The Saturday of Culture Shock was supposed to be a weekend filled with music, rides, and zeppoles. Instead the Purchase community was shocked when the Media Board office, connected to The Media Board room, was broken into with a crowbar.

According to Assistant University Police Chief Peter J. Macaluso, sometime between the hours of 1 and 4 a.m. Saturday, Alumni Lounge in Campus Center North, which is connected to The Media Board room, was broken into with a crowbar.

Independent co-editor Steven Tartick along with many others was devastated when he saw the Media Board crime scene.

“There was paper everywhere. The tapestry that hung on the wall was pulled off to cover the windows,” said Tartick. “It looked like a murder scene.”

In addition to the two brand new iMac G5s, Tartick’s digital video camera was stolen as well as a digital camera and PSP owed by Evan Sargent, editor of Free Words.

“I try not to be too attached to things, the main thing I was worried about was the computer being gone,” said Sargent. “I just really felt bad for the Indy guys.”

The two thieves didn’t stop there. After robbing the Media Board office, they went to Alumni Village to continue their stealing spree.

According to University Police, one of the thieves entered an unlocked apartment in Alumni Village looking for valuables as the other stood guard outside the door. It was there in Alumni where the two were spotted in the act by Rose Goldstein-Bookbinder as she was coming home from Culture Shock.

“As I walked in, he started walking out with my roommate’s computer,” said Goldstein-Bookbinder. “We immediately called the police and gave them a description.”

After the police received the call about the robbery, a bulletin went out to all Purchase University police, parking and security officers.

It was Parking and Security Officer Brian Artis who spotted the culprits walking across campus. He immediately alerted police, and moments later the two thieves were run down in a foot chase by UPD Officer Lou Piriz.

The suspects were detained, brought into the police station, and put one of Jones’ arms behind his back. At this point, Jones became belligerent and began hitting the officers. Three more officers arrived on the scene at this point in time to assist.

He was taken to the station and had to stay there for an extended period, his friends having to come and bail him out because he acted so uncooperative to the officers that had come to speak with him.

A friend of Jones’, Christian Capello-Colon, freshman undeclared, was seen swinging his foam nunchucks around his knees in the Hub as he was practicing for a performance in a friend’s movie. As he was in line at the register, six police officers were yelling for him to “Drop it!” The police tried to cuff him twisting his arm and hitting his head on the register. Jones was confused as to why the police were there, as he did not even consider his nunchucks to be a weapon.

The source that contacted The Independent felt that the Dispatch article was heavily biased towards the arrested student, and exaggerated the actions of the responding officers and downplayed his involvement in the incident. “Another staff member had noticed the nunchucks, as Jones was swinging them and hitting people,” said the source. “They were concerned for the safety of those in the Hub.” Minutes later, University Police were notified.

One police officer arrived on the scene and walked over to Jones, pulling him aside at the register to speak with him. The officer saw Jones reaching behind himself, presumably for the nunchucks, as Jones was swinging them and hitting people,” said the source, “They were concerned for the safety of those in the Hub.” Minutes later, University Police were notified.

As the old saying goes, there are two sides to every story. After the most recent Dispatch was released on April 11, a high-ranking college official came to speak with the Independent, taking issue with the way the article “Freshman Actor’s Faux Nunchucks Spur Arrest” did not present any side but that of the accused.

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Letter from the Editor

Friday night, thieves broke into the Media Board office and robbed us of our vital equipment. However they did not rob us of our spirit. They did not rob us of our dedication and our drive. They can never rob us of the love that we have for this campus and of our obligation to the students who make us possible.

Saturday morning was absolutely shitty. We got the news about the robbery as a dark, cold rain fell across campus. Culture Shock, the weekend of fun, excitement, exuberance and campus pride, had been sullied by a series of thefts and vandalism, including the daring and calculated heist of our machines.

The rain had forced the festivities inside the student center for the evening, and I started feeling sorry for myself. I was pissed off because some assholes had stolen our gear. I was pissed off because the rain had “ruined” Culture Shock. I was pissed off because this place that I love had fallen yet again into a state of helplessness and careless apathy.

I have been here for four years, and I have seen this campus rise and fall. I have seen this place live through raging dormitory fires, ludicrous racist plays, the “theft” of our beloved Henry Moore Sculpture; and in every single campus found a way to pull itself together— to pick up the pieces and move on.

As Saturday wound down I started feeling as if maybe this time, we couldn’t. Maybe this time they would get the best of us. Maybe this time we would give up because we can’t change anything, because everything is set in stone and we just have to deal with it. Never once thinking that it was in our power to change our community, to fight back, to sound the rally call and say that WE LIVE IN A BEAUTIFUL PLACE, AND WE'RE NOT GOING TO TAKE THIS ANYMORE!

Then I went out into the rain and I said “Fuck it!” It’s raining but I’ll dry off. Thieves may have stolen my computers but FUCK IT, my staff is still healthy and safe. We can buy new computers, but I could never get another Steven Tartick or Emily Farrell at apple.com, I could never get another Kait Sudol or Pat Cassels or anyone else on my staff at The Apple Store.

They can steal our machines, but they will not steal our drive. We are still here. And because we’re still here, we will not let these forces of negativity throw wrenches into the unstoppable creative gears of this campus. We will use our voice to say loud and clear, from Alumni Village to Fort Awesome: ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!

Purchase, it is TIME FOR A CHANGE! It has gone on too long that we have allowed ourselves to let this kind of apathy, this kind of careless indifference impede the forces of creation on this campus. The people here are the most original, the most imaginative human beings I have ever had the privilege of knowing, and we are all DROWNING in a sea of our apathy. We are SUFFOCATING on our egos, on the feeling that it’s not happening because it’s not happening to US.

But this is happening to all of us, and we continue to let it happen.

Saturday night, I still felt as though I didn’t believe in this place anymore. And then I went to Culture Shock in the Student Center, and I saw our own Fire Flies play one of the most inspired sets that they have played in the five plus years they’ve played Purchase’s stages. At the end, students got up and stage dived into the audience, and I suddenly realized that our spirit was not dead; it was as alive as ever.

As the audience caught these stage divers and carried them though the audience, I realized that we are all standing on the edge of a tall cliff here, and none of us are taking the time to stand down there and catch us when we fall. But that audience proved to me that we are up to the task. We must catch Purchase when she falls, and we must carry her back to the place where she belongs.

I have written articles like this before, and I have stated time and time again that WHAT GOES DOWN MUST COME UP. We have come back to you this week in spite of monumental adversity, and you must do the same for your college. Fight back against these forces of negativity. Be vigilant, be responsible, be involved and most importantly, be positive.

That’s what led to the police recovering the property that was stolen by these thugs on Friday night. It only took one student to speak up when they saw something suspicious. In spite of a sometimes shaky relationship between the students and the police, they are here to help us but only if we are willing to help ourselves.

Everyone here at The Independent loves this place, in spite of all of the bullshit that comes along with it. We love you, the readers, for standing by us, and we all believe that this is not the end of the Purchase College; this is the end of a bleak era where we allowed ourselves to be raped and pillaged by those who do not love this place. This is the beginning of a new bright era, and it starts with you.

“Be the change that you want to see in the world.”

-Gandhi

With Love

Bill Reese

Chief Editor, The Purchase Independent.
FESTIVAL REVIEW:
Culture Shock '06
By Kristin Whitcomb

What do you get when you combine fake blood, alcohol/other intoxicants, carnival rides, rain, and general all around chaos? That would be Culture Shock 2006 – and what a Culture Shock it was!

I first heard whispers of Culture Shock back in the fall, but I could never exactly figure out what “Vulture Cock” really was. When spring semester rolled around, I started getting more concrete answers when countless posts about the lineup were on Livejournal and rave reviews about last year combined with speculation about this year were on the lips of every student.

Amongst all the gossip and grumbles about this year, I found my excitement mounted with each passing day. Live music + the outdoors + non-sobriety + carnival rides and games? How the hell could that not be awesome? So I tried to ignore the negativity, but I have to admit I was besieged by worries as well.

When the lineup was officially announced I have to say I wasn’t too thrilled – it sounded very hardcore and rap, neither of which I particularly enjoy. And what was up with all the Purchase bands? Couldn’t we see them on a regular basis anyway? Would it rain? Would things be broken and/or stolen? The negativity seemed to outweigh my previous joy and my friends seemed to feel the same. When asked how they felt about the upcoming Shock, they would shrug or whine about the lineup. I started to think this would be another Purchase disappointment where the hype outweighed the actual event.

But finally, Pre Shock rolled around. With the sun shining and the rides being set up literally right outside my window, I sauntered over to my darling Student Center to check out the bands. And if Culture Shock had ended there I could have gone away a happy soul. How can you not love seeing half of Purchase strip down to their underwear tuning their guitars and being rained out Saturday – but even all the negative public comments were calling my name. Deciding to risk it, my friend and I went on the Scrambler (which I referred to as the “sideways spinach thing”), which scared me off the rides for that night.

The larger part of Saturday was spent in bed recuperating, but 5 o’clock rolled around and I was ready to put my game face on. I braved the rain to head over to the Stood and caught the end of Bit Shifter, who was incredible and brilliant. How do you make music out of Game boys? I don’t know, but it was freaking cool. Eagle Ager and the people dancing in crazy fluorescent costumes messed with my mind in a good way. I couldn’t tell what the show was and what the audience was – I suppose it’s the whole “breaking down the fourth wall” thing, and that was really intense. Jenny Owen Youngs I was really looking forward to because I had checked out some of her stuff and was impressed and she definitely lived up to my expectations and I developed a bit of a crush. I’m not going to lie. Matt & Kim were possibly the cutest couple I’ve ever seen – and I’m a cynic, so that’s saying quite a bit. Their music was amazing and fun. I have to say, Purchase’s own Fireflies was the highlight of the evening – the energy of the crowd, the music, the crowd surfing, the PTV “water” bottles all added up to one of the greatest performances I’ve seen at Purchase. The Co-Op kept me refreshed with water and general Merriment abounded.

Of course, there was the dark side of the Shock – the medical mishaps, the Indy office referred to as the “sideways spinny thing”), which scared me off the rides for that night.

One hundred years from now (if the planet is survives the Great Mouse War of 2025) nostalgic alumni, with young bodies newly purchased on eBay, will strap on their jet packs, fly over to Lincoln Avenue at Purchase College, and celebrate the centennial of Fort Awesome, which earlier this month was announced as the name of the university’s newest residence hall.

The name was submitted by Jesse Heffler to The Independent as part of a campus-wide competition and selected by the Purchase Student Government Association from dozens of finalists.

Fort Awesome, which was originally rejected by the college administration as “too militaristic,” is sure to draw polarizing views: Is it an expression of the originality at the heart of Purchase College, or a grim sign that this campus is losing any dignity it had left.

Those who find themselves thoroughly disgusted with the idea of living in a building named after a supertaut made popular by the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles can take comfort in knowing Heffler’s was tame relative to other, 100 percent authentic submissions received by The Independent, many of which make “Fort Awesome” sound like The Waldorf-Astoria:

- Cash Cow
- Pitfall
- Pacman’s Utmost Awesome Sphere of Doom
- Ridden Coke Shots Off Jeff Stein’s Penis
- White Piece of Shit
- Icephantom
- Bill Reese’s New Stash
- The Newer
- Tears For Fears Memorial Dormitory
- Mystery Mansion
- The Swamp (in drippy writing)
- The Second Coming of Wham City Part Deux
- Wham City Suburbs
- The Grizzlyman Memorial Dormitory
- The Boonies
- Oz
- Purch-House
- Sacco-Vanzetti House
- The New New
- Uncle Sticky’s House of Chicken and Ribs
- Vulture Cock Memorial Bldg., The L’hotel D’ha-Penis
- Phallus-Hall/The Hall of Phallus
- Wolf-Dork
- The Erection
- Discovery Zone
- Castle Grey skull
MUSIC REVIEW
Chantilly Warwyck
Studio Comp Hero’s Senior Recital
By Kevin Rankin

Chantilly Warwyck didn’t have much of a musical background when she started studying in the Studio Composition program at Purchase four years ago. Tonight however, she will present her musical style that has blossomed since then. Before then, she was a voice and a melody without the instrument and structure tying it all together into the solid structures they have become.

No, I’m not talking about the village of northern France above Paris that is known for porcelain and lace, nor am I talking about that ridiculous song by The Big Bopper. I’m talking about a person of the female persuasion who is playing her senior recital. If you’ve seen Chantilly perform her Elliott Smith, Ani DiFranco, and Mariah Carey influenced songs before, this recital will be something very different from her usual solo-with-acoustic-guitar performance.

When I asked her what people should expect from the recital, she responded “another excuse to have a party.” but that was before laughing and becoming serious. With this recital, much like last year’s, she wants to express her songs to their fullest extent by using a revolving door of Purchase musicians to create more depth to the compositions. For this year’s performance, aiding her will be the infamous Joe Ferry on bass, Mike Graves on drums, Shane “Shenannigans” Galligan on violin, Ronin Codor (of Communication Corp, and The Woes fame) playing the accordion, Blake Reynolds on piano, Mile Alas on viola, Kira Velella helping with background vocals and former roomie Rickie Gal (of Twilight of the Idle fame) on “dinner bell.” Ding!

Chantilly wants to “make people happy by creating a good atmosphere” with this recital.

TV REVIEW:
Big Love for New HBO Show
By Dave Fumarola

On Sunday night my roommate and I were rushing to get back to our apartment in time to watch Big Love. Some of our friends may desert us for it, but we get excited every Sunday. On the path behind The Hub we heard a strange sound coming from the Olde. “God only knows what I’d be without you,” was easily heard through the open windows. Anyone who watches Big Love can instantly recognize the familiar Beach Boys melody as the theme song for the show. My first reaction was to pick up my pace because I was missing the beginning of my show. My second thought was that it was comforting to know there were others out there like me.

If you are like me, you’ve probably noticed how fast the show is catching on. There have now been seven episodes aired and the number of fans seems to be growing with each one.

Big Love premiered last month on HBO, following The Sopranos. Sunday nights on HBO have seen such shows as Six Feet Under, Deadwood, Sex & the City, and Oz, so there were naturally high expectations for Big Love. HBO shows are typically known to be gritty and controversial, but many people didn’t know what to make of Big Love. A show about a polygamtist family isn’t something that interests everyone. For most people, polygamy is either something they don’t know much about or something they have strong moral opinions on.

Bill Paxton stars as Bill Henrickson, owner of a chain of hardware stores in Utah. He lives in the suburbs with his three wives Barb, Nicki, and Margene. Bill has three kids with Barb, two kids with Nicki, and two kids with Margene. What makes Big Love so addicting are the character interactions and family dynamics.

Jeanne Tripplehorn plays Barb Henrickson, Bill’s first and legal wife. She works as a substitute teacher now that all of her kids are in school. After years of marriage, Bill and Barb are still passionately in love. They even steal some time alone together as if they’re having an affair.

Chloe Sevigny has left her openness from The Brown Bunny behind to play Bill’s uptight second wife, Nicki Henrickson. Nicki grew up on the polygamtist commune that Bill was born into. She has a very powerful and famous polygamtist for a father. Her father, Roman Grant, owns a share of Bill’s business and is constantly putting Bill under financial and moral pressure. Nicki also managed to rack up over $50,000 in credit card debt. She has been trying to keep it secret for months.

Bill’s youngest wife, Margene, is played by Ginnifer Goodwin. Margene didn’t have a close family growing up, so she jumped at the chance to become part of the Henrickson clan. She actually started out as a babysitter for the Henricksons. Margene has two very young children and spends almost all of her time home alone taking care of them. Now she is starting to get stir crazy and is making friends with her curious neighbors. The other wives are nervous that Margene will accidentally expose them as polygamtists.

On top of the family life, there is a dark side to Big Love. Even though he left it years ago, Bill has never been able to sever his ties with the commune. His parents and brother still live there. The boss of the commune, Roman Grant, is a very despicable villain. This gives Big Love an element that is typically seen in mafia movies. There is violence, scandal, and sex—three things everyone loves in their entertainment.

Big Love is definitely in the water cooler conversation on Monday morning—or whatever the Purchase equivalent on Monday afternoon is. Will Nicki get out of debt? Will Bill and Barb keep up their “affair”? Will Margene get a life? Will the constant homoerotic tones ever amount to ANYTHING? We’ll all have to find out together. Big Love airs Sunday nights at 10.
PSGA ELECTION CANDIDATES

For the first time ever, the PSGA executive elections will be held online on May 2nd and 3rd. The people you elect for these positions will be in charge of student life on campus for the next year, whether it be speaking to President Schwarz and the administration about concerns and problems, booking bands and events, or managing the Mandatory Student Activity Fee. These elections are not to be taken lightly, and we urge you to review the following candidates’ qualifications and intentions to best decide who is the most effective person for the job. Check your email on May 2nd and 3rd to vote.

President

Name: Matt Dunnam
Major: New Media
Year: Junior

What are your qualifications and experience?
I am the most experienced candidate for president. In the PSGA for almost three years, I’ve served on all of the student committees, have chaired three, and have initiated several successful programs including the effort to repair the vandalized murals and expand the mural program. I also cofounded and managed WPSR which is in its second successful year.

Why do you want to run for this office?
I feel the job of President is the most difficult and important position in our student government. Having been involved in all levels of the PSGA and most areas of student life—whether it be services, performances, or government—I can represent the student body to the administration and public most effectively.

Where does the line fall between being a PSGA executive and a student?
As a PSGA executive, one must maintain a level of maturity and be able to accept the responsibilities of representing fellow students as well as maintaining an exceptional academic life.

Interesting Fact: I once organized an awards ceremony with five dollars and a caterer’s phone number.

Name: Daniel Maldonado
Major: Music
Year: Junior

What are your qualifications and experience?
I am currently active in student affairs and associated with several campus clubs. I am also politically aware and come from a diverse background.

Why do you want to run for this office?
I feel much can be done in terms of campus diversity, both cultural and interdisciplinary. Someone of my background can reflect on real campus issues. I am in a conservatory and am active in many clubs.

Where does the line fall between being a PSGA executive and a student?
I feel there is no real line between student and executive; in the end Executives are nothing more than students. Executives are students who bear the voices of their peers; representing and advocating them, not themselves.

Interesting Fact: I am a percussionist in the music conservatory. I am Latino, and well versed in traditional Latin folklore.

Name: Shawn Ryder
Major: History
Year: Junior

What are your qualifications and experience?
I have served as Senator for the New as well as President of the Northeastern Athletic Conference Student Athlete Advisory Committee, Captained the Cross Country team, and acted as Executive Coordinator of PAST. I am a leader, diplomatic, and proud to be a part of Purchase.

Why do you want to run for this office?
I really enjoy making a positive difference in people’s lives. All of the executive positions work to make a great deal of progress for the campus community, however, I feel this position is best suited for my strengths.

Where does the line fall between being a PSGA executive and a student?
I love Poptarts and Spinach, but not together.

Name: Valerie Weaver
Major: Cinema Studies
Year: Junior

What are your qualifications and experience?
My experience within the PSGA is extensive. For CoCoAs, I have been: Film Society Treasurer, Fall 2004 – Spring 2005, Film Society President, Fall 2005 - Spring 2006, CoCoAs Representative, Fall 2004- Fall 2005, Member of WHEN, Fall 2005, Member of Cheese Club, Fall 2005 – Spring 2006. With the student Senate, my experience is as follows: Senator, Alumni Village, Fall 2005– Spring 2006, Finance Committee, Fall 2004 – Fall 2005, Steering Committee, Fall 2004 – Spring 2006, Public Relations Committee, Spring 2006, Major Events Coordination Committee, Fall 2005. I have also been a PSGA Office Assistant for the 2005-2006 academic year, and I am currently an intern at the Women’s Alternative Clinic.

Why do you want to run for this office?
I have put time and dedication into all levels of the PSGA and most areas of student life—whether it be services, performances, or government—I can represent the student body to the administration and public most effectively.

Where does the line fall between being a PSGA executive and a student?
As an advocate for the students of Purchase College, being a student and PSGA President go hand-in-hand. This is the case in all matters except when it comes to my academic life. Before and after a class starts, I am a PSGA Executive. When the lecture or class work begins, I am a student. I am very organized and am confident that I will be able to handle my executive and academic responsibilities. I know when to say no to people in order to take care of my homework. I have no problem telling students that all e-mails sent and phone calls past 10 PM on weeknights will not be returned until the next day.

Interesting Fact: This Summer I will be working on a family friend’s campaign for state assembly.
Antonio Commisso
Major: Political Science
Year: Senior

What are your qualifications and experience?
I have been in many leadership roles on campus, including Resident Assistant in Big Haus for a year and a half, including last summer, and being on the OAPIA Executive Board for a semester. I volunteered for HARP, and helped inspire high school students to go to college.

Why do you want to run for this office?
I would like to take a lead role with the unification of the Purchase community. Holding a seat on the PSGA will allow my ideas to be made manifest. Frankly, I am tired of seeing so much division within our communities, living areas, and amongst clubs and organizations.

Under what circumstances is it acceptable for the administration to make a decision on PSGA affairs?
The administration should be able to make decisions on PSGA affairs when the PSGA is at fault for something. When the voice of the student is not being heard, and the community is suffering for it, the administration should then make decisions for the sake of their student body.

Interesting Fact: I’m on a mission to learn how to do things that our imaginations want us to, but the world we live in tells us we can’t. I just think we’re not using a certain part of our minds. I’m searching for the key to unlocking the power of my mind. I will learn how to fly one day. Will you?

Marina Isaac
Major: Cinema Studies
Year: Sophomore

What are your qualifications and experience?
I am a Purchase student who is involved in campus activities. I work at the Children’s Center, hosted a radio show, and am a member of Spoke-n-Heard.

Why do you want to run for this office?
Purchase is a good school, but it has a few minor flaws that I would like to try and change.

Under what circumstances is it acceptable for the administration to make a decision on PSGA affairs?
The administration should be able to make a decision on PSGA affairs when the PSGA is at fault for something. When the voice of the student is not being heard, and the community is suffering for it, the administration should then make decisions for the sake of their student body.

Interesting Fact: I worked in the office of my high school, senior year as an attendance secretary.

Steven Tartick
Major: New Media
Year: Junior

What are your qualifications and experience?
-Chief Editor- Purchase Independent
-PSGA Senator
-Received PSGA award for Outstanding Service to the Community
-Chair of PR Committee, Sits on Steering Committee

Why do you want to run for this office?
I feel my tested organizational and managerial skills, coupled with my extensive PSGA experience would allow me to strengthen the Senate. I have enjoyed my productive run as a Senator, and want to further my contributions to the PSGA.

Under what circumstances is it acceptable for the administration to make a decision on PSGA affairs?
I believe that the only acceptable time for administration interjection is when legal issues arise. However, strong communication between the PSGA and the administration is important. Their opinions are helpful, as long as defined boundaries exist.

Interesting Fact: Besides being the editor of The Indy, working for a software company, and my PSGA work, I am also a magician! I perform about 50 shows a year all over New York. I also have an unhealthy Broadway addiction.

Name: Antonio Comisso
Major: Political Science
Year: Freshman

What are your qualifications and experience?
- Senator, Farside Residence Hall, PSGA (2005-2006)
- Voting Member, Finance Committee, PSGA (2005-2006)
- Deputy Director, Department of Finance, Brian Ellner for Manhattan Borough President (2005)
- Assistant Compliance Officer, Department of Operations, John Kerry for U.S.A. President (2004)

Why do you want to run for this office?
My previous experiences in Finance, both in the PSGA, and on various local and national level political campaigns have left me in good stead for this position. Working closely with the current Finance Coordinator this year, I feel that I have gained considerable insight to the job and that my qualifications would serve this position well.

Where does the line fall between being an executive and a student?
There is a very fine line between PSGA executive and student. As a representative of the PSGA, an executive must be an exemplary student. An executive must be a visible and approachable student on campus—being available to any member of the student body; meanwhile having the responsibility of representing the student body for a given cause.

Interesting Fact: My dream job would be working as a simultaneous interpreter in Italian for the United Nations.

Name: Yasha Jackson
Major: Acting Conservatory
Year: Junior

What are your qualifications and experience?
I have played a vital role in O.A.P.I.A., which has been awarded the best club for the last 3 years (all of which I have been apart of), I have put together many events on campus, and have experience with budgeting for a major on-campus organization.

Why do you want to run for this office?
Our mandatory student fee isn’t always used to the best of it’s potential. I would ensure that the campus as a whole, has more input to the where money is put.

Where does the line fall between being an executive and a student?
R-E-S-P-O-N-S-I-B-I-L-I-T-Y. We are all in the same rat race, it’s just that the executive has to look out for the best interest of the student body.

Interesting Fact: I’m an actor and I could be a million different people -> SO whatever your going through "I understand"
Were going to put on the front page this week once it was no longer a crime scene, Emily Oleary
Name: Christina Picciano
Major: Studio Production (Music)
Year: Sophomore

What are your qualifications and experience?
My qualifications and experiences are as follows: participated as an active PSGA at the Culture Shock meetings, as well as volunteering my time to help set up the day to day of becoming more acquainted with the position. I host weekly radio shows on WPDR (Monday night Melting Pot, The Flipout, Culture Shock Radio). I am also a music student with a wide span of musical tastes, and have experience banking for my own show.

Why do you want to run for this office?
I want to run because I am not only passionate about music, I want to play a more active role in the PSGA to give students the best experience as possible.

What are your specific goals?
In this position my main goal would be getting performers who represent the interest of the minority community and other communities fairly and equally. I want to bring performers with wider interests, such as poets, college steppers, reggae, soca and dancehall performers, as well as get performers who are less well known to the public that still reflect a new interest. Also for the genres of music I don’t know, I would like to set up little committees to assist me in finding acts that Purchase students would enjoy that I necessarily wouldn’t.

Interesting Fact: I am the only African American that I know that listens to Aqua and Blackbox.

Name: Alex Malamy
Major: Media, Society and the Arts
Year: Senior

What are your qualifications and experience?
I have put a lot of love into my work at the Student Center and have more to give. I love music and performance and know how to work with a budget and the PSGA to make things happen.

Why do you want to run for this office?
To put on awesome shows and events.

What do you plan to do as the position you’re running for? Do you have any specific goals?
To put on awesome shows and events.

Interesting Fact: I helped put together the Rocky Horror Picture Show back in ’03 (and I plan to do it again!)
I also intern for Joan Jett.

Name: Scott Mason
Major: Music- Studio Composition
Year: Graduate

What are your qualifications and experience?
I've managed the MIDI recording studio a.k.a the Beat Suite in the Music Conservatory for 3 years and was manager of the Studio Composition/Production Equipment Room for a semester. In addition, I'm involved in music as being a record producer, band member and co-founder of the New East Coast All-Stars reggae band.

Why do you want to run for this office?
I want to run for this office because I understand what goes on not only during the actual performance but behind the scenes as far as planning, scheduling and organization from being involved in music on both sides of the table, so I believe I would do an excellent job.

What do you plan to do as the position you’re running for? Do you have any specific goals?
SUNY Purchase has a reputation as a musical force to be reckoned with. I wish to preserve the Student Center’s position as a venue.

Interesting Fact: The Japanese use the phrase, “karisuma shufu” to mean “charisma housewife”, like a likeable Martha Stewart. I am a “karisuma” person: I’m undeniably lovable and full of love! My magnetism translates in every field and can serve greatly for this position!
When Matt Dunnam first declared he was running for President, I was surprised that he hadn’t said so sooner. Matt has been the experienced veteran in the Senate, second to only Jeff Stein in time spent in the PSGA, and has been working side by side with students and the administration for the past three years, dealing with everything from the Chartwells Union dispute to the Vulture Cock/Culture Shock debate, and most recently, moderating the discussion of the PTV-Blackface incident.

While the other candidates have promised to make changes on campus to better the Purchase community, Matt Dunnam has already done so. The creation of WPSR and the support of media on campus is due in part to Matt Dunnam and he took the tie with Bill Guerrero, executive director of the PCA. Likewise, the proposal to use the Senate food money to restore the vandalized murals was made by Matt.

The list goes on. When the other candidates make promises to represent the students, keep in mind that Matt Dunnam has already been doing so for the past three years. Vote for experience. Vote for Matt Dunnam for PSGA President.

Endorsements

Shawn Ryder has more relevant experience than anyone else running for President and is one of the hardest working and most involved people here at Purchase College. I went to New Orleans to do hurricane relief with him in January and he took the dirtiest, most difficult jobs and worked at them harder than anyone else there. I think that speaks volumes to his dedication. When you bust your ass for charity, that’s true dedication.

-Adam Abdalla

When it comes to PSGA executive elections, the issue of experience is up for debate. Does a person running for head of Student Center need to have been on five different PSGA committees? Of course not. However, when it comes to the position of Chair of the Senate, where one must have an intimate knowledge of the student government constitution and a familiarity with the rules of conduct, experience in the senate shouldn’t be a suggestion but a necessity.

Simply put, in my opinion, Steven Tartick is the most qualified candidate for Chair of the Senate. Looking past his position as editor of the Independent, by which he has written innumerable editorials criticizing and analyzing PSGA issues, Steven has shown in both committee and senate meetings the intelligence, diplomacy, and objectivity needed to guide the Senate and make the PSGA a more visible presence on campus. Throughout the past year, Steven has been the mediating voice between the PTV-Blackface incident, the invaded student-named, and has been working side by side with students and the administration for the past three years, dealing with everything from the Chartwells Union dispute to the Vulture Cock/Culture Shock debate, and most recently, moderating the discussion of the PTV-Blackface incident.

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In the four years he has been on campus he has started movie night, the ping pong club, the root beer club, and has been responsible for the Student Center for the past year (I also hear he is quite kind to children). Alex has demonstrated time and time again that he cares about this campus and is willing to prove it. He has donated his own property and free time to bettering the Student Center multiple times. This includes video game systems, computers, and countless hours working off the books. He is the most qualified candidate for the position of General Programming Director because he knows how to coordinate people. He is accessible and knows how to get people to work together. He has spear-headed and assisted countless projects that have not only improved the Student Center but created opportunities for students to work and pursue their interest. This includes but is not limited to commissioning campus artist for mural work, providing funding for the Student Art Gallery, and creating studio space for musician, artist, and clubs. The back rooms of the Student Center used to be filled with garbage and empty beer bottles (I shit you not). Alex made a good thing better and he will do the same for campus events. Vote for him or Puff Daddy will kill you.

-Matt Vanderlee

There is no one who knows music better than Kedric Becker. His love for talented performance was sparked early in childhood by his father, a humble jazz musician by trade. Kedric’s taste in music is unlimited and unbiased because it crosses all genres and he’s always willing to listen to anything once. By constantly attending shows of all kinds, his knowledge of various bands, singers, songwriters and other musicians is more than extraordinary. Kedric himself is also a musician—a jazz percussionist to be exact, although you can find him playing just about any object from the pots that he cooks with to the beer bottles that are almost always around, experimenting with sounds anywhere from hip hop to rock. He has tons of experience playing live music so he definitely knows how to put on a great show. Kedric will make a fantastic Major Events Coordinator because he always wants to please the people. He’s not only willing to listen to what people want to hear but is eager to take advice and turn words into actions.

Kedric wants to improve Culture Shock and Fall Fest by making the music and food more diverse and appealing to all crowds and also by including more fun activities for students. As students, you DO get to decide how Culture Shock and Fall Fest play out next year. Vote for Kedric Becker- he will make your festival experience the best and most unique of your life!
Police confirm that the suspects were from off-campus, and an anonymous high-ranking college personnel claims the police have found a very credible connection between Benhalima and Ghanim and a Purchase College student.

The official’s claims were confirmed late Wednesday night when Independent reporters met with a Purchase student who spoke to us on a condition of anonymity regarding Benhalima and Ghanim. He said that the two alleged thieves came to Purchase with friends of his for the Culture Shock festival.

“They called me on the way asking for directions on how to get here,” said the student. “This contradicted earlier feelings among the Independent and University police who felt that the students were professional criminals who had premeditated the thefts. “Mo and Mo are just a bunch of dumbasses from Bay Ridge, they’re not criminal masterminds,” said the student.

“I kind-of hoped that it was off-campus people,” said Sargent, “because I couldn’t really understand how anyone would not have respect for student-run publications.”

The thefts have had a strong impact on the various campus publications, but other campus organizations have reached out to the various campus publicatons. Until the G5s return from evidence, the Media Board office will continue to run on a Mac Mini, donated by WSPR, and support from PTV.

Despite the setback, Bill Reese, co-editor of this newspaper, expressed confidence towards the immediate future: “We are not going to let it stop us,” he said. “We can replace and rebuild, but my staff is irreplaceable.”

Additional reporting by Bill Reese and Patrick Cassells

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“Robbery” from Front Page...

The following morning, Purchase students discovered that the Media Board office had been robbed and alerted police. At first police did not realize the thieves of the Media Board office and the Alumni Village thieves were the same people, but they felt the crimes were linked.

A 10-hour crime scene investigation investigation ensued, complete with photos and finger prints. “It was not a great time for a major investigation, because everyone knows how busy Culture Shock weekend is,” said Macaluso. “We took lots of time, and everyone picked up the slack.”

The UPD got their big break when vehicle traced back to the suspects was found on campus. UPD impounded the vehicle and conducted an inventory search. Inside the suspect’s car, police discovered “evidence of other crimes”: The G5s were in the backseat of the vehicle, according to sources close to the investigator.

Benhalima and Ghanim were apprehended and initially charged with burglary in the second degree, though the investigation is still ongoing and more charges are pending. They were arraigned Sunday morning at Harrison Town Court, and Judge Lust remanded them to Westchester County Jail on a no-bail status. They will appear in Harrison Town Court at 9 a.m. on Thursday, April 27th.

“We were really proud of the job our people and the Parking and Security Officers did,” said Macaluso. “All, if not most of the items have been recovered and there will be numerous additional charges.”

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“Nunchucks” from Front Page...

What’s In The Box?

By Randall Ungar

Some of you may have noticed a phenomenon growing on the walls of Purchase College. Flyers litter the cork based bulletin boards in the Social Sciences building asking the pivotal question “What’s in the box?” Now this could be interpreted as either mild sexual innuendo or a cruel mind game. The answer is unknown and to many of us going about our daily routine, we could really care less. Many of you reading this right now may have no conceivable idea what we’re talking about but to the fortunate few who do know or at least give a hoot about what is in this magical, mystical parallelogram of delight, we can tell only what we know and say that the secret will be revealed on Wednesday May 3 starting at 2:30 pm.

Students have been expressing excitement all across the campus, “What box?” says Cameron Berkman. “What are you talking about?” says Donald Pusateri; and “Well you guys told me about it so I gotta say, I’m curious,” says Jared Albert. A silly prank or an actual event, it is unclear exactly what could be in the container. Details about the anomaly are limited and little can be said about the situation and its contents but one thing is certain, and that is that there is a box and it’s going to show itself. Feelings about this can range from casual interest to full blown spiritual attraction: what will the box offer us as a species, what will it say about our society and other boxes before it. Could it be an extraterrestrial life force trying to communicate a deep-seeded message or is it a campus wide expression of creative spirit? Few people know now but everyone will know when the box is finally emptied next Wednesday.

Keep your eyes open a week from now as the gift of truth is finally opened. A cube of infinite knowledge that may or may not change your life will soon be unlocked. All the questions regarding its existence will be answered then when oceans part, mountains collapse, and nature finds new meaning as the students of Purchase College storm the mall to finally find out what’s in the box...
Mutant Dining Hall
Sparrows Attack;
Three Dead
By Graham Beekman

To many students, the sparrows that live in the Dining Hall have become another charming, harmless part of Purchase. However, some students have noticed a strange change in their behavior recently, including reports of them stealing food directly from the hands of Dining Hall patrons and nearly flying into their heads.

On Thursday, April 20th, tragedy struck, leaving three students dead and seven more critically injured. The sparrows descended upon the unsuspecting Purchase students arriving in the morning for their breakfast. Details are unclear, but we’ve spoken to some eyewitnesses.

“The sparrows had large talons!” Said shaken Purchase sophomore Jessie Biele. “They were huge, and oh God...the blood...” Biele said before she broke into sobs, unable to go into more specifics.

It seems as though the sparrows were somehow mutated. Several witnesses report oversized beaks and nails. While there is no official word yet on what caused this change in the previously normal sparrows, some are speculating that it is the result of their diet consisting solely of Chartwells food.

“I’ve been warning them about this for years,” claims a Purchase biology professor who prefers to remain anonymous. “It’s been clear for years that the Dining Hall food is doing strange things to the students here, I was always terrified what effect it would have on smaller organisms. I tried to warn them, but they wouldn’t listen! They just made me fill out a suggestion card on how best to improve my Dining Hall experience!”

Two of the allegedly mutated sparrows have been captured, but several remain unaccounted for. Animal Control officials searched the area unsuccessfully.

“All we found was a nest made from body parts. They’ve got a taste for human blood now. This will only get worse,” said the representative from Animal Control.

Iced tea connoisseurs nationwide felt particularly betrayed by the news, which undermines their years of devotion to Snapple, the undisputed king of the sweetened-beverage industry.

“I used to get a sense of God-like power knowing my iced tea-of-choice was composed of the world’s greatest things,” said Boston-area Snapple enthusiast Mike Slope. “Now what am I going to brag to my friends and family about?”

The FDA’s findings put the Snapple Corporation, who sells millions of bottles each year under the boastful claim that its components are globally unsurpassed in quality, in an uncomfortable—and potentially criminal—situation.

“Continued Havilland: “How can you bottle the smile of a newborn baby? Or the brilliant glow of a sunrise? Or the fresh morning dew?”

On Thursday, April 20th, tragedy struck, leaving three students dead and seven more critically injured.
I had so many good quotes for the backpage, but I was so drunk I can’t remember any of them.

Does not knowing how to spell “philistine” make you one?

[filling the space of what would otherwise be yet another misogynistic Back Page quote]

“Saved by the Bell” is getting in the way of my anime.

Hillary: I’d totally kick a bitch!

Remember that time when I was a rock star during culture shock? God I’m cool.

Here’s nothing like raining raccoons and nature.

Rock Lobstaaaaa.

At times like this I wish I knew how to tie a noose.

“WHERE IN BROOKLYN BITCH!”

WEAKSAUCE.

Laughing time is ovaah.

TO B: YES I DID HAVE AN AWESOME FUCKING DAY. THANK YOU. <3

“EVERYONE’S BEEN LOOKING AT ME FUNNY. IT’S LIKE THEY’VE SEEN ME NAKED OR SOMETHING:"

“The Goonies” was based on a true story; and the events were filmed in real time.

I hope the bed bugs do bite! morning after: holy shit! I have like 5 mosquito bites!

Are you washed in the blood?

The Indy reminds you to vote in the PSGA Executive Board election on May 2nd and 3rd through your e-mail.

Purchase Cross Country General Interest Meeting April 27, 2006 8pm (Dribbles) Second Floor PE Building Shawn.Ryder@purchase.edu for more information.

The Box Rebellion This Saturday 6pm in the student center.

Music raffles food & fun!

Raising money for the Addis Ababa Fistula Hospital in Ethiopia.

http://www.fistulafoundation.org/ (Last year we raised enough money to pay for one woman’s entire surgery; this year we hope to do the same!)

Brought you by W.H.E.N.

Here I am/I’m trying so here I am/are you ready?

Mattie is my #1 baby animal butt <3

Oh God! It’s raining birth control.

Looks like you found the spot.

Everybody likes the shiny boobies.

“I DON’T KNOW IF YOUR GENITAL WARTS LOOK LIKE DUPLEXES…”

This sucks. And not in the good, life affirming way.

What’s Tums spelt backwards? SMUT!

More books should be sold in shrink wrap

Can’t hold me ale

Deet Da Dee Cup Bop Sheep

Culture Shock: It’s like Vegas- what happens there stays there, and no one ever talks about it because they are too drunk to remember it.

No, really. He’s a scientologist. and you really offended him.

E: I had to switch to chewable A: Chewable Birth Control? E: NO, Multivitamins!

Dance like you are being painted.