

CARDINAL COURIER

Founded in 2002

EDITORIAL BOARD

BILL KUCHMAN, *Editor in Chief*
LINDSAY McCLUSKEY, *Senior Editor*
MARIE HEBERGER, *Viewpoint Editor*

"Were it up to me to decide if we should have a government without newspapers, or a newspaper without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

Thomas Jefferson

Editorial Policy

The *Cardinal Courier* Editorial Board, created in 2003, is comprised of three members of the newspaper's senior staff. There are two permanent positions on the board, which are awarded at the start of each semester.

The third spot rotates among the other senior staffers.

Two of the three board members must agree on an issue for an unsigned editorial to appear, making it the official opinion of the *Courier*.

Letters to the editor are welcomed and encouraged. Letters must be signed, and no longer than 300 words in length. The *Courier* reserves the right to select which letters will appear, and to edit them to meet space constraints.

SLC stretched too thin

As athletics grow, facilities remain stagnant

Athletes need to practice and other students need to exercise, but they both cannot fit under one roof at the same time. The number of complaints about who gets to use the Student Life Center (SLC) and when is on the rise.

When it comes to a facility like the SLC, scheduling conflicts are to be expected. With the College's burgeoning population and booming athletics program, these conflicts are becoming more frequent. The winter weather has forced this season's teams to practice in the SLC, which, adversely, has forced many students wishing to use the facility for recreational purposes to make use of odd times during the day and night.

The College is struggling with its newfound identity as an athletic school; only over the past few years has Fisher become nationally renown for the accomplishments of the basketball teams and football program. The current state of the SLC and other athletic facilities do not accurately reflect this shift in attitude and is now failing the overall student body.

Those not listed on a team's roster are being relegated to a second-class level when it comes to using the SLC, and athletes are feeling the dissent of their peers because of this. There is no excuse to allow one group to take over a facility like the SLC

when each and every student at Fisher pays for its use. The SLC, unlike the School of Pharmacy or the nursing labs, is meant for campus-wide use.

It is more than understandable that athletic teams need to practice indoors during this period of the year, and they have the right to practice in the SLC. What the Athletic Department does not have the right to do, however, is to take the premium time slots for certain teams and leave everyone else – students, faculty, intramurals – to fight over the scraps that are left behind.

Something must be done to remedy this problem; it will not just disappear on its own. There needs to be more efficient mediation between the Athletic Department and the Office of Campus Life. This would give each party a chance to reach a solution that would have the most potential for the entire student population, such as rotating schedules to allow other groups to have the prime times.

Another option is to build a new facility. This would allow the Athletic Department to have an indoor practice location without intruding on the recreation of non-athletes. While this choice may not be the most attractive due to the money it would involve, the College needs to invest in a facility that will benefit the greater population instead of catering to a single field.

Props and Drops

These Props and Drops were agreed upon by the *Cardinal Courier* staff. Please send your ideas for next issue's Props and Drops to CardinalCourier@sjfc.edu.

↑ **Props** to sushi at lunch that one day.

↑ **Props** to Facilities for tackling snow removal.

↑ **Props** to the Teddi Dance's 25th anniversary.

↓ **Drops** to so many club correction e-mails. Get it right the first time around.

↓ **Drops** to the unpredictable vending machines in Founders. Hey, this isn't water!

↓ **Drops** to campus-wide e-mails intended for individuals - stop using "Reply All."

CELEBRATING FIVE YEARS OF EXCELLENCE: 2002-2007 FORMER EDITORS IN CHIEF REFLECT ON THE COURIER



Part 1 of 4

Rachel Henderson
Courier
Editor in Chief
2005-2006

No more chocolate-induced late night anxiety attacks. No more nightmares about the printing press breaking. No more weekends spent sharpening my Photoshop and Quark skills. My life has certainly changed since I graduated last May and stepped down from my role as editor in chief of the *Cardinal Courier*.

When I arrived at Fisher as a freshman, I had no intentions of joining the school newspaper. When I was finally convinced to join by fellow former editor in chief Julie Kane, I had no intentions of staying for very long. Yet

I graduated last year with nearly four years of *Courier* experience under my belt. And I have finally realized that it wasn't about journalism or news necessarily, but it was about the *Courier* itself.

It was about the environment it created around campus. And the sense of urgency students had on their faces when they would rush to me on Wednesday evening as I was delivering the newest edition to the stands.

It was the passionate letters to the editor we received, whether they dealt with an issue affecting the Fisher community or berated our coverage in some way. Yes, I even appreciated the nasty letters. Because that meant people were reading and paying attention and thinking. They felt a call to action and they took it – and that is the prime responsibility of a newspaper, to provoke.

It was the policies that were

changed because of an editorial or story one of our staff members wrote. People were listening, and that's all that mattered to me.

From what I can gather during my few brief trips back to campus, I see that this trend is something that won't be going away any time soon. I am so happy to see that in my absence this newspaper continues to thrive and be the lifeblood of the Fisher campus, and has been doing so since its inception five years ago.

Though I graduated only six months ago, my life has changed significantly. Yet the *Courier* has managed to stay in my heart and I have brought those experiences and lessons with me on both my professional and personal journey.

Congratulations to staff members past and present. Here's to another five years of excellence.

Travel abroad for the right reasons



Adriana Delibert
Courier
staff writer

Studying abroad is a once-in-a-lifetime experience. It is an amazing opportunity for students to learn diverse cultures and views of the world firsthand.

More often than not, study abroad programs have the reputation of being an excuse for students to go overseas and party for a semester. The classes are commonly on a pass/fail scale, so many may tend to think it's not taken seriously.

Studying abroad is about taking in different cultures and lifestyles and being able to interact and

adjust to those changes. It's about meeting new people, taking chances and opening yourself up to every opportunity that presents itself, assuming it's a culturally beneficial experience.

If you take the time to live among people of cultures other than your own (in their environment), learn their language and obtain an understanding of their daily routines and the way their country works, you will gain vast insights into your own life. You can apply all that you have learned and everything you saw to all the things you are yet to do with your life and future decisions you will have to make for yourself.

Not only is it a rewarding and memorable experience, but it will get you ahead in whatever road it is you decide to go down after graduation. Employers and graduate admissions committees

think highly of those who have travel and study experience abroad. Having a culturally wide-ranged education background can go a long way; it shows you aren't narrow-minded and are open to new and different ideas and tasks.

Studying abroad is something every college student should experience before graduation. You will think in ways you never thought before, gain a whole new perspective on parts of your life you always thought would remain the same and form bonds with people that will never be able to compare to anything else you share with anyone else.

It is an eye-opening experience that from a personal stand point, I can promise, you will never forget.

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CARDINAL COURIER

ST. JOHN FISHER COLLEGE

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