling sexual

and other forms of harassment.

Both Duvall and Matteson said that students need to know who they can talk to if they have a specific complaint and also that students need to feel adequately supported by the people handling each complaint. Glen said simply, “I hope they talk to the people that can change the process.”

“Being harassed makes you feel alone.”

“I felt as if I couldn’t ensure my own safety.”

filed her complaint against. Matteson said that the student “knew how far to push the limits” and would “accidentally” bump into her or kick her even though he was supposed to keep his distance. Both Matteson and Duvall felt as though their cases were still unresolved when discussions formally came to a close.

In contrast, Riley said that it is a goal of the harassment reporting process to avoid “awkward” encounters between the student who filed a com-

COME VISIT THE

BOOKSTORE

All Clothing is Currently



ON SALE





Amber Dahlin / photo

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As the team awaits price estimates from turbine companies they talked to in Chicago, they are also researching a variety of funding options.

One potential funding source would be state and federal government grants and tax incentives, though any application for government funding would not be considered until the 2010 fiscal year.

The plan is to conduct research for the government on three different sized and manufactured turbines. Ritter referred to the project as a “science lab on a big scale.” If the government grants Principia funding to conduct research on wind power, the college would get to keep the turbines for communal use as an additional benefit.

In addition, funding could come from the Principia Board of Trustees, but the project “has to make economic sense,” said Snyder. “The team needs to conduct a cost-benefit analysis to make sure it is worth the expense.” Alumnus Nick Johnson (C’04), who helped establish the first tower on East Farm, is once again involved in this project. Johnson is helping by doing an economic analysis of the turbines for his master’s thesis.

Even after sufficient funding is secured, Chatterton said, it will take a while to get the wind turbines up and

running, as there is an approximate lag time of two years. However, Chatterton said that once functional the wind turbines “can save Prin a lot of money and serve as a symbol of Principia’s commitment to sustainability.”

Principia would not only benefit financially from the turbines, but students would benefit as well.

Snyder said, “This is a great opportunity to bring something new to the campus. Students will be involved in this project and learn about a different aspect of the green energy environment.”

Although not yet a part of the Principia Center for Sustainability, Ritter said that the test tower could fold into the sustainability movement. The tea-plans to link an academic curriculum to the wind turbines as project-centered learning. This would run parallel to the Sustainability class’s project of converting the Biology department’s truck to run on recycled vegetable oil. But once again, any academic program associated with the wind turbines is still on the drawing board.

Aside from the remaining unknowns, what is certain is that wind power would help Principia achieve its goal of becoming environmentally sustainable.

Chatterton said, “Wind power is certainly a real alternative and something that is in the future of the world.”



Amber Dahlin / photo

Joe Ritter, Rich Chatterton, Amber Dahlin, Ben Snyder, and John Broere pose for a group shot at the Chicago convention



Jamie Eichar / photo

Fees continued from Page 1

said that Presidential Board agreed with the parking fees, among others.

Buchanan said that Presidential Board “had strong feelings” about the

Sophomore Doug Wallace is frustrated by this new policy



Jamie Eichar / photo

abroad and athletics fees, and suggested alternatives such as special financial aid or work programs for students interested in studying abroad.

“If you’re wealthy enough to have a car, you’re wealthy enough to pay to have it on campus,” Buchanan said, explaining that the increased fee would go to road repair and parking lots. He also said that he supported the independent course fee, as it would “free up faculty, to allow them to do more research and stay more engaged in their field.”

“The study abroad fee also raises some questions for students who feel like it may deter students

who have less money from wanting to go on an abroad,” Buchanan said.

Palmer cited research that compared Principia to schools from the St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SLIAC), as well as schools within a 20-mile radius of the Principia campus.

“We were not surprised to find that virtually everybody else was charging something,” Palmer said, “and where we were charging one rate, people were charging more.”

Principia athletic facilities have already begun charging membership fees. These are listed in the latest athletic facilities brochure, which was distributed at the May 3 grand opening of the College fitness centers.

Junior Victoria Brown Wilson said that she does not think the fees are “unreasonable,” but said she thinks the community will find them disagreeable because “we’re accustomed to ... getting it for free, no matter what other universities charge.”

However, Buchanan said that he

thinks students will be “willing to pay more for select privileges,” rather than see them cut.

Senior Amy Ward said that while the new fees are “definitely a change for Principia,” they are “on par with the majority of universities.”

“When I first saw the list,” Ward said, “I was surprised that we didn’t pay those extra fees before.”

Palmer said that meetings with faculty and staff that began in January gave him an idea about the most crucial fees. Palmer also met with former Student Body Presidents Johanna Publicover and Kenny D’Evelyn, and a cross-campus leadership team including Chief Executive David Anable and Upper School Head Marilyn Wallace.

Palmer said that based on input he has received from students thus far, he will modify the list of fees, and will send out an email by the end of Week 7 or beginning of Week 8.



# Changing a Principian's education

by Kate Wells

Staff writer

**T**iger teams hope to submit proposals regarding both new general education requirements and a new daily schedule under the semester system for faculty and administration approval by the end of the academic year. The proposals will signal a major benchmark, though not the end, in a year-long process involving students, faculty and staff, which began last summer at the administration's behest. If approved, both proposals would be instated in the 2011-2012 academic year, coinciding with the college's move to semesters.

Yet with each new change slated for Principia College, work for the planning committees responsible for structuring initiatives like the revised daily schedule and a possible new sophomore-year program becomes increasingly complicated. One of the challenges of re-examining several areas simultaneously is that the process of making decisions and instigating change becomes somewhat circular.

"So much is happening at once," said Philosophy professor and general education requirements committee member Chris Young. "A lot of this stuff is going to come to a head in the next year... and one thing that is missing [in this process] is how it's really going to connect with all the other projects. How are gen-ed [requirements] going to fit into a daily schedule? We [as a committee] haven't talked with the daily [schedule] team about that. That's a huge thing that no one around here has really done." Registrar Patty Langton, chair of the daily schedule committee, agrees that occasional frustration "is a shared opinion. I do think [the process] is a challenge, but I also think it's very good because none of these [initiatives] are independent, so everything is informing the other discussions. I also think that because that's true, we aren't going to be able to make a decision and say, 'there, that's done.' Even though our recommendation will be in, our work is not done."

For Langton and the rest of the daily schedule committee – many of whom were involved in gathering information and community input regarding the potential quarter-to-semester transition – work began with the administration's go-ahead for the move to semesters. "Once we got approval, then it became about the daily schedule. Part of our job was research, becoming experts ourselves. And we've done a lot: we've looked at academic and daily calendars for small liberal arts schools, big schools, comparative schools, as many as we've been able to. We've looked at what shapes these schedules have – how many hours a week do they have class? Is it three days, or twice a week?" Soliciting community involvement has also been part of the committee's process, ranging from public forums in the chapel during winter quarter and

one held in Wanamaker so far this spring to a board in the concourse displaying five possible schedules with room for community members' comments. The tiger team has also received suggestions from faculty departments. "They'll send e-mails saying, this is the kind of course we teach and this is why we need this particular shape of class," said Langton.

The Tiger Team plans to submit a proposal to College President Dr. Jonathan Palmer by the end of this week. "[Dr. Palmer] would like to make the announcement [regarding daily schedules] before graduation activity begins. What I envision, without talking to the team, is that our proposal will be a daily schedule [model] with a rationale explaining why we made the decisions we did," said Langton. Yet no schedule will leave everyone satisfied, she maintained, because so much of the community's input was conflictive. "A lot of people are giving us input about what is naturally most important to them. Someone says, we want more night classes, and someone else says, I wish we didn't have night classes at all. So we're going to have to make some compromises about what's best for the majority."

It's a common conundrum in making far-reaching decisions, said Assistant Dean of Academics Joe Rit-

**"Students should know that there is a lot, and I mean a lot, of effort going into trying to give students cutting edge pedagogy in the general education requirements."**

ter, who also serves as the committee chair for the general education requirements tiger team. "It's a challenge any time you want to make a change. People have given input, and it's been heard, but [there's still a perception that] if you understood me, you would agree with me." To that end, Ritter believes the college community must improve its communication skills – on both sides of the fence. "It's about relationships. With Dr. Palmer, there's a window for input and then if he feels like he's hearing the same thing over and over, he says, 'okay, let's move on.' I do think this administration can do a better job of saying, 'yes, we heard you, you have been listened to.'"

Easing occasionally fraught administrative and faculty relationships has been just one of the challenges Ritter's committee has had to grapple with over the past year. First and foremost, they've been charged with the task of updating the liberal arts requirements each Principia student must fulfill outside of their major in order to graduate. For a majority of professors and administrators, the current system has been left outdated and outmoded for too many years.

"Some of our classroom styles are based on what was important in education 10, 15, even 50 years ago," said Young. "Students should know that there is a lot, and I mean a lot, of effort going into trying to give

students cutting edge pedagogy in the general education requirements." At last year's retreat to Pere Marquette, 90% of faculty voted in favor of updating the requirements from where they stand now.

Under the upcoming proposal, students would be required to take two credits from all units, with only one Bible requirement, but an additional Fine Arts requirement included. "The non-labs have been cut entirely," explained Cate Norton, who serves as the committee's student representative. "The options are broader as well. Now it's just two humanities, which is more open than a literature requirement and a religion/philosophy requirement."

The committee is also proposing the induction of a new "Sophomore Year Experience" program, designed in part to incorporate skill-based learning and integrated course work. In one possible variation, students would learn within a "shared experience" format "rooted around big-idea questions," said Ritter. "One possibility is, say, have Chris Young with the Philosophy perspective teaching a course on 'Are You Free?' Then maybe you'd bring in a physicist's viewpoint, and maybe everyone would be reading Herman Melville's *Moby Dick* to look at, was Ahab free? Did he

really have to chase Moby Dick?"

Young said, "With a team of five or six faculty, we could both be breaking into smaller groups of about 10 or 15 and then coming back together to model debate and persuasive speaking around a given topic." The program would, in Ritter's words, be "all about content courses."

Yet new initiatives will be more difficult to successfully implement since the recent budget cuts put a freeze on hiring searches for some new faculty. "[Originally the faculty's view] was that there would be additional faculty and resources for these new ideas – really, the sky was the limit. Now there's no additional faculty," said Ritter. According to Young, "when it was presented to us, we were told [by the administration] that resources were not what we should be considering. It was just, 'what's the best program you can come up with?'" As a result, when faculty began proposing an increase in integrated-learning and skills-based programs, they "factored in five to ten extra faculty for this. Now not only is that an impossibility, but faculty have been cut back a little bit now that we just pulled the searches," Young said. "I think it's a concern for all faculty: what's the faculty load going to be and is that going to impact our ability to give as much time to the students, to be as dedicated as we are here compared to other schools? [I believe] that will change if we have to teach four courses a semester and are just trying to stay above the water. So it's a concern that we all share I think, trying to make sure we can give that same level of commitment."

## Global festivities on campus

by Lisette Sam Soulouck

Staff writer

**P**incipia's 28th Whole World Festival opened its doors May 1 with a film on Iran.

The festival is dedicated to celebrating diversity on campus. The event is organized by the International Student Board and coordinated by Bente Morse, International Student Coordinator. Morse said, "Through the Whole World Festival, we are able to come together, to share the culture all over the world, to create a global village by bringing people together."

The preparation and organization of the festival involved all international and many domestic students.

Freshman Wendy Atieno, who is in charge of the performances and the fashion show, said, "Although international students tend to dominate the event, the Whole World Festival is about celebrating culture and diver-

sity. Domestic students are encouraged to participate and to represent their heritage, that little or large Asian, European, South American, African, or Australian that they have in their ancestry."

The Whole World Festival this year is different from last year's event, largely due to the change in the schedule and the variety in the programs and shows.

Morse explained, "The festival was supposed to take place from [May] 8 to 10, but due to the coincidence with the TMC Youth Summit in Potosi, Missouri we changed the schedule and added more variety."

This change was welcome, as students appreciate the various shows scheduled throughout the month.

Junior Sirribi Ndeso-Atanga said,



"Last year, we had a one-day celebration, but this year [the festival] will be memorable because it is spread out all over the month."

During the first week of May, German students opened week 7 with a cultural presentation on Germany in the dining room. On May 5, students celebrated Cinco de Mayo, a Mexican holiday, with a "Cinco de Mayo Fiesta" on the Cox Patio. On May 7, East African students gave a pre-

sentation on East African culture in Wanamaker Hall.

Presentations on Asian and Pacific-American heritage will be given tonight starting at 8 p.m. in Wanamaker Hall. Following this event, students are invited to Holt Gallery in the School of Nations to listen to international music as part of the Global Fiesta. The festival will close its doors May 28, with international students' farewell speeches in Wanamaker Hall.



# Women gather to discuss excellence

by Anna Hair

Staff writer

**W**ISE, a small and somewhat unheard of group on campus, is making its presence known through a series of talks given by women, for women. WISE, Women in Search of Excellence, is not a club, but rather a loose gathering of students, primarily women, who meet together over dinner to discuss excellence by listening to speeches and responding to them.

Principia College professor Janessa Gans kicked off the speeches and was followed by Sarah Jarvis, assistant coach for the cross country, track, and basketball teams. Carole Griggs, assistant soccer coach, finished the speaker's series on May 14.

All three women focused on some form of excellence in their speeches, ranging from the freedom of being the true you, to defining excellence, to how to be disciplined in excellence.

Mary Ann Sprague, Associate Director of Athletics and Senior Women's Administrator, is the founder of WISE. She first came up with the idea seven years ago, when several athletes were striving for excellence in their sports. Sprague decided that if they all met together, they could work out their struggles, goals and dreams better than they could by themselves.

However, it was not until fall 2008 that Sprague really felt inspired to start the group.

Since then, WISE has worked to inspire women and create an environment for them to come together and share.

Sprague said, "I do have a goal that different groups of women will enjoy each other and feel receptive to coming in and getting together...we find people who are going after things and we help each other out."



Coach Sarah Jarvis leads the discussion at a meeting of WISE

Junior volleyball captain Anne Goodrich-Stuart, an active member of WISE, finds the group to be extremely helpful in combating suggestions that society makes about women.

"It's really good to get women together and talk about the issues we face every day. It shows women on campus that they can work together and that they can have control of their lives and that we are not controlled by our emo-

tions.... Women are just as in control as men and we can strive for excellence in all areas of our lives."

Sarah Jarvis, who spoke at a WISE meeting May 7, reflected on the ways the group can benefit participants.

She said that it is wonderful "to have a group of women and be able to inspire through speakers, get thought rolling with their experiences," and to share and hear "how they have experienced excellence in their lives."

While WISE is not a well-known group on campus, Sprague is not bothered by its smaller size. "It's not a thriving thing, which is fine because I'm not going to be like, oh good, we

got 45 people, we've got a following. It's not like that."

Goodrich-Stuart said that approximately 20 students have attended the last two meetings and emphasized that any woman on campus is invited. "The bigger turn-out the better," she said, because it will make for bigger discussions.

While Sprague emphasized that WISE is not like PAGE, Principia Alliance for Gender Equality, she also specified that it is not a prayer group either and stated that the "whole emphasis would be to live limitless."

Sprague went on to say that WISE is still in the beginning stages and that she still has no idea how everything is going to unfold. Instead, she is "just kind of praying to see if anything will come naturally."

While Sprague originally thought of WISE as an exclusively female group, she said that she doesn't "feel strongly about having it be just women. The first week, we had about five guys. Men can definitely join us." Goodrich-Stuart added, "Guys are valuable contributors. I think it's great, but I think they'd have to want to be there and be positive."

Both Sprague and Goodrich-Stuart stressed that while WISE is mainly made up of athletes from the soccer and volleyball teams, the group is certainly not limited to just athletes, nor is it intended to be.

All three discussions have been held Thursday nights at 6:15 in GDR 2.

## 2008-09 Principia College Annenberg Scholar Susan Vreeland

*This award winning author will be visiting our campus for a series of events*



**Thursday, May 21 @ 10:00 a.m.**  
**Principia Internet Radio** — Interview with Rick Dearborn

**Thursday, May 21 @ 6:00 - 10:00 p.m. (SG 208)**  
**"Ekphrastic Writing: Art as Muse"**  
A craft talk — Open to the community

**Friday, May 22 @ 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**  
**(Hay Field House Lecture Hall)**  
**Fiction Writers Workshop** — Open to the community

**Friday, May 22 @ 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.**  
**(Marshall Brooks Library)**  
**"Libraries & Other Research Resources"** — Open to all

**Saturday, May 23 @ 10:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.** — Off-campus

**"Renoir's Luncheon of the Boating Party"**  
A talk followed by a book signing and reception  
St. Louis Regional Art Commission  
6161 Delmar Blvd, St Louis, MO 63112

**Monday, May 25 @ 7:30 p.m. (Wanamaker Hall)**  
**"Why I Write About Art: Opportunities for a Spiritual Subtext"**  
Public Lecture followed by a book signing

**Tuesday, May 26 @ 7:00 - 10:00 p.m. (SG 208)**  
**"Writing Historical Fiction"**  
A craft talk — Open to the community

**Wednesday, May 27 @ 1:30 - 5:30 p.m.**  
**(Hay Field House Lecture Hall)**  
**"The Redolent Object"**  
A writer's workshop is only open to participants on first come-first served sign-up basis. Contact Dinah Ryan, Associate Professor of English, ext. 5244 or [dinah.ryan@prin.edu](mailto:dinah.ryan@prin.edu)



# Principia News Brief



by Kate Wells  
Staff writer

## Spring Formal

The weather is warmer, the campus is green, and spring quarter has somehow slipped away. All of this can only mean one thing: the arrival of Spring Formal, the biggest event on the Principia social calendar, not to mention the most expensive. Prior years have totaled some \$17,000 in damage to the SAB budget. This year, the festivities will be held at Chase Park Plaza in St. Louis, Missouri, where students can dine on salmon or chicken before raising their virgin mojitos in toast to the flamboyant theme of "Fire and Ice" and dancing the night away.

## Lectures on Mrs. Eddy

Religion professor Barry Huff and visiting professor Annette Kreutziger-Herr presented papers to the community Monday about their research on Mary Baker Eddy's exegetical studies and progressive social agenda during the writing and editing of *Science and Health*. The lecture, entitled "Mary Baker Eddy as a Biblical Interpreter,"



was preceded by the induction of two Principia students, juniors Kate Wells and Chelsea Kendrick, into the Theta Beta Kappa society. Theta Beta Kappa is the only national organization

for excellence in the academic study of religion. Visiting religion professor Christa Kreutz was also presented with an honorary membership to recognize her contributions to the religion department in expanding women's studies in New Testament scholarship.

## Dean's Colloquium

Students and members of the Principia community gathered in Wana-maker Hall May 13 for the Dean's Colloquium with David Gibbs. Gibbs' talk was entitled "May the Force be with You," and was his second talk of the quarter following his address at Spring Convocation about the value of a liberal arts education. Gibbs will retire later this year after many years of dedicated work in the math department.

## TEC gets approval

The final approval for the Principia College Teaching Excellence Center (TEC) was given last week. The Center will be directed by education professor Libby Scheiern, and will open July 1. The TEC will aid in smoothing the adjustment of daily schedules, general education requirements, and departmental learning themes. According to an email sent out on May 5 by Dean of Academics Scott Schneberger, the Center has been allocated \$30,000 to begin operations next year.

by Will Buchanan  
Staff writer



## North Korea sets trial date for U.S. journalists

Two American journalists will be tried in a North Korean court this June for entering the country illegally and intending "hostile acts." Pyongyang's official news bureau reported Thursday that Laura Ling and Euna Lee were taken into custody on March 17 along the China-North Korea border. Their trial will begin on June 4.

The International Press Institute last month called on North Korea to "immediately free journalists who are being used as apparent political hostages in [North Korea's] wider diplomatic disputes with the United States." The U.S. State Department claims that "there was no indication that independent, non-governmental defense lawyers existed."

Last month, a Swedish diplomat was allowed to meet with the journalists. The State Department said it has received information that the journalists are being well treated while awaiting their trial.



## Obama condemns Sri Lanka fighting, urges aid

On Wednesday, President Obama urged Sri Lanka to halt "indiscriminate" shelling of civilians held hostage and dispersed into the Tamil Tiger camps as protection.

Obama criticized the Tigers for using "human shields," and urged the rebels to let the captives go. He also called on them to surrender.

But perhaps more importantly, Obama called on the island's government to desist from using heavy weapons and bombs in the conflict zone – and thereby killing captives. "Without urgent action, this humanitarian crisis could turn into a catastrophe," said the president.

Since 1983, the Tamil Tigers have been fighting for a smaller independent state for the country's minority population. As many as 70,000 people have been killed since the fighting began, and the United States and Euro-

pean Union have declared the Tigers a terrorist organization.

## Ex-Mexican president calls for legal marijuana

Vicente Fox, the former Mexican president and 2008 Andrews Speaker at Principia College, called this week for the legalization of marijuana.

"I believe it's time to open the debate over legalizing drugs," Fox told CNN on Tuesday. "It must be done in conjunction with the United States, but it is time to open the debate."

Fox pointed to when the United States ended Prohibition in 1933. This policy change, said Fox, reduced organized crime.

Fox's position now matches the view of his predecessor, former president Ernesto Zedillo. The former heads of Colombia and Brazil, also members of the Latin American Commission on Drugs and Democracy, also favor legalization.

Fox acknowledged that legalization would have to be in conjunction with an education campaign in schools and homes, warning children about the health risks of marijuana.

## New York moves closer to same-sex marriage

The New York State Assembly passed a same-sex marriage bill Tuesday. The bill will now head to the Republican-controlled Senate for a vote later this month. If the Senate were to pass the bill – and the fate of the bill in the Senate is far from certain – Governor Paterson has said he will sign the bill.

"I applaud ... members of both parties for moving this historic legislation forward," said New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg in a statement released by the mayor's office. "I hope New York will soon become the latest state to adopt a law whose time has come."

Democratic State Senator Thomas Duane released a statement saying, "I am confident that this year my Senate will uphold this fundamental legal principle and vote for my right, our right, to be married this year."

In 2007, the New York State Assembly passed a same-sex marriage bill. However, the bill stalled in the Republican-controlled Senate.

If New York were to pass the bill, it would follow Maine as the second state whose legislature approved such legislation.

## Russian military celebrates Victory Day

Celebrated every March 9, Victory Day is a Russian national holiday celebrating the end of World War II.

"It's our country's best holiday," said Ivan Maksakov, 69, who was a child when the war broke out. "If this holiday didn't exist, we wouldn't exist

on this earth."

The militaristic holiday worries some of Russia's neighbors, who are not consoled by the speech of Russian President Dmitry Medvedev. "Russia's defense is our holy duty," said Medvedev this year at the annual parade on Red Square, in front of the mausoleum housing the body of the Soviet Union's first leader, Vladimir Lenin. "Any aggression against our citizens will be rightfully repelled."

Russia fought a five-day war with Georgia last summer, and tensions remain.



## In Bethlehem, Pope calls for Palestinian state

On Wednesday, Pope Benedict XVI made a powerful plea for an autonomous Palestinian state. He mixed prayer with politics and the birthplace of Jesus, reaching out to "all the homeless Palestinians who long to be able to return to their birthplace."

Palestinian politicians used the high profile visit to protest the Israeli occupation, and Benedict said he understood their frustration. Benedict did, however, urge Palestinians to "resist any temptation to resort to acts of violence or terrorism."

The pope's most forceful comments concerned the wall the Israeli government has constructed along the West Bank. "In a world where more and more borders are being opened up ... it is tragic to see walls still being erected," he said. "How earnestly we pray for an end to the hostilities that have caused this wall to be built."

The Israeli government's spokesman Mark Regev offered a somewhat sharp retort: "We did not want to build a security barrier. We were forced to by the continuous infiltration of suicide bombers entering our country and murdering our people. We wish the reality were different."



# Baseball surpasses win record



The Principia baseball team has just wrapped up a record-breaking season. The program, which has steadily improved each year since the arrival of Coach Pete Paciorek three seasons ago, scaled new heights this year in offensive production and winning percentage. The 2009 team tied the Principia record for conference wins with eight victories and smashed the record for overall wins with a stunning 17. To top it off, the team's batting average was also the highest on college record. No doubt it's this kind of performance that inspired SLIAC hopes in this year's Panthers: the tournament, which serves as a season-topping battle royale between the conference's top four teams, was essentially up for grabs with three spots largely undecided. Heartbreakingly, the Panthers fell just short of entry, ending the season ranked a still-impresive sixth with a conference record of 8-16 and an overall record of 17-22. Never ones to rest on their laurels, team leaders are

ardent in their expectations for an even stronger record next season.

Prime among the team's greatest assets was the strength of the underclassmen. Freshmen Alan Cheatham and Greg Ball and sophomores Matt Bowman and Spencer Brown brought all-around talent that proved central to this year's successes. Cheatham shattered the Principia single-season home run record with 11 knock-out homers, earning him an All-Conference Honorable Mention and landing him runner-up for Newcomer of the Year. Ball quickly established himself as one of Principia's star pitchers, while Bowman was one RBI short of the single season record. Brown's resilience and dependability proved him one of the best baserunners in the conference. Senior captain John Raffles echoed all Panther fans when he described one of the greatest surprises of the season: just how good Cheatham and Ball turned out to be.

A young team, however, inevitably brings inexperience in addition to fresh talent. Paciorek said that the team's relatively low baseball IQ and tendency to lose focus when they were down hurt the team at times. Raffles agreed that the team had their fair share of "big highs and low lows," listing a few key moments which he believes made this a sixth-place season instead of a tournament season.

On the positive side, the team had some very exciting victories, including their second game of the season, played at home versus non-

conference rival St. Louis Christian College. Principia had the lead, gave it up, and then took it back again for a 14-13 win. Paciorek thought this was an important moment that got the team off to a good start.

Over spring break, the team traveled to California to play five games. Their first win of that trip was against La Sierra University. Ball pitched a complete game, showcasing the talent he would bring to the team for the rest of the season.

Looking back on the season, Raffles highlighted an emotional game played at home on March 31 against MacMurray College. The Panthers were down in the bottom of the final inning, and Brown was batting with a full count and two outs. On the next pitch he hit a triple to drive in the tying run, which set up the next batter to send Brown home for the win.

During a home game late in the season against tournament-bound Maryville University, Paciorek was thrown out of the game for arguing with the third base umpire. Brown had just hit a long fly ball that landed next to the fence, and as the ball reached the infield he was heading toward third. The third baseman caught the ball a few feet away from the base and near the basepath. It appeared that Brown had reached third safely, but the umpire thought he was tagged and called him out. Paciorek, who was third base coach, immediately disputed the call. The umpire walked in the opposite direction and refused to listen; Paciorek followed. The two had reached first base when the umpire ejected Paciorek

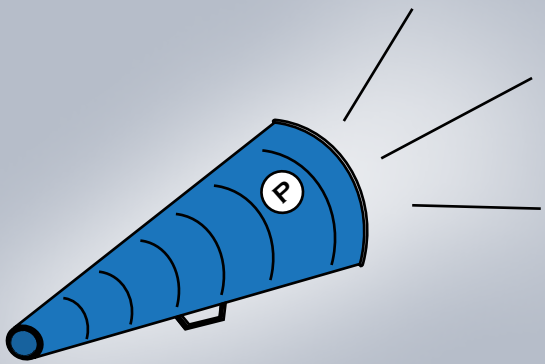
from the game. In a moment of retrospective solidarity, Paciorek said he believes in "going to war" with his players. He saw the umpire's call as clearly wrong, and he felt it was his duty to stand for what was right, because he and his team "don't stand for mediocrity" in themselves, and therefore they shouldn't need to stand up for it in the officiating. Kyle Johnson thought that the "umpire didn't handle [the situation] professionally," and he was glad that Paciorek showed that he cared and that he was "willing to go to bat for us." Johnson said that Paciorek's attitude, expressed in moments like this, made the team want to play for him.

The athletes on the baseball team had only good things to say about their coaches. Raffles asserted that Paciorek "continues to be one of the best coaches at Prin and in the area.... He works as hard as anybody I've seen." New coach Gabe McMannis is a good model of work ethic and passion. Bobby Holly is always positive, and in Raffles' words, "there is no one to match [Jonathan Daugherty's] spirit and energy."

Coach Paciorek says that his team has "worked hard and grown this year," and that the "team should be proud."

The Principia baseball team looks good going into 2010. They are graduating six seniors, including Raffles and his co-captain, Senior catcher Eli Morris, but there are freshmen recruits to fill all those spots. The powerful young group that made its way to the record books this year will surely improve with a year of college baseball now under their belts.

## Sports Update



### Track and Field

Senior Rachel Richards, Junior Adrian Dahlin, and Sophomore Dolly Sommer are headed to North Central College tonight to compete in the last meet of the track season before the National competition next weekend. Richards has qualified for Nationals in the 3000m steeplechase, which will be the last race of her very successful Principia track career. Dahlin is looking to improve his standing in the Principia record book; he currently sits at sixth of all time in the 800m with a 1:55.7. Last Friday at North Central, Sommer ran a personal record of 2:29.09 in the 800m that landed her tenth on Principia's all-time top ten list.

### Rugby

The Thunder Chickens finished their season this weekend with a one-point loss to the Royals of St. Louis. The unusually low-scoring game was their only loss all season in league play. They finished at 5-1 on the season, 6-3 including the highly competitive jamboree tournament they participated in at the beginning of the season.



Nancy Glascock / photo

Stuart Waller throws on the mound at a home game this season

## Rachel Richards Running for perfection

by Grant Grieshaber  
Staff writer

Rachael Richards has unfinished business at the 2009 NCAA Division III Outdoor Track and Field Championships. After a 14th place finish in Oshkosh, Wisconsin last year left her thirsty for a comeback, Richards will make her second journey to the NCAA Division III meet Friday in Marietta, Ohio.

Richards, a senior political science major and track and field captain, will compete in the women's 3000 meter steeplechase, and is currently seeded 12th in the nation with a time of 10:50.36.

Since breaking Principia's women's steeplechase record her freshman year, Richards's current personal record in the steeplechase is 10:49.90, which she ran her junior year, but expects to break this week in Ohio.

Richards has also earned school records in the 800 meter, 1000 meter and 1500 meter races during the indoor season and the 3000 meter run during the outdoor season.

Richards says her achievements are a direct result of her dedication to track and field. Even while participating in the New Zealand abroad last winter, Richards ran twice a day in between long hiking trips.

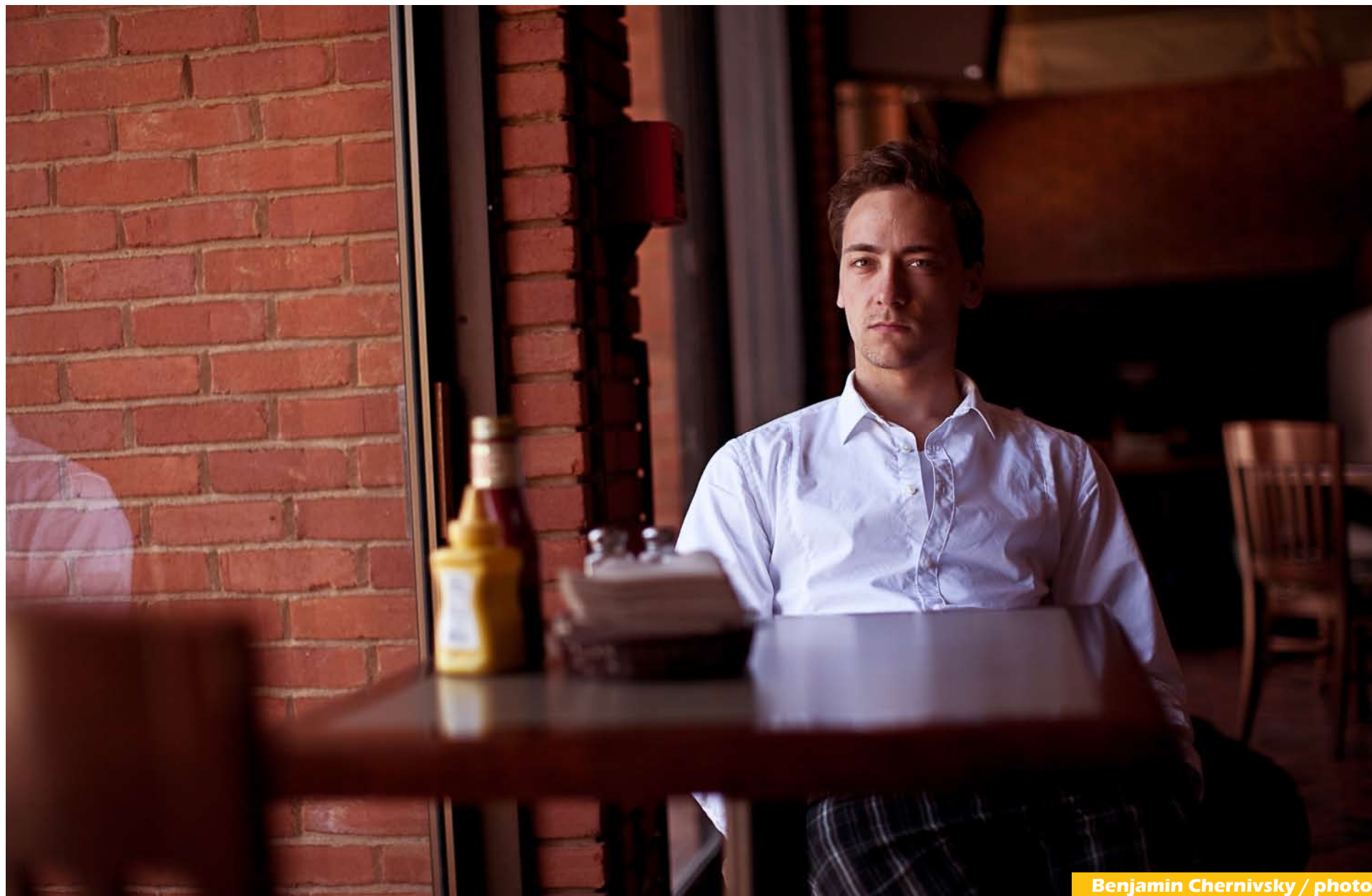
"Just because I was in New Zealand didn't mean I didn't want to go to nationals just as badly," Richards said.

Few can question Richards's dedication and work ethic. According to head track and field coach Chuck Wilcoxon, preparation and effort are the two ingredients necessary for athletes looking to qualify for nationals. Many athletes excel at one or the other, but "Rachael is unusually good at doing both," he said. "The minute the gun goes off, she's going to give her maximum effort."

In response to the excitement of competing in Marietta, Richards hopes to run under 10:40.00, breaking her personal record by nine seconds. According to Wilcoxon, Richards's strategy will be to run for place rather than time. "It's going to be a tactical race," he said.



# Martin Speer: An entrepreneurial spirit



Benjamin Chernivsky / photo



**Georgie Nikolaidis**  
Staff Writer

THE PRINCIPIAPILOT

**M**artin Speer, from Heroldsberg, Germany, brings his entrepreneurial spirit to Principia. Both his parents are architects-turned-entrepreneurs who own their own businesses.

After fourth grade, the last year of elementary school in Germany, students' grades determine whether they should be placed in the lower, middle or upper school. This usually determines the quality of education a student receives, as well as the amount of time students stay in school after fourth grade. The lower school is five years, the middle school six years, and the upper school, called the "Gymnasium" in German, nine years. Speer tested into the upper school, meaning that he could choose an area in which to specialize. He chose business, even though he was and still is interested in studying both design and architecture. In the Gymnasium, he found that he was especially interested in the combination of business and design.

Speer graduated from the business Gymnasium in 2005. He entered an apprenticeship program where he worked three days a week in a business firm and went to business school twice a week at SBS-Herzogenaurach and IBS Nuernberg. As part of the apprenticeship, he had the opportunity to work in several departments, including international marketing, project management, and trademark law.

"It really taught me to act responsibly, dealing with shipments of a quarter million Euros," says Speer. "It gave me an idea of what I want to do in my life, that I would have fun with marketing and project management in the

consumer product industry." Speer earned his business degree in 2008.

Speer was not raised in Christian Science. His family, as is often the case in Germany, rarely attended church. He was introduced to Christian Science as a teenager by the family of his friend Anne Jenne, now a Principia sophomore. He was highly critical of Christian Science at first, but says he found it "interesting and revolution-

a whole needs to refocus on efforts supporting the Middle East.

"The Internet gives people the ability to combine individual resources to create a bigger force," says Speer. He hopes to see the site promote a one-state solution as the only realistic solution to the conflict.

Speer is currently working with sophomore Ben Black to start an Entrepreneurs Club on campus. The club's first meeting will be held in Week 9.

Speer is working on two business

in any business, is to connect the team with the right people to convince them that this is a viable product. Speer says that their greatest challenge at the moment is finding a second investor for the company. Until they find a second investor, only one of the four team members is working full-time in Germany on the project for now.

Speer is also working with a team to put together a plan that will allow citizens to donate money to the state to be specifically allocated towards paying the German national debt. Their website is [www.stuatsspende.de](http://www.stuatsspende.de). Speer says that he is in contact with the German Ministry of Finance to convince them of this plan. If you have spent all or most of your life in the U.S., you might wonder how this contact is so simple.

"In Germany, we keep a very close connection with our government," Speer explains. The biggest challenge for making this plan possible is finding a way to make it legal, which is why Speer's team is still in negotiations with the Ministry of Finance.

From these projects, Speer says he is learning that it is "time for us as a society to really rethink our role as citizens, to help each other and work together with the government to make us all better off." Thanks to the power of the Internet, Speer says, our generation is "the first global generation."

Speer says: "I don't do these projects only for personal profit, but because they will help the world. Christian Science has taught me, and is still teaching me, to be a less selfish person." To sum up his philosophy on life, "Der Horizont unseres Denkens ist unsere eigene Begrenztheit," or, "The horizon of our thinking is our own narrowness."

Speer will be giving a presentation on Germany as the world's export leader in Wanamaker during Week 9.



Benjamin Chernivsky / photo

ary." In the first six months, he was quick to question everything he learned about Christian Science. He grew increasingly more convinced as he studied *Science and Health*.

Speer attended a Principia visiting weekend in 2006, and says he was "captured by the Christian Science atmosphere and the beauty of the campus."

While at Principia, Speer has started a team of students and faculty to put together a website, still in development but right now at [www.listforpeace.com](http://www.listforpeace.com). It promotes the idea that the world as

projects with a team of three friends in Germany. The first is called Nutribeau. This is the idea that skin care and beauty products can be made portable. They are working with a separate company and two German universities that actually make the product, while Speer's team does the planning of and marketing. Speer says that while there are plenty such fads out there, his team strives to be honest and authentic with this product.

His role in the business, which he says is the most important part for him



# It's a wonderful show

**Ben Foti**  
Staff writer

For the past six-and-a-half weeks, 35 students have been rehearsing for Principia's spring musical "Wonderful Town," which will be performed for the community from May 21 through May 23.

Much hard work and time has been put into all production aspects of the musical since the beginning of the quarter.

"Students have been putting their heart and soul into this piece," said Trish Brown, a Theater professor and director of *Wonderful Town*. "It will be a very uplifting and joyous experience for this community." This will be Brown's 11th time directing a musical here at Principia.

The plot of the musical revolves around the adventures of two sisters who come from a small town in Ohio to find a new life in New York City. The musical was written in 1953, but set 18 years earlier, in 1935. Brown



St. Louis-based choreographer and Principia alum Kelly O'Connor has been heavily involved with the musical as well. "We're grateful to be bringing [O'Connor] back," said Brown.

In addition to advertising the musical in the Principia commu-

nity, the greater area," said McCreary. "There's usually a good turnout."

For the students onstage, the musical has given them an opportunity to connect with future career choices, and especially with each other.

Senior Julie Ryan said that there

Ryan, theater major and stage manager for the musical, acts as a liaison between McCreary and Brown. She said she has had a love for musicals since high school.

"I got sucked into the world [of musicals]," she said. "When I got to Prin, I stuck my foot in and tried to be in everything I could."

She said that, as a career, she hopes to look into stage managing.

Freshman Nicole Tisdell, who plays the lead character Eilene Sherwood, said that as a theater group, "we've connected really well" and that "you can learn so much just by working with someone else." She also added that by being in theater at Principia "you can go out of your way without declaring a major."

Sophomore Paul Thurbon, who plays the part of Walgreens clerk Frank Lippencott, said of the theater group as a whole that "we're all working towards a common goal - all trying to put on a good show." He said that in order to get involved in musical theater you "really don't have to be great, just have the desire."

Brown said that the experience of directing the musical has "promoted my growth in many ways, and I'm grateful for it."



Junior Benjamin Rowe and freshman Nicole Tisdell rehearse a poignant scene in Cox Auditorium

said that it is not very well known.

"The college has tended to do more popular musicals," Brown added.

The selection process for musicals is a collaborative effort between the Music and Theater departments.

"It's all predicated on what the needs of the students are," said Patrick McCreary, professor in the Theater department, who is in charge of set construction for the musical.

The music in the show was written by the well-known classical composer Leonard Bernstein, and there are about 20 musical numbers in all.

"It provides our musicians a wonderful opportunity to play the work of a famous composer," said Brown. She added that, for some of the pieces, Music Professor Marie Jureit will be bringing in some outside musicians.

nity, there has been outreach to the outside community through flyers and mailers. "We are marketing to

are "definitely a lot friendships being created onstage" and that "everyone involved is a big family."

The cast goes all out for this full chorale piece in their 1930s costumes



Barbara Palmer / photos



# We've weighed in. Now what?

## The Pilot's Perspective

Last week, Dr. Palmer invited the college faculty to dessert at Hutchinson House. He engaged them in productive discussions about scholastic policy and about relations between the administration and the faculty. By many accounts, Dr. Palmer's gesture was a welcome one. Many faculty members were pleased to have an open discussion with Dr. Palmer about issues ranging from communication to faculty load and to hear his clear rationale, grounded in sound pedagogical practice, for the upcoming move to semesters and the decision to utilize a 15/2 semester model.

However, there remains a lingering community perception that the administration has ignored the voices of the students and faculty at times, and has made and delivered some policy decisions unilaterally. Why does this perception persist, and how can we as a community address and correct it?

The decision to switch to a 15/2 semester form seemed like a unilateral one. We were all away on winter break when the announcement email came pinging into our inboxes, and even though the administration maintains that community input was used to make the decision, exactly *how* that input was used was not originally made clear to the community. The impression created by this misstep—that the

administration solicits community input but does not necessarily utilize it—has taken the better part of two quarters to begin to fade. As we are now facing another big decision—the crafting of next year's daily schedule—we hope that the administration will recommit to the ideal of transparency and demonstrate an understanding that the process of arriving at a decision is often just as important as the decision itself.

The semester daily schedule models posted in the concourse last week were created based on the values, ideas, and desires of students, faculty, staff, and administrators. We applaud the daily schedule Tiger Team for posting the

**As we are now facing another big decision—the crafting of next year's daily schedule—we hope that the administration will recommit to the ideal of transparency and demonstrate an understanding that the process of arriving at a decision is often just as important as the decision itself.**

five potential models with space for comments on the benefits and drawbacks of each. The models generated a healthy amount of (mostly) productive discussion.

Now comes the hard part: the models have been taken down, the Tiger Team is working to craft their recommended schedule for Dr. Palmer's consideration, and we need to know *how* our input is being used. The comments on the potential models illuminated strengths and weaknesses of each and included suggestions for improvements and changes to each one. In essence, the whole community has been helping

to craft the shape of a new daily schedule for the College. It will be up to the daily schedule Tiger Team and the administration not only to respect this craftsmanship in determining the final model, but also to communicate clearly how they are doing so.

This communication should take the form of regular updates on the decision-making process as the final model is fine-tuned. These updates should inform us of how our concerns are being met. The Tiger Team must also understand that simply settling on one of the five models posted last week will not be enough. As our comments showed, the strengths of certain models should be combined to minimize

the weaknesses of others, thus resulting in a schedule that reflects the values and needs of the Principia community as a whole.

Will the new daily schedule satisfy everyone completely? Of course not. But if we feel that our opinions were valued *and used* throughout the process of creating a tangible piece of administrative policy, we should be satisfied with that, even if not all of our individual preferences are reflected in the final schedule.

If we make the daily schedule in a transparent way, it will be something of which the whole community can be proud and can feel that they had a hand in crafting.

## CSO CORNER

The last signs of winter have melted away, and the weather has warmed up into a beautiful spring. The CSO was excited to hold a Tuesday testimony meeting outside on the Chapel Green this past week for the first time this year. It was a bright and sunny day, as the campus enjoyed praising God to the sounds of happily chirping birds. Thank you to Media Services, our organizer, and everyone else who helped make it possible! Stay tuned for more services out in the sun.

CSO and other community members were excited to attend the Midwest Spiritual Activist Summit this past weekend in Potosi, Missouri. The three day event sponsored by TMCYouth and local foundations and churches united young Christian Scientists from all over to collaborate and learn about Christian Science and what is going on in the movement. Some of the highlights

included hearing from the Board of Directors, talking with lecturers, and exploring some of the hymns from the new Christian Science Hymnal Supplement. All-in-all, it was a great way to spend a weekend and learn a few things to keep for a lifetime!

As the quarter moves forward, there are two key events to be ready for. Firstly, our quarterly election meeting will be held THIS SUNDAY, May 17, in the DINING ROOM at 7:35PM (im-

mediately following hymn sing). If you have ever considered being a reader for the campus or serving as the head of a committee, this your chance! We will be electing new Tuesday and Sunday readers for fall quarter as well as a few new committee heads for the executive board. We will also be voting on where to send our annual spring donations. All members are requested to attend and anyone wishing to join is warmly invited to come and become a member—see you there!

Also, the campus is invited to come to a lecture next Thursday, May 21, during quiet time in Wanamaker with Susie Jostyn entitled, "How do I know God has a Plan for Me?" There will be a special Tuesday schedule on that day to accommodate for the lecture. Jostyn is a Christian Science lecturer and has helped with lots of TMCYouth podcasts and projects (including the summit last weekend) and is excited to come talk with Principia!

Have a great week!

Sincerely,  
Mark Evans  
CSO President

"Beholding the infinite tasks of tasks of we pause, — wait on God. Then we push onward, until boundless thought walks enraptured, and conception unconfined is winged to reach the divine glory."

--Science and Health 323:9

## Presidents'

### COLUMN

Hello Principians,

Spring quarter continues on, and we're loving it!

We'd like to use our column this week to share with you a few insights we've gleaned so far from leading Prin's Student Government.

We are learning to love Principia in new ways. In a sense, we get a backstage pass to Principia, and as we go behind the scenes, we see what students often don't get to see: the loving, purposeful work of the administration, faculty and staff in support of Principia.

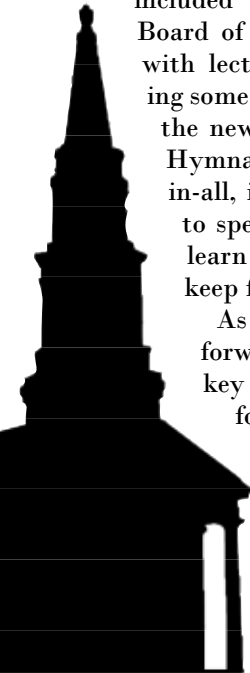
Do you remember how when you were little you thought your mom and dad knew everything there was to know? Then one day you realized that they didn't. This realization wasn't necessarily scary; hopefully it helped you love them all the more. Maybe it also helped you realize that you also had responsibilities and opportunities to contribute to your family's well being.

The administration, faculty and staff at Principia are all growing, learning and loving more each day – just like students. In this sense, Principia is not a stratified society of interacting individuals at various levels; instead, it is a web of "seekers for Truth" who together maintain a Christian community.

We have had the opportunity to talk with many members of the administration, faculty and staff about their views on the purpose, strengths and weaknesses of Prin. As a result, we have an enlarged appreciation for the love these Principians have for us and for our wonderful Principia experience. We really are all in this together.

We are so grateful for this enlarged appreciation.

Will and Chelsea,  
Student Body Presidents





# Pandering to the radical



**James Poindexter**  
Liberal Columnist  
THE PRINCIPIA PILOT

Where are the Reagan Conservatives? Where is the party of social conservatism and fiscal responsibility? Unfortunately for America, these true Republicans have all been edged out of the party and have no desire to get back in.

Republicans across the country are defecting from the party of Reagan because of a lack of faith in its ability to represent the core values of conservative America. Most recently, a 30-year Republican senator defected from the GOP and loyal Republicans everywhere were astonished. If we take a deeper look at the fabric of the Republican Party, it really is not hard to understand why Senator Specter left the GOP for friendlier waters, and why we can expect more of this to come.

Since President Reagan's 1984 sweep of 49 states, the Republican Party has departed from its original values. Reagan did not represent fortune 500's, evangelical Christians, and AK-47 owners. Reagan represented every American. Unlike Democrats of the time, he believed in the strength of purer capitalism, traditional values, and individual rights. Since this era of Republican domination, special interests have hijacked the party and boiled down these debatable principles into individual agenda items.

The Republican Party has taken conservative values and run as far right as possible. The party is no longer in favor of evenly distributed taxes. Special interests have pushed the party towards supporting large breaks favoring corporate America, and any dissent has been labeled "socialism." The GOP is no longer the party of traditional family values; instead, the GOP has been reduced to supporting creationists and evangelical Christians teaching their theology in public schools. Instead of believing in reasonable gun restriction, Republicans have defeated the assault weapons ban. These special interest groups that the Republican Party has been pandering to over the past 20 years have been disenfranchising members and forcing the party to become more and more exclusive.

Without rehashing the terrible losses the party has undergone in the past two elections due to these unflinching party planks, let me explain where the party is and where it should be going. With no clearly defined leader of this Grand Old Party, Rush Limbaugh—popular conservative talk show radio host—has stepped forward to fill the void. Limbaugh has maintained such a tight hold on "conservative values" that he even extracted an apology from Republican Party chairman Steele when he referred to Limbaugh as an "entertainer."

With the Republican Party bowing to him, one would think that Limbaugh would be using this opportunity to rebuild the GOP. Well you guessed wrong. Instead, Rush Limbaugh has taken this chance to be the "entertainer" and make outrageous comments about mod-

erates within his party. Recently, he has called for Republicans such as John McCain and his daughter Meghan to leave the party. With this process of narrowing the party and edging out even more moderates, Limbaugh has managed to doom the Republican Party to even further failure.

We see even further evidence of this edging out process in the recent defection of Republican Senator Arlen Specter to the Democratic Party. Some ostracize him for doing it for political reasons, but the truth is he should be commended. While Specter did switch parties because he was facing a losing primary season next year, the reason he was going to lose is that his conservative views (which he has held for over 30 years as a senator) no longer represented the Republican Party.

As one of three Republican Senators to vote for Obama's stimulus package, Specter was feeling increasing pressure from his own party to change his beliefs to be more in line with "conservative values." Americans would have had every right to criticize Specter if he had remained a Republican and changed his voting to represent "Republican" ideology. Instead, the party ostracized him along with 200,000 voters in his state who elected him as a moderate Republican.

Groups such as evangelical Christians, the National Rifle Association, and other special interests that have taken hold of the Republican Party have a right to be represented in the American political system, but they should not be in charge. Somewhere along the way, the party lost sight of the moderate and began pandering to the radical. Americans have recognized this principle and have stood up against this Republican Party. This is primarily why the GOP suffered such great losses in 2006 and why America voted in the largest gains for the Democratic Party since 1974. This is also why John McCain had such a difficult time rallying the Republican base in 2008, and effectively lost the election because he was a moderate Republican.

If Republicans hope to regain their control in American politics, they are going to need a leader who can restore Reagan-like values to the party of Limbaugh. There is a place for the Republican Party and its traditional platform in political dialogue, but as long as conservatives allow Limbaugh to remain in the driver seat, the party will continue full speed in the direction of the nearest cliff.

# What's right for the GOP?



**Ron Meyer**  
Conservative Columnist  
THE PRINCIPIA PILOT

The battle for the heart of the Republican party has intensified. Senator Arlen Specter's precipitous party switch has everyone asking the question: should the GOP be more moderate? In this fight, everyone seems to be arguing that their own political ideology should govern the party, rather than looking at what can bring Republicans together. Instead of looking for compromise, the right-wingers want the party to be more conservative and the moderates and the neo-cons want a centrist party. Both of these solutions have fatal flaws.

The moderates — led by David Brooks of the *New York Times* and author David Frum — really don't have much political evidence for their argument. Becoming a party of moderates sounds promising, but as I've mentioned in previous columns, this idea is oxymoronic. Parties are made up of *partisans*: people who feel strongly about issues.

Having a party of moderates is kind of like having an unbiased opinion — it isn't possible. What Brooks and Frum want is for the party to become ambidextrous by cutting off its right arm. This doesn't make any sense,

especially when you consider that the right arm does all the work. When was the last time you saw an excited group of moderates putting up signs and making phone calls for their candidates. Let's be honest, the people with the strongest beliefs do most of the political groundwork, and without them you have no party and no foundation for success.

Despite what the media has been touting, there is empirical evidence to show that conservatives still have a large base. According to a recent Harris Poll, 37% of Americans identify themselves as conservative, compared to 18% who identify as liberal. This number has been stable for 40 years. The biggest problem with the GOP is that they have not been able to effectively unite their base with a comprehensive message. This is why only 26% of Americans identify themselves as Republicans.

I am not advocating that the GOP turn into a radically right-wing organization. Despite Rush Limbaugh's recent claims, the Republicans need both conservatives and moderates in their party. However, no American party has ever been successfully organized by moderates. Instead of

following Brooks and Frum down the pathway of principleless complacency, maybe the GOP should follow the Democrats' successful political model.

Democrats manage to keep all of the liberals in their party while still attracting moderates. Only 18% of Americans claim to be liberal, yet 36% of Americans identify themselves as Democrats. To do this, they have built a party on liberal principles and have marketed these principles to a significant portion of the American middle. They also happened to find a very effective messenger in Barack Obama.

Just like the Democratic party has liberal principles, the Republican party needs to have a clear set of conservative principles which they can market to the middle. George W. Bush's compassionate conservatism (aka what Brooks and Frum are now calling moderation) has wrecked the perception of what those principles are. Bush tried to create a big-government Republicanism — a mix of terms that had the conservative base outraged. He grew the government establishment larger than any president since Lyndon Johnson and his "Great Society." After the bailouts, the massive growth in entitlements, and the significant increase to the deficit, America did not know who to look to for fiscal conservatism. This is why Republican identification shrank to 26%.

Bush adopted Democratic spending policies and confused the American people about what the Republican party stood for. Brooks and Frum want the party to continue this confusion. Republicans cannot be the party of big-government conservatism. Democrats are already the party of big-government. Does it make sense for the GOP to be the party of a somewhat smaller big-government? No. The Republicans must offer the American people an alternative to the endless deficit spending, growth-punishing taxes, bureaucratic wastefulness, and welfare statism that has dominated Barack Obama and George Bush's agenda over the last nine years.

To do this, Republicans will have to renew and redefine what conservatism means. I believe the clearest and most marketable way to do this is Constitutionalism. By doing this, Republicans will clearly be the party of limited government, freedom, and liberty — values which seem to have gone missing in Washington. This message will bring all conservatives back under the Republican party while offering an appealing movement for American moderates to join. This principled and inclusive Republican party would refresh American politics and bring the GOP back into relevance.

Conservatives have the clear advantage with both logic and numbers, but their problem is that they have adopted an exclusionist mindset.





# Our priorities and Principia's survival

by Jonathan Daugherty

Guest writer

I've heard that if one drops a frog into boiling water, he will immediately leap out and save himself. If the frog is sitting in lukewarm water that is slowly heated to boiling, however, he won't notice and will slowly perish.

Sometimes I wonder if the Christian Science movement and Principia are facing a similar situation. Principia's enrollment peaked in 1981 at over 800 students. Currently we're at 509 students with 50 more international students than we had in 1981. While we've had a good bump up from 480 students last Spring, overall we're getting close to being half of what we were 28 years ago. Principia's Admissions and Marketing are doing a great job reaching out to young Christian Scientists, but if there's a declining number of them, what marketing can do is limited.

A significant percentage of Christian Science churches have closed since 1981. According to *The Christian Science Journal* there are a little over half as many Christian Science congregations today as there were in the 1980s. Similarly, since 1971 the number of Christian Science practitioners listed in the *Journal* has declined drastically. While Christian Science and Principia are ideas that cannot disappear, we do have to be realistic about the fact that our churches, camps, and schools cannot logistically exist without a minimum number of people.

Obviously we debate many other

issues at Principia quite passionately. Yet when we debate these issues, it sometimes feels like rearranging deck chairs on the Titanic. It's a question as to whether Principia College will exist for the children of our current students.

What is very heartening is the "Fruitage" chapter at the back of *Science and Health*. The freedom and healing that the first generation of Christian Scientists were feeling was utterly thrilling to them. There was a Christian Scientist over a century ago who "devoured" *Science and Health* – reading it for 18 hours a day (p. 694). Another would go to God with such "longing intensity" that she *held her breath* while waiting for answers (p. 669). Another said, "Money, friends, materiality, are *nothing* beside the conscious knowledge of God" (p. 692). How do these early Christian Scientists' life priorities and values compare to our current values and choices? Their passionate love for God is what brought our movement and Principia into being, and it's what we'll need to keep it here.

In a conversation with a student last quarter, he mentioned that he felt Christian Science was declining "because nobody is making it fun anymore." Have we trained ourselves to think that everything should be fun? Did Jesus, Mrs. Eddy, or Mrs. Morgan do what they did for fun? I'm all for fun, but religion exists because there is more to life than fun. Many find that serving others – the quiet prayer that makes infinite spiritual good clear to consciousness, the willingness to face

down illness – can be far more fulfilling than what we do for fun.

While we need to go deeper in order for Mrs. Eddy's teaching to survive, I am optimistic that we can and will do what's needed. Why? Because the Christian Science movement started with just one consecrated woman. It's clearly our responsibility to catch that same fire. I know a student who recently caught something of it. After some deep thinking about his life over break he said, "I realized that I've abused the privilege of being a Christian Scientist."

We are among the few who have been given an understanding of the Science of Christianity. The Cause of Christian Science matters more to humanity than perhaps any other cause. Will we try to use Christian Science to make our own lives more healthy and wealthy, or can we be unselfish and let Science be the unseen leaven bringing the world back to a sense of economic and environmental balance? As Jesus tells us, "To whomsoever much has been given, of him shall much be required" (*Luke 12:48*). Again, to some extent, it feels like our *responsibility*.

Exploring a teaching that gives us the Science behind what Jesus did is a

privilege beyond what any of us may be able to realize at this point. I know I've also abused that privilege in the world of comfort and safety of Principia.

Easter is a favorite holiday of many people, including me. It says so much about resurrection, renewal, newness of life, and faith. Christians say that "for every crucifixion, there is a resurrection." A religious article in the *Christian Science Monitor* spoke of how "Easter dares us to consider an entirely new sense of life." In a world that has a profound sense of economic lack, enormous issues involving war, environmental destruction, and overpopulation, this kind of resurrection has never been more necessary.

A great playwright, Eugene Ionesco, said, "When I change, I change the world." It's time for us to catch the same spiritual fire that the first generation of Christian Scientists had, and let ourselves be changed by an understanding of man's goodness. Then we'll move from lives of entertainment to meaningful lives that will bring healing to world thought. The Christian Science movement and Principia will surely thrive.

## CS Perspective

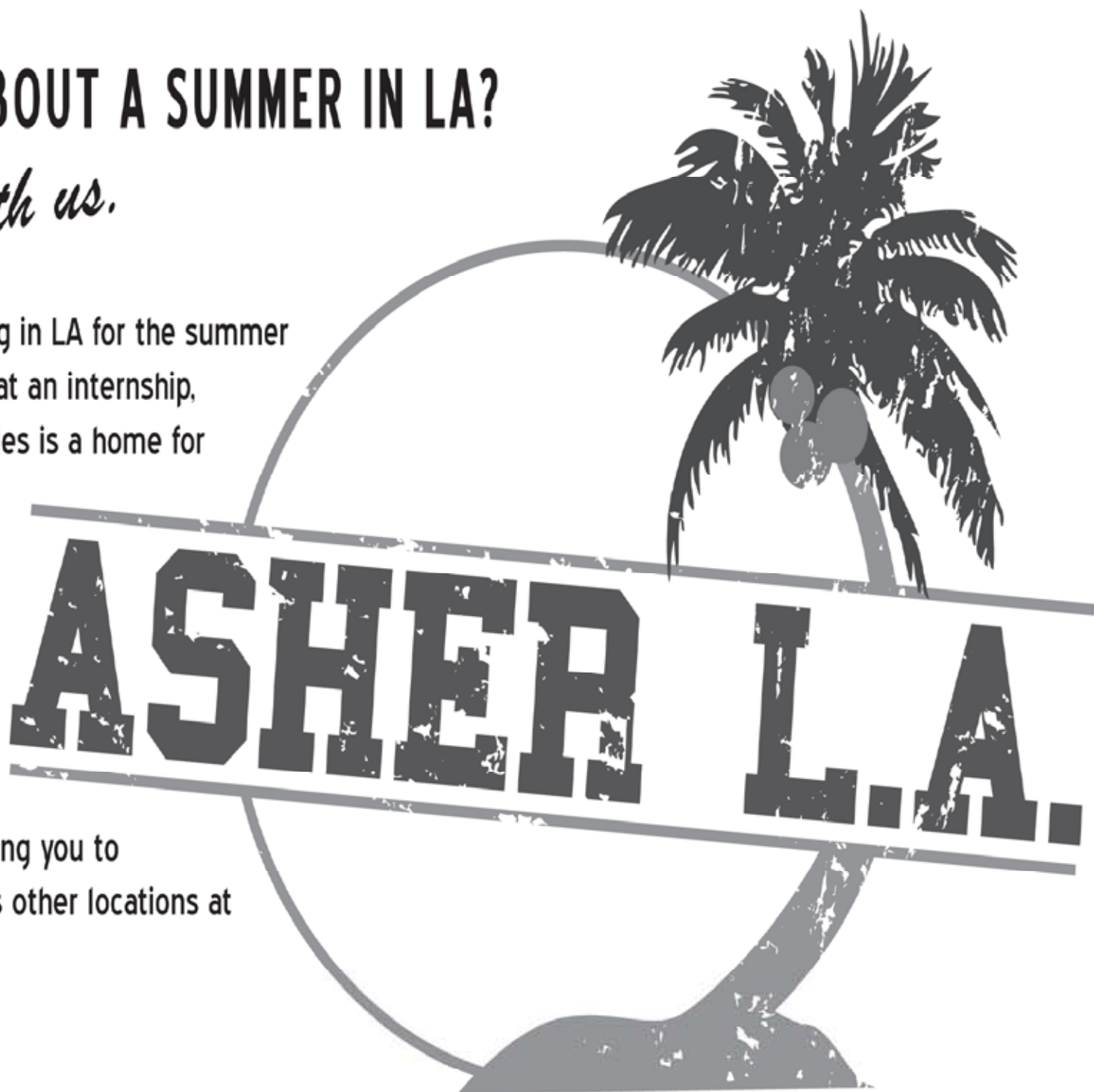
## DREAMING ABOUT A SUMMER IN LA?

*Spend it with us.*

Whether you're working in LA for the summer or spending a quarter at an internship, Asher House Los Angeles is a home for Christian Scientists enrolled in college - people like you!

For details, check us out on Facebook at Asher House LA.

Summer plans not taking you to LA? Try one of Asher's other locations at [www.asherhouse.org](http://www.asherhouse.org)





# De-traying trend at Principia?



Alice Stanley  
Staff Writer

THE PRINCIPIA PILOT

**D**e-tray: one of the various phrases (among the likes of “eliminator” and “quiet time”) that doesn’t exist in the English language but is well-known to a Principian. To de-tray is to approach a full table at a meal and remove all the items from one’s tray to make more space to join. Trays are like dentures; nobody wants them, but losing them is a hassle.

Recently, colleges across the country have been permanently “de-traying” their campuses. Turns out that eliminating trays in dining facilities significantly decreases waste of almost every kind. First of all, no trays saves water. Trays need to be washed. Frequently they don’t even get that messy. Sure, we all know the occasional person who pumps the ketchup directly onto the tray like some kind of pre-plate Neanderthal, but for the most part every student’s tray runs through gallons of water in a dishwasher for barely any reason.

Furthermore, food waste is cut down just by the nature of picking food traylessly. When we have trays in front of us, it is natural to fill them. Say you get a bowl of soup and a sandwich. That may be a good amount of food, but sitting small in the middle of the large tray it suddenly doesn’t seem so and we are tempted to get more. As a result, we either take too much and throw it away, or we simply overeat. Neither option is good.

Then, of course, cutting down on food and water waste saves money—a third resource we don’t want to waste. So how does this fit at Principia?

Imagine walking into the Scramble Room without the automatic reaction of grabbing one of those big tan rectangles. Well, actually, you don’t



Fred Morrison / photo

have to. Because I have been doing it (or not doing it) for you. First of all, even though I intended to de-tray as much as possible, I have forgotten to do so for about half of my meals because I am just so used to the routine of grabbing a tray. When I did remember not to, I got mixed results.

Pro: I cut down on my water, food, and money waste.

Con: There was an increase of wasted time. The blessing and curse of only being able to hold a little bit of food is that you can only eat a little bit of food. Sometimes it’s like this great surprise. Wow! I could only hold a bagel and my glass of juice. That is all I needed! Other times, it is frustrating to no end to make three or four trips back into the Scramble Room for another drink, salad, or dessert. And, let’s not forget how many conversations would be brutally killed if everyone at the table were hopping up and down like hungry maniacs (read: me).

Additionally, arriving at dinner toward the end of a mealtime means you may not have chances for more food. And the end of mealtime happens to be when athletes always have dinner. Without trays, they would be hit with the unfortunate reality of needing a lot of food and not having the opportunity to get more.

Director of Dining Services Lance Thornton said, “The Dining Service management team has discussed this option in detail.” Dining Services has been studying the issue through the National Association of College and University Food Service. Thornton shared my sentiment in saying that a main concern for Principia specifically is “the practicality of the Scramble Room, drink station, and dining room layout. This will need to be weighed closely with the concerns and costs of spills, breakage, slips, and falls.” Right now, our facility is pretty spread out. Hence, someone decided originally to purchase trays to help out.

Thornton understands that “the re-

sults would most likely be mixed, as it is for many changes and new ideas.” Ultimately, Dining Services and everyone in the community just wants a general sense of happiness and simultaneous progress towards responsibility for our actions. Thornton suggested “a ‘happy medium’ that provides a soft change that encourages tray-less, but does not force it on everyone unless they are ready for that and want it.” I agree completely. So, as a parting note here are some of the tips for removing trays from our lives when we can:

1. Some colleges have implemented “Trayless Tuesdays,” or days of that nature, to remind everyone how eating trayless isn’t the end of the world. Try picking a day that is always trayless.

2. Before a meal, gauge if your stomach is empty enough to fit a plate, a bowl, two plates, or a tray of food. Even before you know what the main course is, you should be able to tell how much you are going to eat. If possible, de-tray immediately. If you need the tray, you will at least know how much to get on that big tray.

3. For me, I found breakfast to be geared toward trayless. It is rare that I need more than a plate and a free hand for a drink. Make conscious decisions to eat with only a plate at certain times of day that work for you.

4. Utilize pockets if you are grabbing future snacks. Just remember to pay for them.

5. Go back for dessert. It’s quick, and hey, you can walk some of it off just by adding the trip.

6. If all else fails, get intimate and share a tray with someone else. That’s what I call romance.

# Student activists speak passionately



Erica Popp  
Columnist

THE PRINCIPIA PILOT

**I**n the run up to and early years of the war in Iraq, I would sometimes hear older peace activists lamenting the lack of youth involved in protesting the conflict. When they were young, they protested the Vietnam War, and now that they were protesting another war, they wondered where all the young voices were. It got me thinking about young people and activism. Are we apathetic? Do we think we can’t make a difference? Are we too busy with school or with our social lives? Are we too distracted by Facebook to take the time to do things that matter?

So where are the student voices? And where are they at Principia? College is a great time to challenge convention and be radical and idealistic. But are we taking advantage of those opportunities? Although many of us are too busy or otherwise preoccupied to take on other pursuits, some Principia College students are too passionate to sit idly by when not all is right with the world. I recently spoke with two students who are actively working for equality in Darfur and right here at Principia.

Freshman Laura Ainsworth is the president of Principia’s Amnesty International chapter. Unabashedly acknowledging the influence of her mother and her sister Rebecca, a recent Principia College graduate, Laura told me about her passion for human rights, women’s rights specifically. Issues of

importance to her include rights for Native American women and the campaign to end the killing in Darfur. Some of the Amnesty members took a trip to Chicago early in the quarter to attend a rally for Darfur. The group hopes to take more trips of that kind in the future.

Ainsworth’s passion came out when I asked her why such issues are im-

portant but often it is hard to know how. Not surprisingly, Laura suggests joining the Amnesty International chapter. She also recommends taking more sociology classes. She speaks highly of the department - noting how the classes its professors offer can really open one’s eyes to important issues and to how individuals can make a big difference.

Another student dedicating a lot of time to the things he believes in is senior Gameli Anumu, who says he wants to challenge people to think more critically and to make Principia a more loving and tolerant community. Some issues that are important to Gameli are gay rights, gender equality, and student independence.

Gameli first became aware of the problematic nature of these issues at Principia when he was working on the 2007 Film Festival. The Peace & Conflict class that spring had submitted a film called “End Homophobia.” He told me that the film was censored from the festival by then-College President George Moffet without any reason given in writing. Since then, Gameli has been actively working with the administration to promote positive changes at Principia. He was a big part of the new free speech policy and often speaks about controversial issues on Paul Ireland’s radio show, *Philosophize This!*

Gameli is especially interested in gay

rights and gender equality. Tuesday of Week 9, at 9:00pm the film club will be showing *Milk* and the Principia chapter of Amnesty International will be sponsoring the film. Gameli says that it is important for the Principia community to know about and think about issues of homosexuality. He said, “I think it’s important for people to wrestle with preconceived notions about sexuality and about other people in order to make sure that they treat each other ethically and fairly.” That doesn’t seem like too much to ask, does it?

These two students, along with others, have a commitment to doing what is right and to doing what they can to influence positive changes in our community and our world. Goals of equality, compassion, and tolerance, should be universal. We need to ask ourselves if we are going to concede and accept that “life isn’t fair” or if we are going to put forth some effort to make it more fair.

Although it can be hard to fit human rights activism into our busy lives, there are some relatively simple things that can help. We can start by treating all people with respect and dignity. Challenge others to do the same. Join a not-for-profit human rights group such as Amnesty International or Oxfam America. Even small donations to these groups can go a long way. When you have the opportunity, read or listen to the news. Learn more about human rights and equality. It’s most important to remember that you don’t have to save the world right away. Do what you can when you can – that’s a good place to start.



Mia Shotwell / photo

Principians in Chicago for a Darfur demonstration

portant for people to take action on. She told me that “everyone deserves a chance at equality. Most people are not asking for much: food, water, safe government. Why not protect these people’s rights?” I would have to agree. Most of us come from relatively privileged backgrounds and have the means to influence change. There are people who need help and, especially in America, there are people who can help, but don’t. According to Laura, “It’s ridiculous.”

We all know it’s good to help others,



# Prin: Intentional, not exclusive



Gameli Anumu

Columist

PRINCIPIAPILOT

Jesus was a pretty tolerant person. The only people Jesus ever seemed to get angry at were people who were harming others. So why then, here at Principia, are we so picky about whom we allow to live in our community?

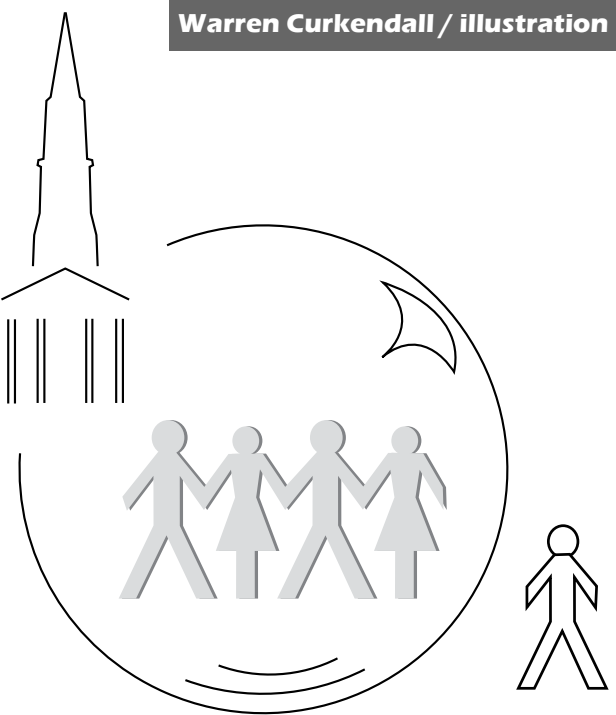
In the Principia Pledge there are a few things that are mixed up together, offenses that people commit against others (and are illegal), like stealing, and things that people do that can hinder spiritual growth, like using drugs or engaging in sexual misconduct.

Principia needs to treat these groups of things differently. When people harm others, there should be punishment because these things harm members of the community. When people do things that might harm themselves but not others, there should be support and tolerance.

When I say “those who harm others,” I do not mean those who might damage the mental atmosphere of the institution. If we are going to remove people for damaging the mental atmosphere, we might as well remove everyone who has a word of dissent, myself included. Damaging the mental atmosphere is too vague a concept to justify the suspension or expulsion of individuals.

Christian Science is not a religion of rules. It makes statements about what is or is not conducive to spiritual growth. It provides suggestions and warnings. Apart from stating how the religious body of Christian Science ought to be maintained, as in the *Church Manual*, Christian Science does not have a rule book.

The Mother Church, or First Church of Christ, Scientist, does not say that in order to become a member one must be free of alcohol, drugs, or sexual miscon-



duct as the *Principia Pledge* does. It leaves any exclusion of peoples by these or similar criteria up to branch churches.

Principia College is *not*, however, a branch church, and the institution’s social conservatism does little to “serve the cause of Christian Science.” Instead, we should embrace the encompassing attitude of the Mother Church.

For example, Christian Scientists who do not wish to get married but do wish to live with partners are not welcome at Principia, nor are homosexual couples, whether they live together or not. Should we really be marginalizing these Christian Scientists on the basis of sexual misconduct, even if they may not be sexually active at all?

Sexual harassment, DUIs, stealing, vandalism, assault, etc: these are the things that people should be suspended or expelled for, because these are things that hurt people in the community.

When Principia suspends or expels unmarried couples for living together or gay couples for being gay, it is essentially saying that such people are not good enough Christian Scientists to be at Principia, even though the Mother Church does not take such a position.

People should not be removed from Principia on spiritual grounds, because Principia is not properly equipped to decide who is or isn’t a good enough Christian Scientist.

I think that having high standards in our community is important, and like many, I agree with most of Principia’s standards, if not their mode of implementation. Principia should remain a dry campus,

as many colleges are; sex should be taken seriously; and people should be encouraged to rise above material sense to the best of their abilities. However, I also think we should spend more time advocating our standards and less time enforcing them if we really want to serve the cause of Christian Science.

It is not rules and enforcement that makes people develop a stronger sense of moral courage, it is the spreading of ideals. This has been shown very clearly through social research and is explained in this lecture: [http://www.ted.com/index.php/talks/barry\\_schwartz\\_on\\_our\\_loss\\_of\\_wisdom.html](http://www.ted.com/index.php/talks/barry_schwartz_on_our_loss_of_wisdom.html).

I think there is one idea from *Science and Health* that is also particularly relevant here: 327:22

“Fear of punishment never made man truly honest. Moral courage is requisite to meet the wrong and to proclaim the right. But how shall we re-form the man who has more animal than moral courage, and who has not the true idea of good? Through human consciousness, convince the mortal of his mistake in seeking material means for gaining happiness. Reason is the most active human faculty.”

If we really want to foster ethical behavior, we have to encourage people to think for themselves and come to the obvious conclusion that Principia’s high standards are rational. Suspension and expulsion should be reserved for when individuals harm other people, not for when they harm themselves spiritually. Things like living together, being a gay couple, using drugs or alcohol off campus, and sexual misconduct are not things that harm other people.

Since “[f]ear of punishment never made man truly honest,” we should encourage moral courage through reason rather than suspicion, suspension, or expulsion. Principia should be a loving community, not a judgmental one. It simply cannot be both.

Principia is a representative of the Christian Science movement in its entirety. Its level of tolerance should reflect that cosmopolitan aim.

In fact, if Principia really wishes to serve the cause of Christian Science, it should lift the ban on non-Christian Science students’ attendance. If we are afraid to interact with others openly, how are we supposed to go out into the world as effective Christian Scientists?

Principia’s standards, being founded in something substantial, should not be threatened by lack of enforcement. They should not be threatened by interaction with non-Christian Scientists.

If non-Christian Scientists dare to attend a school filled with Christian Scientists, I say let them. Let them see what we are and what values we hold. Let them see that we are not scary and that we think critically in order to make ethical decisions rather than simply holding the fear of punishment overhead.

We can be an intentional community without being an exclusive one.

## SLIDESHOWS

Australia Abroad

Tuesday, Week 8

8:00 p.m.

Wanamaker

New Zealand Abroad

Tuesday, Week 9

8:00 p.m.

Wanamaker





# NUTS & BOLTS with Sam La Piana

**F**orce or Finesse? Once again the comparison is between two titans of German Engineering: BMW and Audi. Both car makers have very good technology when it comes to traction control, pressure gauges, engine protection, etc. However, when you get down to it, you want to know about a car's heart and soul—otherwise they aren't much different and it's just about the looks. So I went to Bommarito Automotive Group and Suntrup West County BMW to find out just what these cars are about. We will start with a BMW great, the M3 Coupe.

First we have the overall appearance of the vehicle: that classic BMW mug with the split grill; the mean stance that seems to say, "You have till the count of 3 to run;" and the significant bulge in the hood, necessary because the gigantic V8 engine can't quite fit. It looks like there's some kind of caged hamster on steroids trying to break out of the engine compartment.

Once on the road, I soon learned that the engine wasn't powered by a hamster on steroids, but by a herd of 420 horses. This governor-limited 155 mph monster can go from 0 to 60 mph in about five seconds. If you get the convertible version as I got to test, you get a hard top convertible. This is especially nice because you get either a 360 degree view or a roof over your head and minimal blind spots. A problem I've often noticed in soft top convertibles is the sudden appearance

of blind spots when you put the top up. The M3 does not have this problem.

On the road it was great. It reminded me of my uncle's BMW Z8 with the feel of a muscle car that has more power and can actually steer. Having the top up was great fun, but just when I thought that was it, I put the top down and got a whole new perspective. One difference I noticed with the hard top down was a slight whining noise that made me want to shift up even though I was at the bottom of the gear. I could have made a big deal about it. Instead I dismissed it as one of those "BMW things" such as the occasional "rotten-egg" smell that

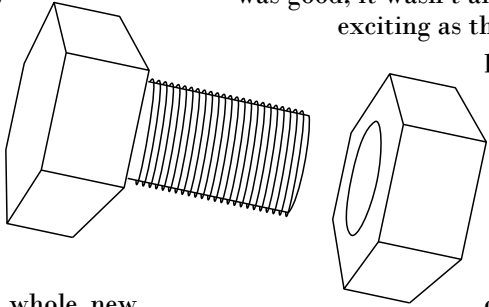
wheel, which fit my hand better than anything it has held before, including certain firearms. Although the interior was good, it wasn't anything as new or exciting as the car I was to experience next.

The other car I drove that fine morning was an Audi S5. It's the same as an A5 only with a different engine. The vehicle that I drove, like the M3, had a manual transmission.

Right away, that car had a different kind of aura than I experienced with the M3. It was Audi's interior but it was a little different. After being in it a bit I began to realize that it was

as if the designers at Audi had designed the entire car around a chair. To hit almost any button all I had to do was move my hands sideways. Everything was in immediate reach. The buttons on the doors were pulled toward me and tilted to fit my hand when I reached for it.

The outside was sleeker than the M3 but not as aggressive. The statement the S5 made was, "Bond, James Bond." The rear end reminded me of an Aston Martin and the front looked so cool with the LED lights around the headlights (these seem to have been added to many of Audi's models since made popular by the R8).



BMW.com / photo

comes from the engine after you've been driving it really hard.

The interior wasn't too much different from what you would expect from BMW aside from the steering



## Don't forget your trucker's hat

Picture yourself in a boat on a river on the shore where there are neither tangerine trees nor marmalade skies. Instead, think more of pulled pork trees and barbeque sauce skies. The scene I'm describing is pretty similar to Grafton, Illinois' new Hawg Pit BBQ Barn. No, that spelling is not a typo.

Hawg Pit is situated on the northern side of Grafton, and it stands alone at the edge of the Mississippi. It is a simple blockhouse style restaurant with a spacious indoor dining area and a beautiful outdoor porch with additional seating. The building is surrounded by motorcycles and even an old hot rod just for show. It has the feel of something out of a *Dukes of Hazzard* episode, but Boss Hogg is nowhere in sight.

The restaurant just opened this April, so it is still working out the kinks in its menu. For now, the food is simple and tasty. The basics of barbeque are served: pulled pork, ribs, chicken wings, and pork steak. For the courageous there is also a hot dog with pulled pork and slaw piled on top of it. As for sides, there are beans and coleslaw. The entire menu is a-la-carte so you choose what combination you want, though the main dishes do all come with chips and a dill spear. Vegetarians will have better luck in the scramble room than

here; the beans and slaw are about the only thing they will be able to eat.

As for the quality of the food, I will say that it is not the best barbeque that I have sampled here in St. Louis, but it is some of the best that I have eaten at a restaurant. The Hawg Pit brand of sauce has a good flavor to it. It is a sweet and savory blend not unlike Sweet Baby Ray's. Each table also has a bottle of Frank's Red Hot to satiate those who appreciate an extra kick to their food.

The menu remains pretty sparse at this point but the restaurant is advertising that more food options will be added soon. Not bad for a place that has only been open for a little over a month.

When my party arrived we were a bit confused about whether to wait to be seated or not. But Hawg Pit is truly a place for locals; if you just grab a seat, someone will be with you soon. Our waitress was great. She was happy to serve us and referred to us by monikers like "sweetie," "honey," and "sugar."

I feel that the true reason to visit Hawg Pit is the ambiance of it. Maybe you miss the down-home feeling of a

local restaurant where you live or, like me, you come from the northeast where barbeque is less frequently offered. The place is filled on the weekend by men with leather-clad libidos dressed in mossy oak type garb. So what if the average Prin student stands out? It's not like the movies where the out-of-

diners by playing covers of classic rock hits. This Sunday, Principia's own Briars Road will be playing an afternoon set.

Hawg Pit is really about the community. The building itself—an old bait shop—acknowledges the history of the Grafton area. The building is made of floorboards from the old elementary school. An old scoreboard from the school adds to the ambiance inside.

If Grafton is not really your scene, Hawg Pit is also available for catering orders. You can order pulled pork by the pound and ribs by the rack for your next backyard get-together. Remember to bring some cash because it is a cash only eatery. Luckily, there is an ATM inside for those who forget. The other nice thing is that tax is included in all the listed prices, thus eliminating awkward change.

If you are a real barbeque connoisseur, then maybe this place is not the spot for you to spend your weekend. However, if you want to venture to somewhere a bit different than Principia, this is the place.



Fred Morrison / photo

towners is accosted for being different. The Hawg Pit has a very friendly feel.

Out back there is a fire pit with logs so you can sit and watch the river while you wait for your food. You can also head around front where there is a stage for live performances. This past weekend, some locals entertained the



# Well worth the Trek to the cinema



Brian Swanson  
Columnist

PRINCIPIALPILOT

Yes, another *Star Trek* movie has come out, and yes, this is an attempt both to make it sexy again and to set up the plot to make more movies and more money. As someone who is somewhere in between “enemy of all things sci-fi” and “diehard *Star Trek* fan,” choosing a movie to review was not difficult this time around.

The new *Star Trek* flick is quite entertaining. It’s visually interesting and audibly impressive. It also aims to please non-*Star Trek* fans as well as “Trekies”—an ambitious goal for a *Star Trek* movie—and it succeeds admirably.

The movie starts out around the time when Kirk from the first *Star Trek* series is born. We see his climactic birth, experience his upbringing briefly, and then see him join Starfleet (the sort of

space forces that Earth contributes to). Everyone from the original *Star Trek* series is here, although considerably younger. They all get a little face time, but I should hint that the audience gets a bit more in-depth coverage of Spock and Kirk than the other characters. Needless to say, a threat poses itself, in the form of Nero, a vengeful alien with an advanced space ship. Kirk and the crew have to deal with their own internal tensions in addition to this strange alien threat. People like Spock and Kirk have only just met each other in this movie and not all their encounters are friendly.

This incarnation of *Star Trek* is pleasing on a lot of levels. For one thing, the effects and visuals are quite stunning. The plot is pretty good, especially for one in which time travel plays an important role. There aren’t annoying characters on screen; instead, the

acting is generally well done and the characters are all interesting to watch. The sound track is quite dramatic, in a good way.

Another thing I really appreciated was the fact that technobabble was kept to a minimum. There’s a little bit in there but not much. It’s clear that J.J. Abrams did a good job of making this movie accessible to the general public. In other words, you don’t have to know THAT much about *Star Trek* to comprehend everything that’s going on and enjoy yourself. On the other end of the spectrum, fans who have been watching *Star Trek* for decades ought to be pleased with the reprisals of the characters from the original series.

There isn’t much to dislike about this movie. A few of the aliens featured in this film look pretty fake, and I thought they were ripped off from *Star*

*Wars*. But these instances were fairly rare. People who really don’t like *Star Trek*, look down on it, or have a beef with the sci-fi genre, are probably going to find more to hate in this movie than I did. But this movie definitely does a better job at trying to draw those people in than previous *Star Trek* films, even if many of said people will never go see it. Some fundamentalist fans may also have more to quibble with here than I did, as some of the monsters and action sequences seem more distinctly J.J. Abrams than distinctly *Star Trek*.

Regardless, as a movie *Star Trek* is a very enjoyable experience, no matter how you feel about the franchise. You don’t have a lot to lose by seeing this movie—which is more than I can say for *X-Men Origins: Wolverine*.

startrek.com / photo



Grant Grieshaber  
Columnist

PRINCIPIALPILOT

## The most prestigious film festival

Every year in mid May, a spectacular event occurs on the Côte d’Azur (French Riviera) in the south of France. The small sea-side region of Cannes, known for its picturesque beaches and quaint cafes, experiences a wave of unparalleled media exposure upon hosting the Cannes Film Festival, an event that literally transforms the resort community into a war zone of star power and flash photography. This year, the festival runs from May 13-24.

By far the grandest of any international film festival, Cannes is the first major festival of the year and therefore sets the standard for the year’s most innovative cinematic works. The festival is organized into four categories into which films are entered. Competition films are the most prestigious in all the festival, in which a panel of yearly jury members present various awards such as the Palme d’Or, Grand Prix and the Prix du Jury. Director’s Fortnight and Un Certain Regard constitute two sidebar categories whereby films appear out of competition, but allow paying members of the public to enter these special screenings nonetheless. Subsequently, the Cinéfondation promotes the next generation of international filmmakers through L’Atelier, a program that exhibits the innovative works of young, up-and-coming filmmakers. Lastly, the final screening category is short films.

Although nine long months separate the Cannes Film Festival from the Academy Awards, many critics consider the Cannes film lineup to indicate likely Oscar nominations for the following February. Take, for instance, *No Country for Old Men*, whose 2007 appearance at the festival eventually

led to four Academy Awards and international box-office acclaim. However, while many prestigious comparisons can be made between Cannes and the Oscars, including emotional acceptance speeches and red-carpet hysteria, both are vastly different in their approach to celebrating film.

Rather than primarily honoring mainstream commercial film achievements, Cannes caters to a more progressive audience by paying tribute to noncommercial, independent art

celebration of the actor.”

Directors would give an arm and a leg to get their work shown at Cannes. According to film reviewer Kevin Maher, “the sheer intensity of press and industry representatives makes [Cannes] the ultimate career showcase.” A win at Cannes, let alone a nomination or even a screening, maximizes credibility and distinguishes professional reputation. Up-and-coming filmmakers will do just about anything (i.e. begging and groveling) to convince jury mem-

Cannes.com / illustration

## 62<sup>e</sup> FESTIVAL DE CANNES

films. Once in a while mainstreamers like *No Country for Old Men* and 2008’s *Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull* slip through the cracks and appear in Cannes thanks to influential directors, but this isn’t customary. Furthermore, the greatest celebrities appearing at Cannes are the filmmakers themselves, unlike at the Oscars, which prescribe to the Hollywood system of honoring actors above all else. As stated by leading UK film publicist Jonathan Rutter, “it’s great that you can still have a celebration of the director, and not, which is usual, a

bers to sympathize with their work.

According to British film critic David Gritten, Cannes is “where world-class filmmakers like their films to be premiered” and this year is no exception to the trend. In what *The Hollywood Reporter* has dubbed “an auteur dream team,” Cannes will host an exciting blend of rookie new-comers and veteran favorites all craving the prestigious Palme d’Or – the highest prize awarded at the festival. Not surprisingly, many seasoned festival attendees are previous recipients hoping to double their winnings in 2009.

Filmmakers Quentin Tarantino (United States), Jane Campion (New Zealand), Lars von Trier (Denmark) and Ken Loach (UK) are all attempting to take the Palme d’Or a second time around. Tarantino’s latest work, *Inglourious Basterds*, stars Brad Pitt and is a WWII “spaghetti western” about Jewish soldiers who seek retribution against Nazi enemies. Jane Campion returns to Cannes with *Bright Star*, a film about 19th century poet John Keats and his love affair with a London neighbor. Controversial filmmaker Lars von Trier has high hopes for *Antichrist*, his latest horror film about a couple who retreat to a secluded cabin after the death of their son. Socialist director Ken Loach explores troubled youth in *Looking for Eric* about a distressed soccer fan obsessed with French “footballer” Eric Cantona.

Additional well-known directors hoping for their first Palme d’Or include Ang Lee (Taiwan) and Pedro Almodóvar (Spain). Lee’s film *Taking Woodstock* revolves around the iconic 60’s music festival as seen through the eyes of a down-on-his luck interior designer played by Emile Hirsch. Almodóvar’s *Los Abrazos Rotos* (Broken Embraces) stars Penélope Cruz and depicts the life of a man who loses his sight and his love in a car accident. British director Terry Gilliam’s new film *The Imaginarium of Dr. Parnassus*, which stars Heath Ledger in his final role, will also screen at the festival, but out of competition.

Although many of these films are not likely to appear in wide release at major movie theatres in the United States, I wouldn’t be surprised to see a few visit the Tivoli and Plaza Frontenac cinemas in St. Louis in the coming months.



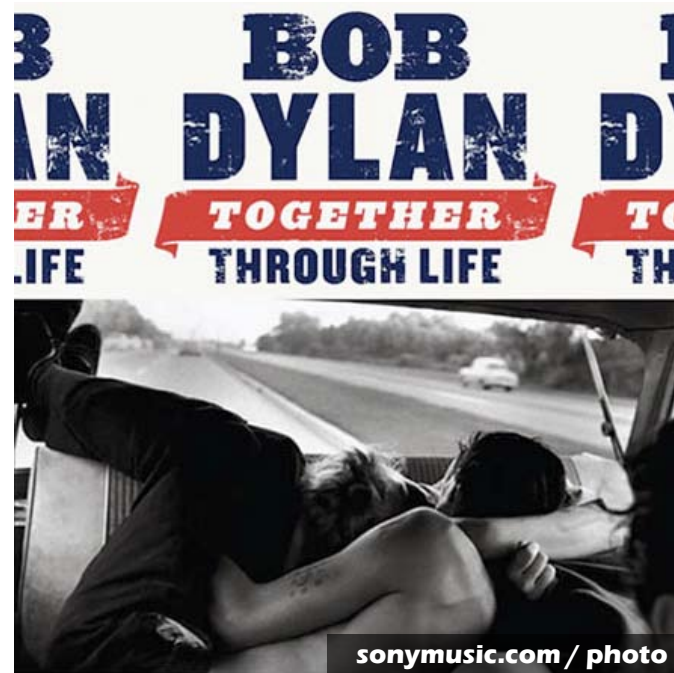
# Yoshinobu tunes report



## Bob Dylan *Together Through Life*



The relentless drive behind the sound of Bob Dylan's last twelve years is arguably as passionate as his most definitive work from the 1960s. In this, the fifth decade of his career, Dylan gravitates towards ideas more



grim than optimistic. On *Together Through Life*, Dylan sounds like the ghost of his own legacy, uncharacteristically looking back and coming to terms with his mortality. The album was inspired after he wrote the song "Life Is Hard," a mandolin driven, midnight

sulk for the new movie *My Own Love Song* by Olivier Dahan. The track, which finds Dylan describing his own difficulties with the past

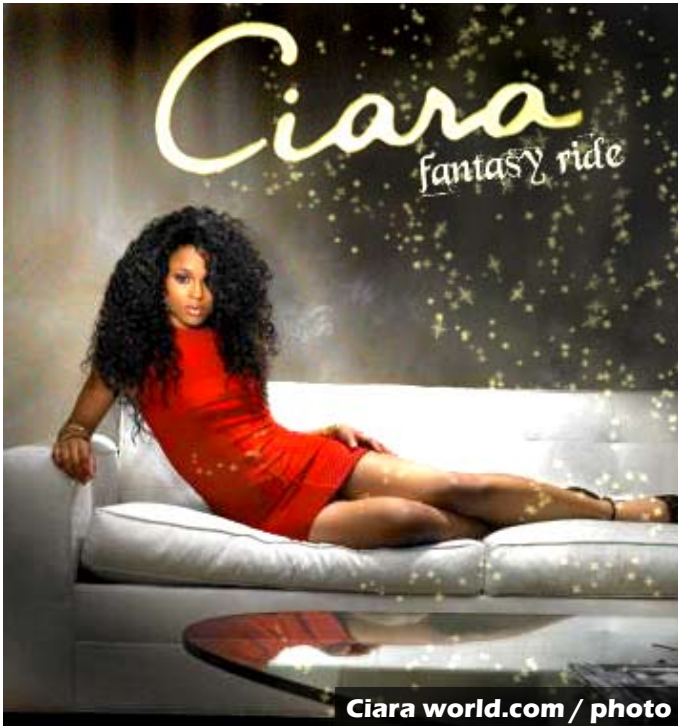
**"Dylan sounds like the ghost of his own legacy"**

("I feel a chilly breeze / in place of memories" and "I passed the old school yard / admitting life is hard"), sparked the rest of the material on *Together Through Life*. The songs are threaded together with the idea that love is all we have left after so many letdowns - a subject which Dylan would know best at this age. "Beyond Here Lies Nothing," the album's raggedy opener, features Los Lobos' David Hidalgo on accordion and a creaking Dylan proclaiming that there is nothing else but "mountains of the past." "My Wife's Home Town" gloomily examines the economic crisis from the vantage point of a car cruising past the turmoil. The album strongly stands by its title, reminding us that the absence of caring and meaningful relationships can make life unlivable. The collection does reinforce the mysterious cloud that has hung over Dylan's latest work; however, it also shows that Dylan has not finished his dialogue with our society. There's something to be said for a songwriter remaining at the forefront of popular music 33 studio albums into his career - and most likely beyond.

## Ciara *Fantasy Ride*



Atlanta-born R&B singer Ciara delivers her third radio-friendly album with obvious detachment. Originally intended to be a three-part album and serve as a "fantasy" platform for her super heroine alter ego, Super-C, the idea was scrapped by her label La Face and the final product became *Fantasy Ride*. However, it is difficult to decipher how a concept album would've emerged from the tracks presented - a lack of direction which is ultimately the album's greatest flaw. Despite these incoherencies, mega-hit makers and former collaborators The-Dream and Christopher "Tricky" Stewart (Rihanna's "Umbrella" and Beyonce's "Single Ladies") anchor the work with the futuristic serpentine-like "Lover's Thing" and the robotic "Like A Surgeon." The songs doubly display the songwriting



**"She'll have to do better than rely on notable guest appearances to gain the masses' attention"**

duo's affinity for creating ultra catchy hooks and catering to the artist they are working with; in this case, Ciara, who swoons like the R&B princess she is. The album also includes appearances by Justin Timberlake on the disco tilt-a-whirl "Love Sex Magic," domestic abuse troubadour Chris Brown on the high-energy duet "Turntables," a slick Missy Elliott on the begging-to-be-choreographed "Work," and fellow ATL native Young Jeezy on the heart-felt "Never Ever." Although Ciara exudes life and glamour with her fierce, sassy vocal delivery, these songs are largely forgettable when placed against the ever-shifting backdrop of contemporary R&B. For Ciara to become the pop super heroine she'd like to be, she'll have to do better than rely on notable guest appearances to get the masses' attention.

## Download These Songs

Conor Oberst & the Mystic Valley Band – "Slowly (Oh So Slowly)," on iTunes



The sheepish Bright Eyes front man gets his Springsteen on with this alt-country jingle, which packs enough euphoric organ to "take you

out to the ball game." Very different from his more emotionally driven work; this time Oberst has got rural America in his rearview mirror.

The Cool Kids – "Gone Fishing Mixtape," on Coolkids.com



The Chicago hip-hop throw-back duo gives away some of their latest work for free. Produced by Don Cannon, the mix is caked with 80s drum machine sounds and references to 90s Nike boots. Check out "Hammer Bros," "Cinnamon," and the "Pennies" remix, with Ludacris and Bun B.

St. Vincent – "The Strangers," on iTunes



The Dallas/Brooklyn multi-instrumentalist charms and scares with her pristine voice, eerily singing "paint the black hole blacker" while a psych ward of an orchestra spirals into oblivion. Take a listen if you enjoy Feist and PJ Harvey.





1 Blossoms grow on the eaves of Rackham Court, heralding the spring weather **Amber Dahlin** 2 The modern dance class warms up in the Morey Field House studio **Barbara Palmer** 3 Swollen with spring rains, the Mississippi River encroaches on Elsah's northern neighbor, the small town of Grafton **Fred Morrison** 4 Senior Paul Ireland and junior Courtney McCall follow along as Dinah Ryan teaches English class **Benjamin Chernivsky** 5 The orchestra tunes up before rehearsal for the upcoming musical *Wonderful Town* **Barbara Palmer** 6 Morning fog descends upon the college campus, giving our little world an eerie feel **Barbara Palmer**

## CAMPUSSNAPSHOTS

