Human Services Club serves DCCC

Kendal Chaney, a liberal arts sophomore, looks at information provided by Family Support Line during the Human Service and Women’s Resource Fair March 13

By Joe Gbodai

More than four children die every day as a result of child abuse, according to the U.S. Department of Human Services. Studies conducted by David Finkelhor, director of the Crimes Against Research Center, report that one in five girls and one in 20 boys are victims of child abuse. The studies also report that during a one-year period in the United States, 16 percent of youth ages 14 to 17 were sexually victimized.

According to the National Center for Juvenile Justice, more than 90 percent of juvenile sexual abuse victims know their perpetrator in some way. These grim statistics have not escaped the attention of the Human Services Club at DCCC.

“The club began over four years ago,” said Kathleen Schank, assistant professor of behavioral science and co-advisor of the HSC. “It came about from the interest of students who were majoring in the human service degree. Many of the students wanted to be social workers, but the college did not offer a social work degree. For the past 25 years, FSL’s focus has been to work with sexually abused children. For the past 25 years, FSL’s focus has been to work with sexually abused children and their families to provide specific assistance that is more private and detailed than those offered at agencies,” said Dr. Kelly Ace, FSL program director. “We often have these in schools, or in other community settings like a church or a shelter.”

Schank said that this is the second time the HSC has organized the Quarters for Kids Campaign.

“We do not count the money before it’s donated to FSL,” Schank said. “The main goal is to shed more light on FSL and what they’re doing to provide help to the children in the community.”

Collection containers were placed in the cafeteria in the Founder’s Hall building. “We’re trying to do two things,” Schank said. “Allow the community to become more aware about child sexual abuse and spread the word about Family Support Line, a local non-profit organization in Media which helps families, children, and professionals address the trauma of child sexual abuse, and to raise money to help support the programs offered at the agency.”

According to Schank, FSL evolved from Children and Youth Services to provide more intervention for sexually abused children. For the past 25 years, FSL’s focus has been to work with sexually abused children and their families to provide specific assistance that is more private and detailed than those offered at Children and Youth Services.

“FSL also helps to provide group and individual support, as well as prevention education training for kids and adults about personal safety, cyber safety, and sexual harassment,” said Dr. Kelly Ace, FSL program director. “We often have these in schools, or in other community settings like a church or a shelter.”

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Quarters for Kids Campaign concluded the club’s outreach activities for this year, Schank said.

Other HSC activities included co-hosting the annual Human Services and Women’s Resource Fair which allowed local organizations to present information about their services. The fair took place March 13.

Narcotics Anonymous of Delaware County, Family and Community Services of Delaware County, and ChesPenn Health Services were just a few of the numerous agencies that attended the fair.

“I was walking by and I thought it’d be interesting to learn about one or two of these organizations,” said Kendal Chaney, a liberal arts sophomore who attended the fair.

According to Schank, the HSC will hold an election for leadership roles for next year since the students who are currently in those roles are all transferring. Schank added that the club will also be collaborating more with other clubs on campus in the future, as well as the Wellness Center for a campus-wide activity in the fall.

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Schank added that the club will also be collaborating more with other clubs on campus in the future, as well as the Wellness Center for a campus-wide activity in the fall.

“The HSC is not only a place for students interested in the social work profession,” said Sandra Lewis, the club’s president. “It’s a great place for those who have a passion for assisting and empowering others and to connect with other students with similar interests.”

The HSC meets every Tuesday at Q time in Room 2394 and welcomes members of the student body to join.

Contact Joe Gbodai at Communitarian.mail.dccc.edu
DCCC’s Black and Women’s History Committee and Human Service club presented its third Annual Women’s Health and Human Services Fair March 13.

The event promoted services provided by the club that geared toward issues which affected women, ranging from child services to domestic abuse.

One half of the event was presented in the A-Lobby, where the services and programs specialized in family issues such as substance abuse and child care, while the other half was in the STEM lobby. More programs focused on women’s personal issues such as pregnancy and nutrition.

This was the first year the fair was organized and run by students who are a part of the Human Services club and the Black and Women’s History Committee. In the past, it was run by Student Life.

The Psychology Club also made an appearance at the fair for the first time, hoping to attract new members.

“This is an annual fair,” Lewis said. “March is social work awareness month.”

The fair lasted for two hours and offered guests complimentary pizza and drinks for students looking to enjoy a quick snack between classes while visiting the tables.

“We are hoping students will learn about the services that the community offers and learn about what is available in social services,” said Sandra Lewis, the HSC president. “This fair gives students who would like to volunteer an opportunity to raise issues for the women’s social community.”

During the fair students casually walked from table to table in between classes to learn about what the community has to offer for women.

This year the psychology club played a significant part in contributing to the fair unlike years before.

Stephanie Howard, the psychology club president, believes that by promoting the fair, the club will not only show their interest in women’s issues but also hopefully gain new members.

“We are here to support women’s health,” Howard said. “Here at the psychology club, we not only talk about women’s issues, we also discuss current events and controversial topics.”

Along with many student services being represented, multiple child service tables were there to support female students who are also mothers.

Gerry Gonzalez, a representative for Child Guidance, an organization dedicated to helping children succeed even though they may face many problems within the family or emotional issues such as dealing with a change in their life. Child Guidance also helps children who struggle with autism.

“I am very passionate about what I do,” Gonzalez added. “Our goal is to help children succeed no matter how difficult their problems are. We serve the Delaware, Montgomery, and Chester counties along with Southwest Philadelphia, Philadelphia CHOP, and Middletown, Delaware.”

As the fair came to a close, students and staff walked out with pamphlets and small booklets filled with information that they could use in their daily lives.

“It is important that we bring awareness to women’s health,” Lewis said. “Students can learn a lot about health subjects as well as learn about possible volunteer opportunities.”

Contact Victoria Shieler at communitarian@mail.dccc.edu

Third Annual Women’s Health Fair offers support to DCCC students

The fair gives students who would like to volunteer an opportunity to raise issues for the women’s social community.

(Left to Right) Stephanie Howard, president of the Psychology club, Lauren Devinny, member of the Psychology club, Gerry Gonzalez, representative for the Child Guidance organization, and Sandra Lewis, president of the Human Health Service Club, pose for a photo during the Third Annual Women’s Health Fair March 13.

By Victoria Shieler

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Dustin Slaughter (right) and Kenneth Lipp (left) explained the inner workings of what Lipp calls "the surveillance state" in an information session at The Wooden Shoe Bookstore March 5. Together they co-edit "The Declaration," an online publication highlighting citizen vigilance and civil liberties.

"Who watches our watchmen?"

Journalists inform public of new surveillance practices

By Serigne Faye

Kenneth Lipp and Dustin Slaughter, the pair of journalists who founded and together co-edit the Philadelphia based online publication, "The Declaration," gave a panorama of what they have coined the "surveillance society" in an information session hosted by The Wooden Shoe Bookstore in Philadelphia March 5.

"Surveillance can be loosely defined as persistent or methodical observation," Lipp told the audience.

After he noticed the increase in the number of cameras on street corners, he took a walk to a nearby store to pick up a money order and took photos of every camera he encountered on his way back.

Lipp came back with over 45 photos in a span of 20 minutes.

"Surveillance isn’t new, but its ubiquity and pervasiveness have increased with the advancement of technology," Lipp said.

"It’s acceptable to various levels in society. There are a lot of people that we know that are okay with an awful lot of surveillance."

Since whistleblower Edward Snowden leaked confidential documents last summer in protest of National Security Agency’s (NSA) surveillance practices, Americans have become more aware of the nature of the surveillance under which they find themselves. The frequency of Google searches of "Snowden" and the "NSA" spiked last summer, coinciding with information about the revelations, according to Google Zeitgeist.

"Most of the time we don’t even notice it," Lipp said. "If you walk through a train station, just look around you, notice how many cameras [watch] you at once. We have all become very acclimated to how observed we are."

In 2001, shortly after the World Trade Center attacks, 55 percent of Americans felt that it was necessary to give up civil liberties for the sake of security as opposed to 35 percent who did not, according to a poll by the Pew Research Center. The follow-up poll in 2011, however, reflects a reversal: 54 percent of Americans polled said that giving up civil liberties was unnecessary and the number of Americans who did fell to 40 percent.

In a survey conducted by Cloud Security Alliance (CSA), 47 percent of people labeled the transparency of the country’s anti-terrorism tactics as "poor" and "have no idea how their information is accessed or how often."

The repercussions have been global in scale, especially in the worlds of commerce and politics when it was discovered that Angela Merkel, the chancellor of Germany could have been targets of NSA wiretapping and government spying.

In another CSA report, 56 percent of non-U.S. residents reported being less likely to use U.S. cloud based providers, while 10 percent cancelled projects slated to include them.

Throughout their presentation, Lipp and Slaughter addressed tough questions concerning life in a surveillance state, including how much surveillance is acceptable, who is conducting the surveillance, what is being surveyed, and how to raise awareness of the balance between privacy and security.

In every attendee’s seat was a “white paper,” an informational document circulated through law enforcement agencies. The paper’s message, superimposed with a Philadelphia Police Department watermark, describes an image found on a Facebook page promoting "The Panic Hour," an Occupy National Gathering that took place in 2012. The acronym A.C.A.B. (All Cops Are Bastards) appears on the image, inspiring a link between the movement and "neo-nazis" and "white supremacist" groups.

“They draw, at best, spurious connections between dangerous and problematic groups like white supremacists and Neo-Nazis and First Amendment protected activity,” said Slaughter in his presentation. “We all know that [Neo-Nazi and white supremacist group] have nothing to do with the Occupy National Gathering, but this is what enables them to justify more surveillance.”

The presentation also explores surveillance in social media.

"The social media technology and surveillance intersection is a new thing and an exploding thing." Lipp said.

"Its impossible to stay ahead of for active participants in technology, so law enforcement is struggling. They are monitoring people on social media now, an area where there is still very little law. They are trying to establish policies to avoid having to have a warrant to access this kind of information."

Slaughter claims that this is the kind of surveillance that vigilant citizens should be wary of.

"There are cases where people have clearly not consented to surveillance and moves into questionable constitutional waters," Lipp said.

In an informal poll, The Communitarian asked 25 students and faculty to rank how concerned they are about government surveillance, how their decisions are affected by surveillance and how necessary they consider surveillance measures are in protecting American livelihood.

While over half of participants (52 percent) polled that their personal choices about communication were "not very affected" or "not at all affected" by the surveillance forty percent of participants polled said that they were concerned or very concerned about NSA surveillance.

"In general, I am against the amount of access to information they have, though I don’t know how much they use it,” said Jeremy Forrester, 20, who pursing a degree in business. “I am not as active on social media as other people, so it doesn’t bother me quite as much, but in principle, I am very against it.” For some the trade-off between privacy and security is a fair one.

“Security is important,” said Bruce Langlois, a 20-year-old computer science major. “We are living in a world where privacy is disappearing without privacy people are rapidly losing the capacity for self reflection. There are places where you have to take places over freedom but there should be better protection for citizens.”

Over half of participants (52 percent) polled that their personal choices about communication were "not very affected" or "not at all affected" by the surveillance. One of those participants was 23-year-old Louis Dagusto.

“I don’t care. I know that I am not doing anything wrong” said Dagusto, who is pursing a degree in computer programming. "I know that I am not doing anything wrong. If they want to check my emails, look at what I am typing online or what I am talking about on the phone, then go for it.”

But even Dagusto had reservations.

“I do think that we are losing more than we are gaining. We are losing a lot of the freedoms that we are used to. Our way of using the internet and being anonymous in our comments and our actions on the internet is being jeopardized,” Dagusto said.

Contact Serigne Faye at communitarian@dus.edu
Two years later an AWOL Army private from Kentucky, Naser Jason Abdo, entered the same store and bought gunpowder, shotgun shells and a handgun. In that instance the store notified authorities, who arrested Abdo at a nearby motel where he was plotting to attack a restaurant popular with Fort Hood personnel.

An employee at Guns Galore said that the owner’s wife had talked to the FBI. An employee reached by phone declined to say whether store workers noticed anything of concern about Lopez, who legally purchased a semi-automatic .45-caliber Smith & Wesson pistol.

“It’s an ongoing investigation. We have been told to redirect everybody to the FBI,” the employee said.

Military officials were scouring Lopez’s background. He saw no combat during his 2011 service in Iraq and was not wounded, Secretary of the Army John McHugh told the Senate Armed Services Committee on Thursday morning.

Lopez was being treated for depression, anxiety and sleep disturbances, McHugh said. He had been examined by a psychiatrist last month and was prescribed Ambien, among other drugs, and was undergoing evaluation for post traumatic stress disorder. The Puerto Rican native had two deployments. One was a truck driver in Iraq from August to December 2011, according to two federal law enforcement sources.

Hasan killed 13 people and wounded more than 30 using a pistol from the Guns Galore store in Killeen. It was the deadliest shooting at a military base in U.S. history.

By Molly Hennessy-Fiske, Adolfo Flores and Richard Serrano Los Angeles Times (MCT)

KILLEEN, Texas _

Army Spec. Ivan Lopez _ who opened fire at Fort Hood on Wednesday, killing three and wounding 16 before killing himself _ bought his weapon at the same store that supplied both Maj. Nidal Malik Hasan for his deadly rampage in 2009 and an Army private for a failed plot to execute an Army private for a failed plot to execute a similar massacre in 2011, according to two federal law enforcement sources.

Hasan killed 13 people and wounded more than 30 using a pistol from the Guns Galore store in Killeen. It was the deadliest military base shooting in U.S. history.

Two patients were in fair condition while seven others were in good condition, a hospital spokesman said. Nine of the 16 wounded were being treated at Baylor Scott & White Hospital in Temple and three remained in critical condition, doctors said Thursday morning.

Two patients were in fair condition and four in good condition, the hospital said. They have injuries to the abdomen, neck and spine. At least two of them will require additional surgeries. (EDITORS: BEGIN OPTIONAL TRIM) Gen. Raymond T. Odierno, U.S. Army chief of staff, said the procedures put in place after the 2009 shooting at Fort Hood kept this week’s incident from being “much worse.” Odierno described Lopez as “an experienced soldier ... he spent nine years in the Puerto Rico National Guard before coming onto active duty.” Lopez had transferred to Fort Hood in February along with his wife and young daughter.

Security was tight Thursday morning at the base, where one main parking lot was being patrolled by uniformed soldiers. A line of traffic flowed into the base’s main gate, past an encampment of media assembled outside the visitor center.

Soldiers and relatives could be seen entering the County Directorate of Emergency Services nearby.

(END OPTIONAL TRIM)

The dead and wounded were all military personnel. A few of the injured had superficial wounds from shattered glass or cuts suffered while they scaled fences to flee the scene, Lt. Gen. Mark Milley, the Fort Hood commander, said.

Milley said the gunman, dressed in military fatigue, opened fire about 4 p.m. Wednesday. The initial shots came inside the 1st Medical Brigade Area, he said, then the gunman got into a vehicle and went to a second building where he continued shooting. Within 15 minutes military police responded.

Milley said a female officer confronted Lopez in a parking lot near the second building. He approached the officer but stopped about 20 feet from her and put his hands up.

Then, Milley said, the gunman reached into his jacket and pulled out his weapon. As the officer opened fire, the man shot himself in the head.

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Gun violence: the weapon or the mind?

By Stephanie Kadingo, Adrienne Keer and Dan O’Neill

With the recent shooting at Fort Hood in Killeen, Texas, the age old question of whether we need stricter laws regarding gun control is bound to come up. The problems with these questions are: there is no one single solution.

You either completely ban guns altogether or begin very dense background checks on those looking to acquire a gun. Is either side right? Does it really matter?

People will continue finding ways to use guns no matter how many restrictions you put on purchasing them. Either somebody knows a black market merchant who happens to sell guns out of the trunk of his car or guns are just being stolen without notifying authorities.

Most people would rather keep it “hush-hush” because often times the gun stolen was illegally owned.

That’s why it doesn’t matter how hard President Obama, or any other major political figure, tries to put pressure on background checks, people who want guns will always find ways to get them.

It’s just that simple. It really comes down to the person behind the gun, rather than the gun itself.

The issue isn’t that guns aren’t tools capable of doing harm. It really comes down to the person that decides to use that gun to harm someone or something; it’s the person behind the gun, rather than the gun itself.

If they were to put their attention on the person behind the gun, versus the gun itself. If they were to commit a heinous crime.

That’s why it doesn’t matter how hard President Obama, or any other major political figure, tries to put pressure on background checks, people who want guns will always find ways to get them.

However, even if you take away the guns, you still have to take into consideration that there other dangerous objects people can easily get their hands on. Objects such as knives, axes, blades, and anything else you could think to harm another person, are commonly found in the everyday home.

Dangerous objects will always be available, so it doesn’t really matter if you get rid of the guns. There are also some groups out there like the NRA or the GOA that believes it is their constitutional right to own guns. They are correct, because it is noted in the Constitution that the “right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed.” In Pennsylvania, according to the Pennsylvania State Law Summary, a citizen is allowed to “bear arms in defense of themselves and the State shall not be questioned.”

That’s why when it comes to the issue of self-defense, people should have the right to decide whether or not they want to use a gun to protect themselves. If someone breaks into your house with the intent of harming you, and there’s no means of escape, you are allowed to defend yourself.

It is your home, your life and your own well-being. However, using a gun to do so is not the answer. To take another person’s life by the use of a gun should not be allowed. The use of a gun should not be allowed. The answer. To take another person’s life by the use of any gun whatsoever should not be allowed.

One would think that after the horrific events that occurred at Sandy Hook on Dec. 14, 2012, that gun violence in the U.S. would eventually go down. But according to Slate Magazine, roughly around 44,364 people or more have been killed due to gun violence.

So, what is really the problem? Is it the gun, or the shooter? You decide.

For instance, if a person has ever been sent to the hospital for mental reasons, they automatically forfeit the right to purchase a gun. Is this right? Well, in most cases, yes. Those who do have mental issues, and are not able to decipher between what is “right” and what is “wrong,” should not be allowed to carry a weapon. By weapon, I do mean guns.

The Communitarian

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From fab to drab: the best and the worst on the Red Carpet

By Victoria Shieler

Contact Victoria Shieler at communitatian@mail.dccc.edu

From the most jaw dropping to “the-what-were-they-thinking?” the red carpet was filled with many unforgettable gowns at the 86th annual Academy Awards that took place March 2 at the Kodak Theater in Hollywood, Calif.

Every year at the Oscars, world famous designers showcase their best work on Hollywood’s A-list movie stars, and this year did not disappoint.

It really shouldn’t be any surprise that Lupita Nyong’o was by far the best dressed woman in Hollywood.

Not only was she wearing an incredible dress, but also she was nominated and won for Best Supporting Actress in 12 Years A Slave.

From the moment she stepped onto the red carpet, all eyes were on her. The gorgeous pale blue Prada dress popped against her dark skin and the Grecian style flattered her perfectly.

When I first saw the dress, I immediately thought of Cinderella wearing the same pale blue dress when she went to the ball.

A close second to Nyong’o was Kate Hudson. She sure looked like a winner in her stunning gown although she wasn’t nominated. This champagne silver Versace gown complimented Kate’s figure with its slight pleating and draping around her waist. The beautiful cape like draping around her shoulders really captured the classic Hollywood effect by having a vintage feel while still keeping it modern with the deep v neck.

Congratulations to Cate Blanchett for winning her Oscar for “Best Actress” for Blue Jasmine. And for also looking absolutely gorgeous in her Armani gown.

This gown reminded me of spring. Golden flower appliques were evenly scattered throughout the dress and were enhanced by nude cap sleeves.

Whoopi Goldberg on stage during the 86th annual Academy Awards on Sunday, March 2, at the Dolby Theatre at the Hollywood & Highland Center in Los Angeles.

(Eyepix/Newscom/Global Images/Corbis)

Lupita Nyong’o arrives at the 86th annual Academy Awards on Sunday, March 2, at the Dolby Theatre at the Hollywood & Highland Center in Los Angeles.

(Stefanie Keenan/Invision/Associated Press)

This dress was feminine and sophisticated, just like Cate.

Although there were some winners on the red carpet, there were also some losers as well.

Elsa Pataky, the wife of Chris Hemsworth, walked down the red carpet in an Elie Saab teal beaded covered gown, eight months into her pregnancy. Unfortunately, the only positive thing about this dress was the color because everything else was a mess.

I have learned from watching the red carpet and other awards shows that if an actress is expecting, keep it simple! The last thing she wants to do is cover her body in a brightly colored beaded dress. Not only because it’s unflattering but from the side one may even see her partially exposed breast.

Not mom appropriate!

Sally Hawkins, who was nominated for Best Supporting Actress, walked onto the red carpet wearing a long sleeved embroidered Valentino gown.

Although I love lace, this dress was too old fashioned. Whereas Pataky’s was too revealing, this wasn’t revealing enough so it aged Hawkins terribly. The fit also looked a little off and seemed to be a box on her body. Perhaps if it was more fitted, and maybe had an open back, the dress could have been a winner.

Another fashion disaster was when Whoopi Goldberg walked the red carpet in an overwhelming and unflattering black strapless dress with a white long sleeved dress shirt. She also wore black and white striped tights with bright ruby red heels reminiscent of Dorothy’s shoes in The Wizard Of Oz.

Goldberg’s outfit was the all-around worst and reminded me of the Wicked Witch of the East.

Although this year’s Oscars was definitely one to remember from the Ellen DeGeneres’s selfie that broke Twitter, to the spontaneous pizza party, this year’s fashion definitely had some flops.

Let’s hope next year’s fashion is better.

Lupita Nyong’o
Divergent: Introducing the latest young adult franchise

By Adrienne Keer

The latest in the string of young adult novels getting film adaptations, Veronica Roth’s Divergent follows the story of sixteen year old Beatrice “Tris” Prior.

Tris lives in a post-apocalyptic America, that’s been divided into five faction utopias. These five factions are centered around personality traits. Amity are nice and harmonious, Erudite are knowledgeable, Candor are honest and truthful, Dauntless are brave, and Abnegation are selfless.

At the age of sixteen, all citizens have to take an aptitude test. This test uses a simulation to judge which faction a person should join. Amity and Abnegation, where she grew up, choose her to join Abnegation. She feels out of place with Abnegation so no one gets suspicious.

Tori, the Dauntless woman who administers Tris’s aptitude test, tells her that her results were inconclusive. She explains that while not impossible, it’s extremely rare for someone to get multiple results. These people are called Divergent. Tris is warned that no one can know that she is Divergent, or she’ll be in serious danger. Tori then manually enters a result for Abnegation so no one gets suspicious.

During the choosing ceremony, Tris winds up going with Dauntless, because she felt out of place with Abnegation because she didn’t feel she was selfless, a trait other factions refer to Abnegationists. This is where she meets Four and Eric, the instructors for initiation. Soon after initiation begins, Four, whose real name is Tobias, tells Tris that he knows what she is, because he’s Divergent too. He begins to teach her how to hide this by “showing her the Dauntless way” of getting through the simulations, so she can pass initiations.

In the meantime, there’s trouble brewing between the factions, and Erudite leader Jeanine Matthews is planning for the execution of all the Divergent.

In terms of storyline, it’s similar to The Hunger Games in the sense that there’s a female protagonist who’s in the middle of a brewing war, but it’s got its own unique elements to it.

When it comes to casting, I have nothing but positive things to say about Shailene Woodley’s performance as Tris. I feel like she did a great job in the role, and I don’t think anyone else could’ve done as good of a job as she did.

While I admit Theo James was good in his role as Four, I will say that I thought his acting was flat at times. There were moments when I felt like his only purpose was to serve as eye candy, and while I definitely have no complaints there, I feel like he could’ve done a little better in regards to showing emotion.

A particular scene that sticks out the most was when he took Tris through his fear landscape, which is a simulation that puts a person through their worst fears. It’s supposed to teach the initiates to get through them in the Dauntless way. In the book, he was so afraid that Tris had to help guide him through it. His worst fear is revealed to be his father, who abused him and was the reason he transferred to Dauntless. During this simulation, his father attempts to beat him, and Tris helps him defend himself. On screen it was much different. Four was calm and collected, and overpowered his father with little to no problem, while Tris stood in the corner looking horrified.

I can understand how that would be a heavy scene to have in a movie aimed towards a teenage demographic, but I felt like it took a lot of the tone away from Four’s character. He didn’t appear as vulnerable like he was in the book, and while the scene was still unnerving, I felt like it could’ve done a much better job at portraying a victim of abuse.

When it comes to the other initiates, I feel like the characters, Christina, Will, and Peter could’ve been more developed. While Zee Kravitz was spot on as Christina, an initiate from Candor, Will seemed more like a background character than anything. The two are a couple in the book, but only have a brief flirting session on screen. Peter was very toned down, and was made into a stereotypical bully, rather than being portrayed as a borderline psychopath like he was in the book, but Miles Teller did a good job with what he was given.

Kate Winslet who played Jeanine Matthews, was perfect for the role, despite being the villain in the series. At first I was doubtful that she would fit into the role, but she absolutely perfect as the cold and calculated character we all wanted to punch by the time the movie reached its climax.

While there were some key scenes missing, as well as the Dauntless-born initiates, I still feel like casting did a fairly good job at getting the right actors for the roles.

In addition to the cast and plot, I also have a love for special effects and soundtrack utilization. I’m also becoming a bigger fan of cinematography. Divergent definitely delivered in all of these areas, which is what really made the movie so good for me. I love that only a few songs from the soundtrack were actually in the move, and that they blended with the scenes without overpowering them. The special effects were like a companion, and they all blended together perfectly.

It has mixed reviews from fans, but overall, I really like how the story was adapted for the big screen. While I give it a nine purely because of important characters and plot points being missing, I definitely enjoyed watching it and I definitely recommend it to fans of the series, and anyone who’s interested in checking it out should.

Contact Adrienne Keer at communitarian@ducc.edu
Philadelphia Veterans Comfort House
DCCC students give back to Veterans March 17-18

Front to back:
The Communitarian Senior Photographer
Windy Joseph, Student Government
Association member, Maria Bissinger, Jenny Ngo, and U.S. Army veteran Tyshon Bullock
smiles while preparing to feed residents.

At left:
Left to right - Ryan Powell,
Robin A. Lawrence, Tyshon Bullock, Ryan Powell, and Natalia Berkman.

At right:
Left to right - Karen Patterson,
Angelica Rivera, Windy Joseph, Robin A. Lawrence,
Tyshon Bullock, Ryan Powell, Roberta E. Kelly and Natalia Berkman.

Bottom:
Windy Joseph jokes around
with Jenny Ngo,
Tyshon Bullock is caught off guard
and Brandon Formanes smiles
during the DCCC community
service week at the PVCH.

All photos by Ashley Caldwell
On St. Patrick’s Day, many people dress in their green attire and drink beer to celebrate the merriment of the holiday. But for the past three years the Sacred Heart School in Havertown, Pa. has held a Sacred Heart 5K Run and Family Fun Walk to raise money for the school.

“Each year the event has been a success for the community,” said Prudential Fox and Roach Realtor Maria Pardini, the 5K Run organizer for the latest run held March 8. “The involvement in the event has been great.”

For the last three years, the Sacred Heart School has partnered with Bryn Mawr Running Company to administer the 5K Run and Family Fun Walk and the outcome has improved throughout the years, Pardini said.

Before the race began, participants and spectators were greeted with an assortment of Irish folk tunes played by John and Jim McGillian on their accordion, banjo, and guitar. After the McGillian brothers concluded their musical performance, the 5K runners were led to the starting line by Sacred Heart’s Lucky Leprechaun, while the song “Scotland the Brave” was played on bagpipes.

More than 100 runners and walkers competed in the event as they trotted throughout Havertown and along Manoa Road.

When it was time for the race to begin, a timer was set by the Bryn Mawr Racing Company for the runners to start. After a few minutes, the walkers were led to the starting line by Sacred Heart’s Lucky Leprechaun to prepare for their walk through the Havertown neighborhood.

According to the Sacred Heart School website, proceeds from the race are going toward the infrastructure of the school. Individual participants were asked to pay $30 after Feb. 20 and $35 if they registered during the day of the race.

The Sacred Heart School plans to hold another Sacred Heart Shamrock Shuffle next March.

“We’re hoping to see an increase in contributions each year of doing the event,” Pardini said. “As long as the word gets out, we intend to show the community that we are creating a positive atmosphere for everyone.”

Contact James Pearson at communitarian@mail.dccc.edu
Three Sister’s Review—Chekhov For An American Audience

By William Rickards

Chekhov—(n) A college student’s nightmare.

“I first read all of Chekhov’s plays in college,” said Director Terrence Nolen. “And like so many people when I first read them I couldn’t figure out who was who. So I made a list of all the characters and at some point I got lost in the play, I got sucked in. I hit the end of the play and thought ‘that’s the greatest play I ever read.’

Arden Theater’s production of Three Sisters directed by Terrence Nolen is a new American translation of an old Russian classic filled with meta-theatrics, a smart self-awareness, and a unique tailor for an American audience with all existential crisis intact.

For those who aren’t caught up on your turn of the century Russian plays, Three Sisters follows the story of Olga, Irina, and Masha Prozorov as they traverse their early adult lives and begin to have their eyes opened to true malaise and hopelessness.

Like all Chekhov plays, Three Sisters is rife with subtext, something expertly executed by the actors of Arden Theatre. From actor Ian Peakes’ strong bravado in his portrayal of Lt. Col. Vershinin, a battery commander involved an affair with Masha (Katherine Powell) to the desperation and confusion emanated by Mary Tuomanen’s Irina, the youngest sister who dreams repeatedly of “Moscow, Moscow, Moscow,” the cast hits hard with the new translation.

Part of the show’s success lies squarely on the shoulders of its relatable translation. “All we know of Chekhov’s Three Sisters comes primarily from Stanislavski and the British production,” said Director Terrence Nolen on opening night. “I wanted to do a new translation for an American audience, and really I wanted it to be a little anti-British.”

The production of Three Sisters took Nolen and translator Curt Columbus to Moscow to get a better idea of exactly what makes a Chekhov play tick. The final result was an Americanized, modern translation replete with smart beats and thematic loyalty. From great acting from the ensemble, to strong direction, to a lively actable translation, the production measures itself well against the literary greatness of Chekhov.

Three Sisters runs March 26th through April 20th at the Arden Theatre Company on 40 N 2nd street in Old City Philadelphia. Tickets are $35-$48 for adults depending on the performance chosen. Student rush tickets are also available pending availability for $10 cash with presentation of a valid student ID.

Contact William Rickards at communitarian@mail.dccc.edu

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A new eyeglass assembly lab in Halethorpe, Md., is poised to make prescription lenses for Google Glass after the wearable-computer product launches later this year.

The VSPOne facility, which opened last month, expects substantial growth from more conventional sources _ customers throughout the Northeast ordering regular eyeglasses. But the lab also has the technology needed to process orders for prescription Glass and expects to do so, said David Carr, a company spokesman.

When, exactly, is up in the air. Glass _ an Internet-connected display screen mounted on an eyeglass frame _ is a prototype available only to beta testers for now. But Google expects to launch it sometime this year.

Google Glass has prompted a lot of debate, from the safety of driving while wearing it to the privacy implications of glasses that can take photos and record video. Then there's the argument about how much it will really matter _ whether such products are game-changers or novelties.

Glass is pricey for now: $1,500 _ plus tax _ for testers. Marks hopes the ultimate price is lower so more people jump on board.

Google teamed up with VSPOne parent VSP Global, which provides vision insurance and other eye care services, on the rollout of prescription beta testing in January. VSPOne already makes prescription lenses for Glass testers who need them, generally out of its lab in Sacramento, Calif.

VSPOne's Halethorpe facility, meanwhile, would be notable whether it makes prescription Glass or not _ simply by dint of being a new manufacturing facility.

Mike Galiazzo, president of the Regional Manufacturing Institute of Maryland, can think of plenty of plants in the region that closed, but few opening. “It doesn’t happen often,” he said.

He thinks an eyeglass assembly facility _ particularly one with a cutting-edge product in its future _ plays to the state’s strengths. Maryland has a strong health care and life sciences industry. Like many high-tech, automated manufacturing operations, VSPOne's Halethorpe facility has a lean staff. It runs with just four people _ three technicians and Brian Snider, the lab manager.

But within the next one to two years, we expect to have upward of 30 to 40 employees here,” he said.

VSPOne is its parent’s lab offshoot, and it’s expanding along with the company’s membership numbers. Halethorpe launched as a new site rather than a relocation.

A big part of the site’s appeal is logistics. Staffers can quickly get eyeglass parts in and ship the finished product out, with a UPS location across the street and Interstate 95 around the corner.

The mass of federal employees in the region is another selling point. The federal government is a VSP client.

The lab now turns out about 50 glasses a day. VSP said that’s far more than it expected, less than two months in, but there’s room to make 200 daily as orders ramp up.

Doctors send the frames patients pick over to the lab, and a VSP processing facility ships over the lenses. Once Halethorpe employees have both in hand, it takes six to eight hours to prepare the lenses and assemble the glasses.

A digital edging machine handles part of the process, carving lenses into the right shape with the appropriate bevel. As trays with lenses queued up for the edger earlier this month, the machine’s robotic arm grabbed one, read the accompanying bar code to determine how to process it and automatically set to work.

“It’s a constant cycle that runs throughout the day,” Snider said over the steady drone. “And the precision and accuracy of this machine is phenomenal.”

He’s speaking as a customer, not just a manager. His new glasses were assembled on site.

“I probably put them together,” he said.

Visit WWW.CHCEdu/SUSVISIT to register for one of our Transfer Days: Tuesday, April 8 / 10:00am Tuesday, May 6 / 10:00am Tuesday, June 10 / 10:00am
Darren Williams II, a Delaware County native and 2010 Darby High School graduate has been producing music since his later high school years. He focuses primarily on Hip-Hop and goes by the stage name, “D-Roc,” which he said was a name given to him by other people and “just stuck.”

Williams is only 22-years-old and has already experienced the life of an artist. He has performed at local venues, such as The Theater of the Living Arts (TLA) and The Blockley, as well as out-of-state venues in cities such as Texas, Los Angeles, and many more.

At 22-years-old most young adults are “finding themselves,” but Williams is one who already knows what he wants and how he wants it.

“If I want something done,” he said, “I go out and I get it done.”

Darren and I sat down over Apple’s FaceTime to discuss his progress of becoming the “next big thing.”

Q: May you give us your name?
A: Darren Williams II. My stage name is D-Roc.

Q: Where do you currently reside?
A: What high school did you attend?
Q: How long have you been doing music?
A: I’ve been doing music since 2009.

Q: How have you been doing music? Why did you begin?
A: I’ve been doing music since 2009. It’s been great. I released a video on Facebook (back then) and the feedback, the comments and likes I got from people, it just encouraged me to keep pushing it. People encouraged me. They enjoyed what they heard and watched and it made me become more consistent and dedicated to making more music and videos. It turned into what it is today.

Q: What is “it” today?
A: Today, I mean, is the execution of me expressing myself. It’s me giving people “feel-good” music. I mean, it’s expressing the feelings and for the most part it starts with me expressing my feelings, my emotions and my beliefs. Along with that, I think I am able and blessed to make music that people can relate to certain situations that one goes through.

Q: I also know that you released your new album title, “Feelin’ Myself.” May you explain a little about that project?
A: “Feelin’ Myself” is another one of my babies, musically. It’s a mixtape, which can also be called an EP (which simply means that it contains more music than a single, but less music to qualify as a full album). It came about after working with some of my musical inspirations and the feedback I strongly and with much confidence about how dedicated I am and to my music. It tells how I motivate myself, how other motivate me, how people that doubt whatever it is I can and will be. I know that hard work can bring great success. I always use this quote, especially on myself daily, “one who gains confidence in himself/herself gains the confidence of others.”

Q: In your own words, what does grinding mean to you?
A: Definitely! Grinding, to me, is defining success as four categories: 1) Setting a goal 2) Making a plan to achieve that goal 3) Applying yourself to that plan and 4) Achieving that goal. It can be something small or something big. So grinding, to me, is a part of success. It’s that part of applying yourself to that plan. Whatever it is that you have to do to achieve success.

Q: Have you performed at local or out-of-state venues before?
A: Yes. I am honored to say that I’ve performed many places, some locally, some out-of-state. I’ve been to LA, New York, Texas. I’ve been down Florida. I’ve been able to be in a couple different cities. Locally, I’ve performed at the TLA in 2010, The Liacouras Center in 2010 with hip-hop artist, Wale, The Blockley. I’ve gotten many opportunities, and it’s all from grinding. I set a goal and I wanted to get a show and I’ve done that. Different promoters have contacted me and asked me to do a show and I also put together my own shows. I’ve put together a show at the James Oliver Gallery and other Art Gazers, all in Philadelphia. I’ve definitely been doing and will continue to do.

Q: How was that experience for you?
A: I love performing. Especially with the name and “buzz” I have now. I feel like I am able to perform with more intimacy. I’m able to be more intimate with the people in the crowd. I’m on a stage and everything, but I’m not 30 feet away from there. I’m interacting with them, I’m right there. I get them very involved with what I’m doing, whether it’s clapping their hands, raising their hands, whatever it is I’m doing I like for them to feel very involved. At the end of the day, although I am definitely making it, they’re digging it. I have my shows that I perform, you know. I’m executing and doing what I would like to do musically, so I’m comfortable.

Q: Where can people go to listen/watch your videos and get information about D-Roc?
A: Social media! You can follow on Facebook (Darren D-Roc Williams), Twitter and Instagram (@RealD-Roc). They can listen to my music at Youtube (darrendroc), and on my website (allaboutdroc.com).

Q: Is there anything else you’d like the readers to know about Darren “D-Roc” Williams?
A: I just want to encourage people to be who you want to be and do what you want to do, you know. I can’t remember if I read this or heard this from somebody but basically it said, “If someone is telling you ‘no,’ ‘no you can’t do it!’ it doesn’t necessarily mean that you can’t do it or you can’t be that, it just means you can do it or be that with him or her around. Chase your dreams, don’t let anyone tell you can’t do something. For me, you can’t tell me nothing, I’m always gone be that way. I’m going to do what I want to do and just continue to rock with me. Anytime. Continue to rock with me. I’m going to do what I want to do and just continue to rock with me.

Contact Ashley Caldwell at communictarian@mail.dccu.edu
Women’s Track & Field
Meet
Dates
Times
@ Moravian College 4/12 11AM
@ Widener Invitational 4/19 11AM
@ West Chester University 4/26 11AM
@ SUNY Oneonta Upstate NY 5/10 11AM

Women’s Track & Field coach
Coach Winston Morris is in his 1st year as head coach at DCCC, with more than 10 years coaching experience. Coach Winston is also known for coaching Jamaican and U.S. Olympic stars.

Baseball coach
Paul Motta is in his 44th year coaching at DCCC with nine league championships. Coach Motta coached an undefeated league season in 2010 and amassed more than 671 lifetime wins.

Golf
Previous Games
Opponents
Dates
Times
@ Lehigh Carbon CC 4/11 10 AM
Homestead in New Tripoli, PA
@ Bucks County CC Five 4/15 11 AM
Ponds in Warminister, PA
@ Harrisburg Area CC Dauphin Highlands 4/22 11 AM
Harrisburg, PA
@ Luzerne County CC 4/25 11 AM
Wilkes Barre Municipal, Wilkes Barre, PA
GSA/EPA/Del Tournament 4/28 9 AM
High Bridge, NJ
Region 19 Tournament 5/12-13 TBA
Hamburg, NJ

Golf coach
Wayne Horn has 27 years coaching/instructing experience, with 20 years coaching at DCCC, as head coach.

**Students are able to join any sports team at any time. For more information, contact Director of Wellness, Athletics and Recreation, Andrew Johnson, Jr. at 610-359-5354 or visit Room 2507.

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