ACT 1 COMPLETES SUCCESSFUL RUN OF LOST IN YONKERS

By Adam Zielonka
The Minstrel

The DeSales University Act 1 season recently began with a production of Neil Simon’s Lost in Yonkers, directed by professor of theater Anne Lewis. The play, which ran from October 2 to October 13, drew high praise from many in both the DeSales community and the Lehigh Valley. Lost in Yonkers is set during World War II in Yonkers, N.Y. The show centers on the Kurnitz family, specifically teenager brothers Jay (played by freshman Louis Jannuzzi, III) and Arty (junior Alec Edwards). After their mother dies of cancer, their father Eddie (senior Peter E. Danelski) takes a job in the South to pay off the ensuing medical expenses. The boys must move in with Eddie’s mother, the angry and strict Grandma Kurnitz (junior Julie Maggio), for ten months. The boys’ Aunt Bella (junior Autumn Lee Fink), a loving but mentally challenged woman, lives with Grandma and helps run her family’s candy store. Jay and Arty must adjust to their new lives with Grandma and Aunt Bella, as well as their Uncle Louie (senior Brett Lawlor) and Aunt Gertrude (senior Caitlin Daley), who have also been damaged in different ways by their mother’s stern upbringing.

Lost in Yonkers, which won the 1991 Pulitzer Prize for Drama, is considered Simon’s greatest masterpiece. Lewis explained how the play is different than other Act 1 productions she has directed, which include I Love a Piano and A View from the Bridge. “Yonkers” was different in that it is one of the more contemporary pieces that I have done,” said Lewis. “And I think because it is more contemporary, the characters are more easily accessed by young actors. It is one of Neil Simon’s best plays. He also captures human nature in a serious but touching, and at times, comedic way.” Maggio was genuinely frightening as Grandma Kurnitz and Danelski delivered Eddie’s tearful monologue to Grandma with tangible passion. All seven cast members gave powerful performances, but none more so than Fink. Her poignant portrayal of Bella, who is only so than Fink. Her poignant portrayal of Bella, who is only

“Yonkers” continued on page 4

DISMISSING UNAFFORDABLE IGNORANCE ON THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

By Garrett McDivitt
The Minstrel

The Affordable Care Act, popularly known as “Obamacare,” was passed in March 2010. It is a total reboot of the American healthcare system, designed to give every American access to health insurance. In this modern age, the United States has been the only industrialized country that does not guarantee some form of healthcare for all of its citizens. For the first time in history, America has a president who has attempted to fix this extremely expensive and problematic issue. By no means is the law footproof, but the government shutdown and lack of rhetoric on improving the Affordable Care Act is affecting every American— including you.

How does the Affordable Care Act work?
Citizens began enrolling for the program on October 1. People are now able to search the various plans available to them and purchase the one they believe is most beneficial for their lifestyle, much like car insurance. The plan that is purchased depends on various factors, such as age, income and whether one is purchasing a family plan. The user can compare other coverage options side by side and pick which one they think is best. Once a plan is purchased, the new coverage will not begin until January 1, 2014. The federal government will then add billions of dollars to each state’s health care funds to assist with the payments, paying 100% of the costs for the first three years.

What is so special about the Affordable Care Act?
There are now features to the law that have never been used before in the United States healthcare system. Perhaps the most important aspect is how the majority of Americans can apply for coverage. There are plans for the rich and the poor, the healthy and the sick. Most health insurance plans cannot deny an applicant because of a pre-existing health condition, such as cancer. This is important because these plans are the ones that cost health insurance providers the most amount of money. Failing, they cannot turn down someone with a pre-existing condition based on cost. Another new addition is that children can stay on their parents’ plan until they reach the age of 26. Now, recent college graduates are not concerned with buying health insurance because they can be kept on their parents’ plan until they are ready to make a commitment, or they can be added on to it if they become seriously sick or injured. Depending on a family’s income and size, many people will also be able to lower their monthly premiums and out-of-pocket expenses. This will happen if the individual states agree to help the Affordable Care Act flourish, completing actions such as expanding Medicaid. According to the Department of Health and Human Services, nearly six out of 10 uninsured Americans can have a health insurance plan for less than $100 per person per month.

“Obamacare” continued on page 7

DESALES CELEBRATES FALL WITH OCTOBERFEST

By Kate Bortz
The Minstrel

When not studying diligently, students at DeSales are always looking for new and interesting ways to spend their time on campus. On Saturday, October 12, the first ever DeSales Octoberfest was met with rave reviews from students who were able to experience the best activities that fall has to offer right outside of the McShea Student Center. “I started thinking about having a fall-themed activity for students over the summer,” said assistant director of Student Engagement and Leadership, Tracy Gallagher. “It’s something that I’ve seen at a lot of other places and I thought it would be a great thing to bring to the campus.” By collaborating with several other clubs and organizations on campus, Gallagher organized a makeshift pumpkin patch, foods and hot beverages with the best fall flavors, live entertainment from two bands and several challenges where students were able to unleash their creative and competitive sides. They also had the opportunity to learn more about various clubs and events happening on campus. “DSU Live! helped with the event by booking Coastaia, and I’m personal friends with Second Chance Rodeo,” said Gallagher. “I also worked closely with the DUC to put together some great fall recipes.” In addition to these contributions, she received 50 pumpkins donated by Amore “Octoberfest” continued on page 2

IGNORANCE ON THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

Speaker of the House John Boehner and President Barack Obama. Photo from TheWeek.com.

By Garrett McDivitt
The Minstrel

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“Obamacare” continued on page 7
The short amount of time to wrap a Relay" in which students had a put together a "Mummy Wrap Relay. The country duo Second Chance Rodeo performs. Junior Olivia Myron carves a pumpkin. Photos by Kate Bortz.

The Exercise is Medicine Club creatively planned activities. DeSales community through for several clubs to get their chance a fun activity for students, other adorable farm animals. miniature horse and many goats, a baby calf, a zoo for students complete Farms and prepared a petting zoo for students complete with goats, a baby calf, a miniature horse and many other adorable farm animals.

Octoberfest was not only a fun activity for students, but also gave the chance for several clubs to get their name known throughout the DeSales community through creatively planned activities. The Exercise is Medicine Club put together a "Mummy Wrap Relay" in which students had a short amount of time to wrap a friend from head to toe in toilet paper and then carry them from one side of the mall to the other as quickly as possible.

Other clubs that participated in Octoberfest included the Random Acts of Kindness Club, which raised money to provide meals to families in Africa, and Yearbook, who held a pumpkin carving contest. "[Octoberfest] is so much fun," said sophomore Sten Schlo. "I really love the bands that they have playing and I'm so happy that I finally got to carve a pumpkin this fall!"

Because this was the first year that Octoberfest has taken place on campus, Gallagher was not sure what to expect from the event. "Originally, our main goal was to have at least 100 people filter through the event at some point," said Gallagher. "We've definitely surpassed that number, so I think we need to reconsider some things, like how many pumpkins we need or the amount of food we have set out."

The members of Student Engagement and Leadership are now looking for student input on next year's Octoberfest. If interested in seeing your ideas implemented, feel free to contact Gallagher and Student Activities through the Student Activities Facebook page or on Twitter (@dsuactivities).
DSU STUDENTS REPRESENT AMERICA IN LONDON

By Katie Kusik
The Minstrel

A month has gone by for the international students at St. Mary’s University College and everyone here is having the time of their lives. Studying abroad is a great opportunity for students to travel the world while still pursuing their degree. Brian MacDonald, director of international learning, told us before we left that this experience would make us more open-minded individuals and after a month of being here, I can see what he meant.

On September 10, I was one of nine DeSales University students who were welcomed to St. Mary’s University College in Twickenham, London. Along with me, there were about 50 other international students staying in Twickenham from all over the world, including Germany, Portugal and South Korea.

For about a week, we were left to explore the campus. We attended sessions for the first two days to help us adjust to life in a different country and to De Sales University. One of the biggest changes we deal with when studying abroad is learning how to adapt to the teacher’s style and different professors as well as only having class once a week.

Another session that we attended that first week was about traveling in Europe, given by Susannah Kyte from Samsung. We spent about four days touring company ripping off students when she studied abroad, started a tour company in 2001. These tours are provided for any international student studying in London and including day trips around England and weekend trips throughout Europe.

After a week of being with the other international students, we were joined by the British first-year students affectionately referred to as “freshers.” Their arrival marks the beginning of Freshers’ Week, a two-week long string of events, held at the campus bar and local clubs, that are all up to par with what meets friends and have fun before classes started.

“Freshers’ Week at St. Mary’s was a great time, full of theme nights such as a beach party night and jungle night,” said junior Kathleen Kelling. “We all loved getting to dress up in fun outfits, meet the students here and dance the night away. It was the perfect way to start off the semester and experience the British culture as a St. Mary’s student.”

One of the major differences between DeSales and St. Mary’s is the food selection. It is well known that when you go to another country, you are expected to adapt to the different culture you are living in. At St. Mary’s, the Refectory is the equivalent to the DeSales University Center Refectory is the equivalent to the DeSales University Center Refectory is the equivalent to the DeSales University Center Refectory is the equivalent to the DeSales University Center Refectory is the equivalent to the DeSales University Center Refectory is the equivalent to the DeSales University Center. The Fox, the oldest pub in Twickenham, is one of the greatest places to become familiar with the culture of this part of England.

Sophomore Kathleen Mitchel of Molloy College in New York said, “The pub’s atmosphere tells a lot about the history of the town. You can tell that pubs like The Fox have been around for a white and although most of the people were older, we were still able to keep up beat with the live music and homely feel.”

Recently, we were able to take part in a sponsored trip that went to Stonehenge and Bath, England. On the bus ride to Bath, we drove through the beautiful countryside and along the way, our tour guide provided us with interesting information and fascinating stories about the city. Though we were only there for a short time, we were able to soak up the culture and get a feel for what the city was like in earlier times.

“Bath was like a Roman village in the middle of the country side,” said junior Christopher Okula. “Seeing all the Roman architecture was really cool and it gave great insight to what life was like for people back in the Roman days and in the 1700s and 1800s.”

From Bath, we went to Stonehenge. What made Stonehenge so fascinating is that no one actually knows how it got there. The tour guide provided many possible theories and we were able to decide which one made the most sense to us.

“Stonehenge was an amazing sight once you understand the history and the superstition around it,” said Okula. “It was really interesting. I’m really happy we were able to see Bath and the historic landmarks of England.”

Valley Voyages: Dorney Park’s Haunt

By Sarah Bridge
Contributing Writer

Many DeSales students look forward to the fall season for a number of different reasons, such as the cooler temperatures, football season and all of the pumpkin flavored beverages. However, Halloween has proven to be a fall favorite for many. While there are local parades for this holiday, Dorney Park supercedes all other festivities in the Lehigh Valley. Dorney Park is located in Allentown, Pa., a mere 20 minutes from the DeSales campus.

For those who want to experience fall activities without being scared silly, Dorney Park offers Boo! Blast during the day, which is targeted towards younger children but is fun for the whole family. This toned-down section of the park features pumpkin painting, face painting, a bale maze and a petting zoo.

Though there are many fun activities during the day, the park truly comes alive once the sun sets. Dorney Park’s Haunt offers not only the traditional haunted house, but also haunted rides, mazes, scare zones, shows and other haunted experiences. These are complete with zombies, clowns, monsters, killers and other terrifying characters running around the park. Haunt’s seven main attractions include ”Bloodshed,” “Desolation,” “Gravewalkers,” “Mansion House Motel,” “Psycho Circus” and “The Asylum.” Dorney Park also keeps open all of their best-known thrill rides.

While few in number, Haunt’s signature attractions are the scare zones. Haunt offers “Age of Darkness,” a haunted attraction that features plague-stricken peasants; “Cut Throat Island,” featuring looting pirates; and “Head Hunters,” featuring a deadly tribe intent on making guests their next sacrifice.

The park also offers three live shows: “Blood Drums,” “Cast in Bronze” and “Witches Brew.” “Blood Drums” features exotic drum players along with other rhythmic instruments and an array of light spectacles. “Cast in Bronze” features the cairn and other bell instruments. “Witches Brew” displays a witch-themed spectacle of music. All of these attractions aren’t appealing enough for you, Dorney Park offers a special deal for students. If you present your student ID at the ticket counter, tickets are only $25 (opposed to the general price of $30-$35). No matter which attractions students choose, they are guaranteed to help you celebrate the scariest time of year. For more information, visit www.dorneypark.com.
The theater department has been hard at work preparing for the premiere of Rodgers and Hart – A Celebration. This production will be showcased at DeSales University’s Schubert Theater October 17 through October 20.

This show is unique in the sense that it has no storyline or costume changes and the characters are nameless. Instead, the performance is a collection of 60 out of the 550 Richard Rodgers and Lorenz Hart compositions. This music was created during the roaring ’20s and the ’50s. These songs were pulled from a handful of musicals such as Jumbo, Boys from Syracuse and Pal Joey to name a few. The cast is comprised of six males in suits and six females in dresses who offer two hours of entertainment through almost constant singing and dancing. They are accompanied by a bass and piano player, a rather simple orchestra. The only break from song is dialogue to offer details about the history of the musicians and their process for composing the works. Stephen Casey is both the director and choreographer of the show that seamlessly strung all the pieces of music together.

Hal Miers is a senior theater major performing in the show. He explained that the people involved in Rodgers and Hart – A Celebration began to work on rehearsing a week and a half earlier than the department typically spends preparing for opening night. Due to the intricacy of mastering both lyrics and choreography to sixty songs, the rehearsal process has consumed six days of the performers’ weeks since the first of September. As a theater major, Miers has plenty of experience taking on the role of a specific character and communicating the emotions and events of a story to the audience. Miers says, “The biggest challenge for this show is finding a reason to be singing, a reference point to ignite the emotion behind the song because there is no story to follow.” Miers further explains that this is not a downfall of the show, because “it also offers more freedom to delve completely into a specific song.”

The show is in constant motion musically and emotionally. There is a large variety in the genres of music included in the performance. You will hear anything from comedic tunes to somber ballads. There are solos, trios, and powerful group numbers as well. Hal Miers mentioned that his favorite part of the show is a trio he is in. Christine Baglivio, a junior theater major, dances with Hal to music sung by a solo. The two modes of expression work to complement one another while communicating the essence of the music itself.

This celebration of music is a great opportunity sit back and soak in the talent DeSales has to offer. All that is required of you is to open your eyes and ears. Now is your chance to travel back in time back and experience how the art of the past influenced and played a crucial role in the growth of today’s music. Three of the shows are already sold out, so do not miss your chance to enjoy this eclectic collection of tunes and talent.

By Samantha Jones
Contributing Writer

A CELEBRATION YOU DON’T WANT TO MISS

By Garrett McDvitt
The Minstrel

Night of the Living Dead (1968)

George A. Romero’s classic film is often cited as the entire subsection of the horror genre, Night of the Living Dead, is the first popular zombie movie to be made. It is centered on a group of individuals boarded up in a small, abandoned house and chronicles how they defend themselves against the hungry hoards of monstrous ones. However, each person has a different strategy on what should be done, with the characters butting heads at the most crucial of times. The black and white coloring makes for eerie close-ups of the zombies as they stumble and groan their way closer to whatever food they can find. There are intense shots of zombies’ decaying faces, devouring handfuls of flesh as the shadows around them create ghastly apparitions of everyday folk turned evil. This film shattered what people thought horror movies could do and still scares people over 40 years later.

Fun Fact: The film had an estimated budget of only $114,000.

The Exorcist (1973)

Nominated for 10 Oscars and winner of two, William Friedkin’s The Exorcist tells the tale of a young girl, Regan, who has become possessed by the devil. She transforms from a young, innocent girl gets it.”

The Texas Chain Saw Massacre (1974)

This horror classic shies away from developing a plot or having dynamic characters and steamrolls right for a blood, gore and other visual catalysts to keep the viewer’s pulse pounding. The story follows a group of five young adults as they travel through a rural part of Texas. They pick up a hitchhiker early on in the film that completes a series of disturbing sentences and frightful acts and is quickly thrown out of the van. As is the norm in most horror movies, the young travelers disregard the awkward man’s warning and go on their journey. Once they stop at an old house to investigate, a madman wielding a chainsaw starts taking prey. Oh hey, he also wears a mask made out of other humans’ skin. As each character has their eventual encounter with the masked masher and his acolyces, there is only one character left. The final 20 minutes of the film are so disturbing and visually striking, it is almost hard to watch more than 30 years after its release.

Scariest Scene: The chainsaw-wielding murderer hangs one living creature on a meat hook as he methodically cuts another on a table with the same weapon. The only thing more scary is that these creatures are human.

The Shining (1980)

Director Stanley Kubrick uses his keen eye for aesthetics and precision to create one of the most captivating settings in film history. Based on the novel by Stephen King, The Shining follows struggling writer Jack Torrance, played by Jack Nicholson, and his family as they watch over a massive hotel deep within the mountains of Colorado. The hotel closes every winter since it is so far away from the nearest towns and gets pummeled with snow so much that it is impossible to keep the windows clear. The Torrance family, consisting of Jack, his wife Wendy and their young son Danny, are essentially locked within the long, sprawling halls of the hotel. Jack slowly loses his mind in an insane horror fixated with an earlier crime committed by a previous caretaker. Murder, insanity, ghosts and despair await them in the best psycho-thriller ever made.

Creepiest Quote: “All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy.”

Byer Garrett McDvitt
The Minstrel

ESSENTIAL HORROR MOVIES FOR HALLOWEEN SEASON

YOU’RE A SUCCESS

Continued from Page 1

who is misunderstood by Grandma and others, left many in the audience floored. Fink, whose previously appeared in A Tale of Two Cities, was able to explain what made this show special to her. “Something that set Lost in Yonkers apart from other Act 1 productions was certainly a minimal cast size,” said Fink. “Yonkers focuses on the Kurnitz family, and that onstage familial sense was enhanced by the intimacy the cast, director and crew cultivated by working on this piece together.”

Developing personal relationships allowed us to explore the characters’ vulnerability in a different way, from the childlike joys of living to the deepest sorrows of feeling unloved,” she added. Audiences also had high praise for Jannuzzi, who explained his character in his first Act 1 audition and gave a remarkable performance from start to finish. “I never would have guessed that the first month of my freshman year would have started like this,” said Jannuzzi. “Being cast in the show really has boosted my confidence in being a better actor, and this experience of putting on a great show for the community has been life-changing.”

Jannuzzi also said being cast in Yonkers was the start of a freshman experience he called “truly incredible.” “Director Anne Lewis especially pushed me beyond my limits to be the best I could be at performing my role, and thanks to him and the rest of the faculty and production staff, we have really put up an amazing show,” Jannuzzi said.

In addition, the students involved with the production really welcomed me with open arms,” he said. “They helped me mature as an actor and fit in as a new freshman theater major. I couldn’t have asked for a better group of people to work with.”

The fall semester continues with Rodgers & Hart – A Celebration, which runs from October 17 to October 27.

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Arts & Entertainment

On the street...

By Alexa Manzo
The Minstrel

...What would be your first order of business as President of the United States?

"I would make Benedict Cumberbatch my vice president!"

--Cara Maiatico
Senior, TV/film

"Everyone must dance for an hour a day."

--Jesse Florance
Senior, Dance

"Everyone must do one random act of kindness a day."

--Jake McNamara
Freshman, Marketing

"I would require people to play video games for five hours a day."

--Marshall Bonaskiewich
Junior, Nursing

"I would lower the cost of college!"

--Janine Curran
Sophomore, Business Administration

From the Editor...

The '90s were a rough era for baseball. Aside from the obvious steroid scandal that rocked the period and essentially delegitimized a decade-plus of statistics, we had this guy named Bobby Bonilla. Bonilla had some success in the MLB, including six All-Star selections and a World Series title with the Florida Marlins in 1997. But what Bonilla will likely be remembered for are his spats with the New York media while playing for the Mets, his arguments with manager Bobby Valentine and his contract, one of the most ridiculous contracts in sports history.

Bonilla's problems with the Mets (capped off by him playing cards with teammate Rickey Henderson in the clubhouse instead of being present in the dugout during the team's 1999 NLCS loss to the Braves) led to his release in 1999, but the team still owed the outfielder $5.9 million. The team wanted to get his contract off the books to move on with free agency, so they decided to defer the payment of his contract with eight percent interest to 2011. Long story short, the Mets are paying Bonilla over $1 million each year by doing absolutely nothing.

Where am I going with this? This story has been repeated in history and happens to be occurring, well, right now.

The government is shut down, which means a lot more than Congress not meeting. All nonessential government employees have been furloughed. All state parks and museums among many other government-run entities have closed their doors for the time being. The folks that work hard to maintain these parks and museums are on unpaid leave, while Congress continues to collect their paychecks as scheduled.

Some lawmakers have opted to have their paychecks donated to charity or returned to the Treasury Department, but many congressmen and congresswomen continue to receive their paychecks on time. Members of the House and Senate, along with Congressional leaders, are some of the highest paid government officials, earning an average of about $174,000.

Meanwhile, the furloughed federal employees are stuck at home, not receiving paychecks. They are promised to receive pay for the time they missed, but many of these workers struggle, working paycheck-to-paycheck, and find themselves in trouble after a three-year pay freeze. With Congress still consistently getting their paychecks, even though they caused the shutdown, it does not seem to make a whole lot of sense.

The debate over who is to blame for the shutdown is based on political ideologies and, at this point, does not seem to matter too much. The major issue is that we are faced with an inefficient government with two parties that are completely unwilling to make any concessions or reach across the aisle at all.

By the time this is published, an agreement between the two sides may have been reached, which is a step in the right direction, but by no means is this a sign of good things to come. Bobby Bonilla never worked out for the Mets and for right now, this government is not working out for this country. But both are still getting paid a significant amount more than I am.

Keep keepin’ it real, DeSales,

Dan Beck
Editor-in-Chief - The Minstrel
If you have ever been trapped in Dooling Hall for multiple classes in a row, you have probably seen the massive line of people waiting to get some coffee and a snack in the Skylight Lounge. For many, convenience overshadows much of what is presented there—soggy premade wraps, bagels as hard as a rock, as well as other DeSales favorites. If you head over to the DeSales University Center (DUC), you are able to get a full meal, but students always seem to have never-ending complaints about it, and quite frankly, for the prices they charge on certain items, it is hard to completely disagree.

Food Services at DeSales are provided by Sodexo, who is hired by the university to control the food served, alongside providing equipment and labor. There have been many issues in the past between students and Sodexo, and some still feel as though the pricing of food on campus is a major issue. Because we have nowhere else to go on campus for a good meal, many students feel gypped by the amount of money they have to spend on what they consider mediocre food. For commuters stuck on campus without a full meal plan, these issues hit a lot harder.

“The prices for some of the food on campus are absolutely ridiculous,” says junior commuter Eric Minzola. “I don’t have a meal plan and I feel like the food here is too hit-or-miss for the prices that they’re asking for.”

General manager Rich Jacoby believes that this could not be farther from the truth. “Our prices absolutely meet the quality of the food at the DUC,” says Jacoby. “This year, we’re really working on providing good service, freshness and local products. It’s night and day compared to other universities I’ve seen.”

Every year, Sodexo goes to DeSales with suggested increases in pricing. This is to keep up with inflation, but also to stay ahead of the competition provided by other local universities in the area. However, they do not make the final call on how much money you are going to spend on that container of strawberries in the Skylight Lounge.

To combat the increased pricing, some commuters have taken to going off campus for lunch. Senior Heather Craft is one commuter who is starting to feel as though venturing away from the DUC and Skylight Lounge might be a better option.

The cost of the food, which isn’t the worst food I have ever had, prohibits me from buying the school’s food more often,” says Craft. “It is much more cost effective to go to Subway or The Copperhead and get my lunch there.”

Though this may be true, Jacoby suggests that students should think about where the money they spend on food at DeSales is going. Surprisingly, Sodexo only earns about five percent of the profit from food sales. “Food Services make a huge profit for DeSales. You may save a few cents on a bottle of soda off campus, but the money that you spend on food here is put directly back into your education,” says Jacoby. According to Jacoby, much of the revenue earned by DeSales through the DUC and other satellite locations is used to fund many of the things that students may “take for granted” like intramural sports and funding for new buildings and dorms.

“We’re not here to rip anyone off,” says Jacoby. “We don’t ever see that money.”

So what can we, as students, do about the price of food on campus if we have an issue with it?

Jacoby urges students to get in touch with the SGA members. “We regularly attend SGA meetings,” says Jacoby. “We get minimal complaints from students, if any. If you have an issue, you have to express it to us.”

OBAMACARE AFFECTS STUDENTS

Continued from Page 1

In another study done by the Urban Institute, 28 million more Americans would become insured under the Affordable Care Act.

What do Republicans think about the Affordable Care Act? What do Democrats think about the Affordable Care Act? What does ObamaCare mean for students? Students and its subset, the Tea Party, feel that the Affordable Care Act is a form of socialism in which the government is entering the homes of average Americans and telling them how to live their lives. They also feel that the general public does not fully understand the law and what it means. In a poll conducted on October 1, 2013 by the Kaiser Family Foundation, only one in eight Americans fully understand the Affordable Care Act. The Republicans feel as if they had no say in the passing of the original bill back in 2008, when Congress was controlled by Democrats and the 1,000 plus page document was ratified. In order to force the President back into the negotiating phase of the Affordable Care Act, the Republican Party has resorted to not negotiating on the federal debt ceiling, causing the nation to enter a partial shutdown. They believe that by causing the government to shut down, the Democrats will be forced to sit down with the Republicans and alter some of the characteristics of the new healthcare bill.

What do Democrats think about the Affordable Care Act?

Democrats have fundamental differences with Republicans that are at the core of the debate. The Democrats believe that a big government allows citizens to make more sound decisions. They also believe that in order for a federal government to get out of debt, they should spend money on public policies that create jobs and promote business. As for the Affordable Care Act, Democrats believe that a bill ratified four years ago should be followed by the people of America, despite what the Republicans think. The Democrats believe that the tactic the Republicans are using is uncalled for. They feel that the risk of letting the government default on its debt just to ensure more conversation on a bill already put into law is too drastic of a measure to use as leverage.

What is a government shutdown?

Many college students do not understand the government shutdown. It is essentially what happens when the members of the legislative branch cannot agree on which phases of the government should be funded, thus shutting down many government-regulated programs, such as the U.S. Census Bureau and research programs being conducted by various agencies. The House of Representatives has until October 18 to reach an agreement or the government will default on its debt, causing the risk of deep recession to become extremely likely. The shutdown has placed many federal workers on furlough, a temporary unpaid leave of absence. We still have a military and people still have to pay taxes. It is difficult to estimate how much the shutdown is costing the country with so many markets being affected both directly and indirectly, but IHS Global Insights predicts it is costing $12.5 million an hour. Government shutdowns are not new to the American people, this being the 12th shutdown since 1981. If the House of Representatives does not reach an agreement on the debt ceiling, thus ending the shutdown, it will be the first time in America’s history that the federal government will not be able to borrow money to pay for its debts.

What does all this mean and why should I care?

Simply put, the American people are upset. In a poll conducted by CNN, 63 percent of people are angry with Republicans, 57 percent are angry with Democrats and 53 percent are angry with President Obama. In a time when it is hard for half of Americans to make ends meet, students are united in our angst towards the current political situation going on in Washington. Whether one believes Republicans are using unethical political tactics to force the President’s hand or Democrats are too stubborn and need to listen to their constituents and coworkers, something must be done quickly. As for the average American, stay informed about current events in order to ensure that we as a whole make smart decisions.
**FEATURED BULLDOG: Macey Farrell**

**By Matt Metzler**

**The Minstrel**

Minstrel: Why did you choose to come to DeSales? Farrell: I liked that DeSales wasn’t too far or too close to home. I also liked the campus and enjoyed the volleyball team on my overnight as a senior in high school.

Minstrel: What is your background in the sport of volleyball and how long have you been playing? MF: I started playing rec ball when I was six, but didn’t start playing competitively until I was 11. I also coached younger kids throughout high school.

Minstrel: What are some of the differences between this year’s team and teams in the past? MF: This year we have an additional volunteer coach who has us doing a new workout program since spring ball for conditioning and injury prevention. We also have a lot of girls on our roster and depth to our team so we can run multiple lineups, which makes us harder to scout and prevents overuse and injuries. We’ve also become closer as a team, which I think can be seen on and off the court.

Minstrel: What are your goals for both the team and individually this season? MF: We really need to stay injury-free for the rest of the season. We’ve been plagued with all different types of injuries this season. We also want to add another conference championship to the program.

Minstrel: What do you enjoy the most about being a volleyball player here at DeSales? MF: I love my team! I also like the support we get from other students and sports teams. The free gear isn’t bad either.

Minstrel: As a senior, how are you leading your team both on and off the court? MF: I do my best to stay positive. I also like to bring some intensity to the court when I play in hopes of discouraging the other team and getting mine excited. There are also some practices where the energy just isn’t there, which I think anyone who plays sports can relate to, and I try my best to pick spirits up. I think this plays a role in our friendships as well.

Minstrel: What advice would you give to younger volleyball players looking to continue playing in college? MF: I think players need to be realistic with themselves and not have any false sense of hope. My best advice would be to strive for mediocrity because nobody ever shot the vice president.

Minstrel: Do you have any pre-match rituals or superstitions? MF: I always have the same warm-up partner, Jade King, and I always sleep on the bus when we travel.

Minstrel: What are your career goals? MF: The only career goals I’ve ever had for myself are to hit an opposing player in the face and execute a diving roll in a game. I like to set the bar high.

Minstrel: How far do you think this year’s team is capable of going? MF: Our strength of schedule has prepared us for stronger competition later on in the season, so I think our goal of a conference championship isn’t far out of reach. I’ve always believed it’s hard to beat a good team twice, so I think someone should let the Eastern players know that!

“**I like to bring some intensity to the court when I play in hopes of discouraging the other team and getting mine excited.**”

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**WOMEN’S SOCCER EXCELS UNDER NEW HEAD COACH**

**By Hutton Jackson**

**The Minstrel**

After each huddle, the 2013 DeSales women’s soccer team chant the word “together.” This reflects first-year head coach Heather Kemp’s philosophy that every player on the team has a role. She does not want her players to forget that when they work together, they play their best. With a 6-4-3 record as of this writing, the Lady Bulldogs are improving in leaps and bounds and playing team soccer.

The team has played well of late, shutting out Cairn University 4-0 last week, and the women are already well on their way to bettering their 7-9-1 record from 2012. They are also on track for achieving the team’s first winning season since 2006. Much of their success can be attributed to Kemp. After playing for Division III National Championship contender Messiah College and coaching at the high school level, she has made the transition to the collegiate level as a head coach. Kemp says coaching is her passion and that she enjoys “guiding players in the right direction and forming the culture.”

This year Kemp is forming the new culture of DeSales soccer by stressing the small things such as fundamentals and technique, which she says “make a big difference” at the collegiate level. Kemp has focused on team unity and the importance of every player, even those on who are on the sideline or injured. The team has had to battle a lot of adversity, including injuries to several key players such as freshman Jessica Wetherhold and senior Taylor Batras. Kemp admits that getting used to a new coaching style has been an adjustment, especially for the seniors, but that the team has come together and really focused on overcoming these setbacks.

The team has had many huge wins this season against teams such as Moravian College and Muhlenberg College. In its 17-year history, the Lady Bulldogs had never previously beaten either of these teams.

There have been many notable individual performances as well, including senior forward Brady Walsh who leads the team in scoring seven goals and four assists this season. She also recorded her 30th career goal in the win against Cairn University. Sophomore forward Jamie Barna and freshman midfielder Wetherhold have also contributed with four goals and two assists each this season.

Junior goalkeeper Michelle Churchman has excelled in the net with a save percentage of 0.797 and with four shutouts so far this season.

With only four more Freedom Conference games, only two of which are home games on October 19 and 26, the Lady Bulldogs will look to solidify their place in the postseason tournament and cap off the team’s outstanding season.