

Wheat Bread presents: The 1998 Wheaties

By The WheatBread Editorial Staff

Welcome to the second annual Wheaties. The nominees have been picked for either their noble, or more likely ignoble acts. Once again, we were supposed to nominate, and you were supposed to decide. And once again, we did this too late. So here are the nominees and our picks for the winners. Congratulations to all, whether you were flattered or not.

Most improved Organization

CCN (The Josh Duksin show)
SPOC (Douglas Adams, First Light, The Circle)
Asian Society (Asian Buffet, co-sponsoring)

And the Winner is:

Managing to find bands that were both out of the mainstream and extremely entertaining, **PEC** struck a balance which they sorely lacked last year. Such "bigger" shows such as Monster Truck Rally III, De La Soul and The Ventures, were complemented nicely by lesser known bands such as The Delta 72 and Gideon Freudmann. For all their hard work and success, PEC gets the Wheatie for Most Improved Organization.

Least Improved Organization

CUPS (Geography of a Horse Dreamer, W.A.S.P.)
ROCU (hours of dead air, and a transmitter that may or may not be working)
SAB (They Might Be Giants, karaoke night, Singled Out)

And the Winner is:

Okay, so, they're not exactly an "organization." We know. What are you going to do, freeze our funds? The fact is that it just wasn't fair to give it to an organization that, no matter how badly they screwed up, could not even compare in mishaps to our very own **Student Council**. The fact that six out of our top ten stories of 1998 deal with the troubles of Student Council is enough to earn them this Wheatie. Fortunately, it also warrants the stories not being retold here. The key words to Student Council's year are: misappropriation, misrepresentation, and resignation. We'll see if Steve-O can pull the StudCo reputation out of the gutter next year, and actually do what Student Council is meant



Jessica Grindstaff

Most Improved Organization PEC brought a variety of good bands to Clark this year, including Skeleton Key; pictured here.

to do: represent the student interest.

The Golden Sophistry Award

Denise Darrigrand (Dean of Students a misnomer)
Jared Bienenfield (much-touted musical never happened)
StudCo Quorum (a consistent concern at every meeting)

And the Winner is:

One of the more enigmatic Wheaties, The Golden Sophistry Award, loosely interpreted, goes to the person who made the biggest public fool of themselves. Our congratulations goes to this year's winner, **Rob Clark**. Rob first dazzled us when he ran for president of Student Council. His flyers portrayed him as a "ladies man" with big-breasted women to either side. His immediate apology flyer was anything but apologetic, as he seemed to say that it was the student body's fault for not getting the joke. Later this year, Clark also became a call-in regular on the Josh Duksin show, dumfounding the entire community with his constant suggestions of "hot girls to add to the list." On Spree Day, Clark struck again, with a poorly written and inappropriate edito-

rial about Traina in the Spree Day program. Congratulations, Mr. Clark, for winning this prestigious award as a first-year student.

(Hu)man of the year

Adam Ditsky (PEC, Spree Day)
Dave Reed (SPOC, Douglas Adams, ROCU/CURT, The Circle)
SuZanne Botta (Student Council Vice President, Crew team)

And the Winner is:

This award is similar to that of Time Magazine's annual award, going to the person who contributed most to the campus' life and conversation, for good or for bad. This year's award is proudly presented to **Joshua P.J. Duksin**. Josh, one of the most visible characters on the Clark campus, (mainly because he wants you to see him) began this year with a rocky start. His failed presidential campaign was riddled with problems from the beginning; in fact, in almost didn't have a beginning. Josh was alleged to have begun campaigning before the date allowed, and then began combatting this rule by showing up around campus exclaiming, "They say I can't campaign for president yet!" He later lost. Big. Turning away from politics, Josh focused on his theater career, appearing in both V&PA productions this year, as well as in CUPS' W.A.S.P. and that thing in the barn. However, Josh's presence never hurt so much as it did when he got his very own television show. "The Josh Duksin Show" has stirred up controversy for over a month now, but as the phones ringing off the hook indicate, people can't get enough of our (Hu)Man of the Year; for better

or for worse.

Biggest Disappointment

StudCo (you know why)
Programming Council (Unapproachable for an entire semester, largest program a dating survey)

And the Winner is:

The most self-explanatory Wheatie, this year's Biggest Disappointment Award goes to the **They Might Be Giants** show in the Kneller. After a string of uncreative events and modest co-sponsorship, it seemed as though SAB had finally gotten its act together when it put up the They Might Be Giants show in the Kneller. Arguably the biggest band to come to Clark in recent memory, the show was not as successful as many had hoped. With a ticket price of \$10 ahead of time with a Clark ID, and \$15 at the show with a Clark ID perhaps accounted for the fact that WPI students and local Worcester citizens almost outnumbered Clark students. The actual performance was also a disappointment. Between songs, They Might Be Giants were constantly asking staff members to turn off the lights which were on in the back of the gym. No one did.

Best Surprise

The Weather on Spree Day (sunny, for once)
Hillel (ubiquitous events, Seinfeld-athon, dinners, *Chasing Amy*)
Frieze (renewal of Abrams Gallery, speaker, field trips)

And the Winner is:

Yet another self-explanatory Wheatie, the 1998 Best Surprise award goes to **R.F.Sinc**. In its first year on campus R.F.Sinc has been one of the most visible and active student organizations. Producing only student written work, R.F.Sinc does everything without a dime from the university. This year they have put up a carnival, two full-length student-written plays, a new student art gallery in the Grind, and a poetry slam on the Wetzel Terrace. Their comedy improv troupe, The Peapod Squad, has performed more than once a month and successfully collected food to feed the hungry. Their industrious methods and consistent presence on campus has proven them to be one of the most creative organizations around.

Rookie of the Year

Jared Bienenfeld (theater, sort of)
University Park Campus School (A complete success)
Jeremy Lesniak (StudCo, WheatBread, losing to abstain)

And the Winner is:

Our "Freshman to watch out for" award, this Wheatie goes to the freshman whose presence was not only felt this year, but who also shows promise to impact the campus during their tenure here. This year's winner is the man who brought you the non-stop promotion of PEC events, **Noah**



(Hu)Man of the Year Duksin(L) and Golden Sophist Clark(R) share a moment in the sun.



Jessica Grindstaff

Members of R.F. Sinc's The Peapod Squad

Schaffer. Noah's work for PEC was instrumental in bringing more than the standard thirty students down to Grind Central for PEC shows. As a freshman, Noah has established himself as one of the better writers for the Scarlet. Keep your eye out for this guy, he's probably behind you right now; waiting to hand you a flyer about PEC's next event.

Best Practical Joke

WheatBread's theft of the Student Council gavel (very hush hush)

And the Winner is:

With the noticeable lack of practical jokes on campus, this Wheatie nearly died out this year. However, it was strangely rescued by the lone joke of 1998: **The Campus-Wide Estate Sale.** You might remember, one day there were flyers announcing an estate sale, and the next day there were price tags on random fences, posts, and buildings. We all have our theories about the point of this joke, but for our fear of looking stupid, they won't be printed here. So congratulations, we guess...to whoever pulled it off...whatever it was.

Biggest Scandal

WheatBread's frozen funds (yeah, yeah, yeah)
 Clark Bars \$10,000 CD (Counterpoints were given \$1300* to do the same thing)
 Professor Voiret (tenure decision held under scrutiny)

And the Winner is:

Giving credit where credit is due, this award kindly recognizes those scandals which reminded us all how shady some folks at Clark can be. This year's winner won by a nose in the last leg of the semester. Of course, we are talking about none other than **SuZanne Botta.** You may remember seeing a speaker for the recent leadership conference named Marlon Smith? Well, our former VP took \$2200 from the Special Projects Fund in order to pay for him to speak. You catch the irony which makes this the biggest scandal? Our student leader, Sue Botta, misappropriated funds so that someone could come to speak about student leadership. Actually, you know what, maybe she's not so bad. Maybe, she was just demonstrating how *not* to be a student leader. Too bad she didn't think of that defense before she resigned.

Best Sign of Hope

Student concern about space allocation (Growing evidence that students are active on campus.)
 The burgeoning art and theater scene (Two student art galleries up, somewhere around ten plays in this semester alone)
 Downing Street School (Perhaps the most successful project Clark has undertaken in the community)
 Botta's done with Student Council (No more crappy pep talks, no more bad jokes at her expense... maybe)

And the Winner is:

This is the Wheatie given to those people, occurrences, or overall trends which demonstrated that there are good things happening at Clark, and most importantly, that good things will keep happening. It doesn't quite seem to be right to pick one of these events as the best sign of hope. However, most of them could probably be boiled down to one concept: **student involvement.** This year there was a definite surge in student interest in issues, as well as events, as evinced by the students' commandeering of the Dana Commons issue. Although the general trend of the administration seems to be anti-humanities, the students have turned to do-it-yourself measures, as evinced by the success of Frieze and the number of plays put up this semester. However, although the administration should be commended for the successful University Park Campus School, it is faculty and student participation that have been key in its first year.



Traina quote of the year:

When recently discussing the apparent decline in the administration's interest in the humanities, Traina said:
"The humanities have always had to struggle."