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## The Grizzly, September 16, 2004

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# the grizzly

thursday, september 16, 2004

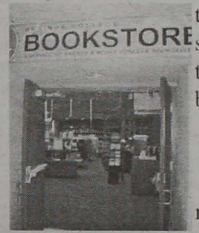
the student newspaper of ursinus college



In Memory of Those Who Lost Their Lives  
on September 11, 2001

collegeville, pa

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# News

## Inside Scoop: New bookstore, new look, same sentiments

**DARRON HARLEY**  
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Wisner food, limited parking, difficult professors and the bookstore are the normal complaints at this institution, so when a change comes it causes a noticeable skip in the Ursinus continuum. Last semester, we learned that our much-maligned bookstore would be changing ownership from Follet, to Barnes & Noble, causing much anticipation across campus.

The change received a welcome reception from students, many hoping the Barnes & Noble Company would bring better service than the previous one. Senior Jasmyn Blueford said, "Anything would be better [than Follet]." Students' complaints about the previous management of the bookstore were the high prices of textbooks and various other products the store sold, the untimely delivery of ordered textbooks and materials, and not enough used books available for purchase. The Ursinus community hoped that the bigger and much more notable retailer, Barnes & Noble, would put an end to the murmurings.

The important change the students hoped for is the amount of *change* they would receive back when purchasing books. Senior Monique Spencer says, "I have had no problems with the bookstore, but the prices are too high." In various sit-down conversations I had with students the general consensus seems to be that the book prices should be cheaper because the Barnes & Noble chain is a top retailer of books meaning they sell more than most other companies. In response, an employee from Barnes & Noble said, "The Barnes & Noble Company is split into divisions; retail, online, and college. Each division is its own entity, no one division receives funding from another." More to the point, many Ursinus students are unaware that our former bookstore operator, Follet, is actually the largest distributor of college textbooks in the United States.

## Ursinus goes wireless

**CHRISTINA ROSCI**  
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Recently Ursinus has implemented two changes which will help to improve the general quality and availability of the current network system for students across campus. In addition to the upgrade to the Internet connection, wireless services are now being offered in several areas across campus.

Although last year was the first that each class had a Dell laptop, the Internet services that were offered were a bit less than to be desired by many students in the Ursinus Community. In order to fix this problem, Computing Services established a proposal to double the speed and capacity of the internet connection at Ursinus. In order to do this it was necessary to "light up" the "dark fiber" that runs through the ground on Main Street in Collegeville. This upgrade was a complete success.

With the necessary budget alterations, Computing Services was surprisingly able to increase the connection speed from 6 megabits per second to 100 megabits per second; this was 16 times more than the originally anticipated 10-12 megabits per second! However Computing Services plans to continue to regulate the amount of file sharing traffic that will occur. In doing this, they are emphasizing the intended purpose of these internet upgrades which is to help strengthen student priorities. These may include academics and other student goals that are generally considered important priorities to students.

Barnes and Noble definitely made immediate physical changes to the bookstore. Those who frequented the bookstore in previous semesters immediately noticed that the shelving units and textbooks were no longer on the first floor. Some students stated that they liked the new layout of items, and one student noted, "I like the way everything is divided."

There have been plenty of kudos given to the newer selection of clothing that the store carries. However, students also noted the limited electronic and toiletry selection in the store. There are also fewer emblematic items than in previous years, which has been met with disapproval from alumni and staff members.

The store manager, Stephanie Bliss, recognizes that the store is not up to speed yet. "Because we are at a new location, we have new accounts with distributors, therefore it is taking longer than usual," said Bliss. She promised that after these first hectic weeks things will begin flowing much better. There are many items being delivered everyday to the store, which should pleased the whole Ursinus community.

Overall the sentiments toward the bookstore are mixed, some like it, others don't. While many people are willing to voice their complaints, they are also quick to say they are indifferent about their preference between the new and old management. The manager of the new bookstore, Stephanie Bliss, says she is more than willing to hear any suggestions that students, faculty or alumni may have. She insists, "The more input the better." In the meantime, she says that the bookstore is planning many things in the near future that should be pleasing and beneficial to the Ursinus community. "We are starting a book club, whose first meeting is on September 30, we are also planning a student appreciation day." Appreciation that the bookstore hopes to get in return one day.

In addition to the project of the upgrading the regular internet connections, wireless network services were also implemented in areas across campus. Olin Auditorium, which was selected because network services were not previously provided for the seats in the auditorium, now has wireless access. Myrin and Wisner were selected because they are highly used by students not working in their dormitories. Specific areas include the open space in the center of Myrin on the first floor, the new coffee house in Myrin, Zacks and the lower lounge. Usually the wireless network can cover a certain extended area beyond these specific locations and can also be used in certain outdoor areas.

According to Computing Services' John King, "The announcement of the new wireless services came just last week, but we are already hearing and seeing positive student responses. The flexibility and freedom it proves students to work on the network/internet, while being able to extend beyond the tethers of a network cable, are really appealing." Sophomore Spencer Morse comments on the wireless network: "The signal strength is pretty decent," he says, "11 megabits per second is pretty good for Ursinus! Next step? Upgrade the Ursinus laptops to 802.11G!"

Currently these services are not a permanent replacement for the regular wired network access used across campus and in the residence halls. However, it is a very reliable source for using the internet to check e-mail, search the web, and even for more extensive activities such as the specialized *Brown Bear* server. Overall wireless definitely seems like an attractive new addition to the Ursinus community.

**the grizzly**

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*The Grizzly Staff meets every Monday in Wisner Lower Lounge at 5:30 pm. Those interested in photography, writing, and editing are encouraged to attend.*

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# Election 101: Who do you side with?

RUTH DELL

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Election 2004 and the Race for the White House is on full throttle. As we draw closer to the November 2, 2004 election date, all candidates and their respective parties are stepping up the game. A recent poll from CNN shows Bush slightly ahead with a 49% to Kerry at 48%. It is without a doubt that this is an election where every vote is needed. Serve your country by participating in the election. Make sure the right man is put in office.

Our current president George Bush, representing the Republican Party is once again teaming with our current Vice President, Dick Cheney. The Republican Party is focused on remaining in power for the next four years. After the 9/11 tragedy, republicans feel they need to maintain control of the white house in order to finish what was begun. Republicans are focused on honoring traditional American values and compassion in the election. Democrats are rallying behind John Kerry and John Edwards. Anxious for a change in command, the Democrats are holding tight in the fight putting a focus on family first. Ralph Nader is running with Peter Camejo as running mates, for an independent party. His goal in running is to pose a challenge to America's two dominant parties. All parties are granted a fair and competitive election, as long as every citizen does their part by voting. To better help you understand the presidential candidates and their views is a list of the key topics shaping the upcoming election.



www.vote-smart.org

## War in Iraq and Reconstruction

**Bush** – Bush is able to rationalize the Iraqi war by removing Saddam Hussein from power. He is beginning to support using the UN to assist in reconstruction.

**Kerry** – Originally being a supporter of the war, he now opposes warfare due to receiving 'faulty intelligence.' Kerry believes other nations should help rebuild Iraq.

**Nader** – Favoring U.S. withdraw of troops, Nader would like to see UN troops enter Iraq.

## Afghanistan

**Bush** – A one billion dollar reconstruction budget is planned for Afghanistan.

**Kerry** – Focusing on an international community, Kerry would like international assistance to bring peace to Afghanistan.

**Nader** – The safety of the Afghans is on the top of Nader's concern list. He proposes the exit of U.S. troops without proposing a detrimental effect on the Afghans.

## Middle East Situation

**Bush** – With the current peace plan "Road Map" in effect, plans are set on continuing

this strategy to bring peace in the Middle East.

**Kerry** – Democrats want to improve economic, social, and political circumstances of the Mid-Eastern nations.

**Nader** – Strong feelings towards Palestine's need to establish a balance of peace and political power.

## Military Spending

**Bush** – While talks are to increase spending 4.2%, no inclination of increasing military size has been made.

**Kerry** – The country is to benefit from purchasing new equipment and increasing technology within the military.

**Nader** – The elimination of wasteful spending.

## Budget Deficits

**Bush** – Republican's plans to lower the deficit by limiting spending increases to 4%.

**Kerry** – Corporate negotiations and utilizing tax cuts will lower the deficit.

**Nader** – Criticizing the deficit, Nader has not yet posed his views on a solution.

## Tax Cut

**Bush** – Bush has signed three tax cuts.

**Kerry** – Kerry does not have an interest in cutting taxes.

**Nader** – Nader would like to see an increase on corporate taxes and issue a tax on stock and bond sales.

## Gay Marriages

**Bush** – Bush is fully promoting the amendment to ban gay marriages.

**Kerry** – Kerry opposes gay marriage, but still supports equal rights.

**Nader** – Nader is the only candidate who supports same-sex marriage.

## Educational Reform

**Bush** – Introducing the *No Child Left Behind* program, Bush plans to expand upon the newly founded program.

**Kerry** – Planning to bar vouchers, an increase of funding to specific programs like special education is expected.

**Nader** – Nader is pushing for a curb in the standardized testing programs.

## Social Security

**Bush** – Stocks are being proposed as a way for changing Social Security.

**Kerry** – Strongly opposes the privatization of Social Security.

**Nader** – Nader has no interest in changing the Social Security Program.

## Nationalized Health Care

**Bush** – Our current system serves the health care purpose well, but improvements upon the system need to be made.

**Kerry** – Kerry supports a notion of nationalized health care.

**Nader** – Plans for a single payer program and offering full coverage to everyone will insure better health care to the nation.

## Hate Crime Legislation

**Bush** – Current legislation is effective. Bush does not wish to expand this legislature

**Kerry** – The expansion of legislature is needed to ensure justice to all

**Nader** – Legislature towards hate crimes needs to be revised and strengthened.

# Project Pericles seeks to remedy political apathy

MEGAN HELZNER

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The other night some hall-mates and I watched George W. Bush speak at the Republican National Convention. Before long my friends started complaining, "Turn it off. I can't take it anymore!" Whether we are fans of Bush, Kerry, or neither, having the opportunity to be involved in choosing a president is unique. It is a fact, however, that 18 to 25 year old Americans don't capitalize on this privilege. Ashley Egresitz, freshman, comments, "Some people feel like, 'I'm just a college student, I don't matter.'"

Project Pericles' founder, Eugene M. Lang, believes that the very fabric of our country is being tested and that the rising generations will determine the future of democracy. In order to keep us from moving down a path of apathy, the Periclean directors, college presidents and Lang, hope to tap into students' idealism and get us moving on a life-long track of political engagement.

The endeavor is directed more at integrating political involvement into academic and social life than it is about

promoting any one political agenda. Being non-partisan amidst a sea of palpably opinionated groups makes Pericles' plan stand out. But, how exactly do the college and university presidents who sit on Pericles' board plan to incite political fervor?

"I hope that in five to ten years, all the Periclean schools will have succeeded in changing the way we do politics by helping engage lots of bright, dynamic people."

**JOHN STRASSBURGER  
PRESIDENT OF THE COLLEGE**

President Strassberger comments, "We hope that just by initiating the conversations about political engagement, and by developing courses with a Periclean component, we'll get more and more people thinking about politics."

Courses like CIE and others that are now under development, which Strassberger calls the "centerpieces" of the Periclean

mission here at Ursinus College, move us to consider our social obligations. Programs like the lecture series sponsored by the International Relations department, beginning with a talk on the 20<sup>th</sup> from Iraqi specialist Lt. Col. Herndon, seek to get us thinking more about the world outside Ursinus. Student organizations, such as the College Republicans and College Democrats, delight President Strassberger and according to him, deserve the "Periclean stamp of approval."

Professor Houghton Kane, the director of Project Pericles at Ursinus observes, "Academics and social life are two top priorities for someone 20 years old. But right after those, [comes] helping people out.... There are a lot of groups already on campus that help people get involved – and I don't see Project Pericles taking the place of those groups. I see Project Pericles supporting and encouraging them and providing opportunities for more students to get involved."

## Project Pericles Events

### September 20th

Lt. Col. Herndon, 7:30, Olin 107

### September 30th

Mr. Douglas Farah, 7:30, Bookstore  
Former Washington Post reporter, author, and specialist on Latin America. Hosted by Ambassador Melrose.

### October 5th

Andrew Sullivan, 7:30, Olin Auditorium, Speaking on "The Conservative Case for Gay Marriage." An essayist for TIME, columnist for the Sunday Times of London & a Senior editor at The New Republic.

### October 27th

Congressman James Gerlach, 7:30, Olin Auditorium  
Elected in 2002, focuses on providing healthcare, transportation improvements, environmental resources and promoting economic growth.

## Environmental Studies professor gets with the program

**KATY DIANA**  
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This year, the Environmental Studies program bursts forth from its former, smaller shell with the addition of a new assistant professor, Dr. Leah Joseph. Dr. Joseph decided to visit Ursinus last spring after meeting with Dr. Rich Wallace at a North East Environmental Studies conference and learning of our expanding program's potential.

While on campus, she presented her talk, "Lessons From the Mud at the Bottom of the Sea," which outlined her research on global climate change. "I looked at the characteristics of deep sea and lake sediments," such as the size and alignment of grains and what produced the grains, to identify "changes in ocean currents or land climates," Dr. Joseph explains.

Professor Joseph began her study of geology in a normally uninspiring "Rocks for Jocks" class at the University of Rochester in New York. Her studies continued with a History of Geology course and eventually led her to the University of Michigan, where she earned her M.A. and Ph.D. in Oceanography: Marine Geology and Geochemistry. She continues her research here with mud aged from 7 million and 1 million years old from the coast of South America and the bottom of Seneca Lake in New York.

"Geology," she says, "speaks to me because it seems to answer many of the questions about how and why things work." In love with the sea, Dr. Joseph has pursued her research throughout numerous locations, such as San Diego, Hawaii, Chile, Easter Island, Australia, New Zealand, and the Caribbean, each trip lasting up to two months. When asked about other career

choices she has considered, she wistfully replied, "a sailor, or someone out at sea."

At some point, Dr. Joseph wants to visit Antarctica and many other lakes to continue her research, as well to study plate tectonics in the Himalayas.

As the newest addition to a fast-growing program, Dr. Joseph enthusiastically offers her efforts toward environmental projects and campus greening. She will begin teaching courses in the spring, including Issues in Environmental Studies, the Environmental Studies Senior Seminar, Global Climate Change,



and perhaps even Environmental Oceanography. Dr. Wallace seems overjoyed to work with a new colleague. "Leah allows Ursinus to be active in cutting-edge Environmental Science research and makes our Environmental Studies program appealing to a wider range of students," he exclaims.

When asked to summarize her environmental credo, Dr. Joseph explains, "change is inevitable and what we do has an impact." She emphasizes that "individual change can make a difference." When she is not studying mud or teaching, Dr. Joseph loves ballroom dancing, woodworking on her canoe, and hiking. Stop by to visit her as well as Dr. Wallace at the new Environmental Studies office and study room in Pfahler 102.

**Spring Break 2005- Travel with STS, America's #1 Student Tour Operator. Jamaica, Cancun, Acapulco, Bahamas and Florida. Now hiring campus reps. Call for discounts: 1-800-648-4849 or [www.ststravel.com](http://www.ststravel.com).**

## Ursinus student awarded \$40,000 grant

**MATT KROLIKOWSKI**  
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Kathryn Semmens is just a junior at Ursinus College, but she is already receiving government stipends to conduct research. She is an Environmental Science major who plans on continuing on to graduate school. "I know this sounds corny, but I love all animals and nature—that's probably why I'm in the major I'm in," says Semmens.

Semmens originally attended Boyertown Area Senior High School and now lives about 20 minutes from Ursinus, near Green Lane Park. Next summer, she will be working at Merck Research Lab in the Communications department. She enjoys reading, poetry-writing, horseback-riding, and tennis.

Last year, Semmens was awarded with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Greater Research Opportunity Undergraduate Fellowship. She explains, "Its basic purpose is

to support students studying majors related to the EPA subject areas—natural sciences, environmental, etc.—who are at universities with little to no funding for such research." She discovered the fellowship opportunity while researching the EPA's website, at [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov).

The application requires a résumé, a list of future aspirations, letters of recommendation, a transcript, and financial information. The astounding reward Semmens received totaled \$40,000 and was even accompanied by a three-month internship at an EPA research lab.

Kathryn's award is just one example of the many opportunities

that are available for students who do their research and keep their grades up. It's all a matter of searching, passion for the subject, motivation, and, in Semmens's case, being qualified to make the cut.



## career corner

**International Internship Fair  
September 21, 2004: 10:00AM-2:00PM  
International House, 3701 Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia, PA**

An internship is a structured and supervised professional experience that allows you to complement your academic studies with work in the "real world." Consider, for instance, working in international affairs—an internship in this field can help you establish vital contacts with professionals who will ultimately enhance your chances of finding permanent employment in international companies and government agencies.

Career Philly, an organization looking to help link regional employers with this region's students, invites you to attend the International Internship Fair on September 21, at 10:00AM, at the International House in Philadelphia. The fair will feature regional employers offering

internship opportunities for both domestic and international students.

If you are looking for an internship in which you can utilize your bilingual skills, global expertise and innovative ideas, don't miss this event. Enhance your skills and résumé, make critical contacts in the international field, and explore your international options locally in the greater Philadelphia region at the International Internship Fair. Transportation will be provided by Career Services. Call ext.2274 to reserve your space.

For more information about this internship fair, please contact Career Service in Bomberger 121, call Career Philly at 215 496-8110, or visit online at [www.careerphilly.com](http://www.careerphilly.com)

## Are Ursinus students apathetic?

**CHRIS CURLEY**  
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The annual activity fair held last week showcased a wide variety of clubs and activities for students of all interests. But the disheartening reality is that many of these clubs suffer from poor attendance and general apathy.

"[Clubs and organizations] usually have a lot of freshmen at first, [but] then it depletes meeting after meeting," says Senior Lindsay Goffredo.

Ursinus College has nearly 60 clubs and organizations outside of Greek life. This suggests a level of involvement—at least at the executive level—of Presidents, Vice-Presidents, Treasurers, and Secretaries who make up the die-hard proponents of each club

who try and push them into being. That much involvement is evident with new organizations constantly emerging, each year. Some new organizations are the Paintball Club, the Dance Dance Revolution Club, the Ursinus Fencing Club, the Bear-a-Tones a cappella group, and the Ursinus Music Society. Proposals are even on the table for a Ninjitsu and Akido Club for students interested in the martial arts. Yet, with all these options, the average number of students per club is an astonishing eight or less.

"This campus is apathetic," declares Amanda D'Amico, Recording Secretary for the Ursinus Student Government Association (USGA). "We're trying to get [the community] more involved."

Perhaps the problem is not too few options, but too many. With 25.35% of the

male population and 36.4% of the female population involved in Greek life, and many more students involved in sports, or both, free time is truly limited. Even those who would like to juggle sports, school, and fraternity life with an extra club or two on the side may find the task overwhelming. So, while many may sign up for a given club, the general interest and commitment quickly bottoms out as students find that they cannot balance all the clubs for which they signed up.

"Generally," said D'Amico, "you'll find 20% of the people do 80% of the work and that the same people show up at USGA, CAB (Campus Activities Board), etc."

Does Ursinus have a problem with student involvement? It appears that the college suffers because a simple lack of population, not because of indifference.

Fewer students means less likelihood of interest in different activities. To put it simply, students will come out for activities that interest them and will only be motivated by issues that are immediately pertinent to them.

So, having a small population comes at a price. Ursinus students reap the benefits of smaller class sizes, less bureaucracy, and shorter lists for classes, but may suffer when it comes to accumulating the participation of fellow students. The sad fact is that if there aren't enough students, there simply will not exist the interest necessary to maintain certain student organizations. Though the USGA may attempt to acquire greater commitment and activity from students, it remains to be seen whether or not the campus is simply another victim of laziness and human nature.

## Ursinus professors dance the night away in Russia

**LAURA BICKERT**  
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Chris Aiken and Cathy Young, Ursinus Dance professors, had a very unique summer vacation. They traveled to several dance festivals, including one in Vienna and one in Maine (The Bates Festival), but the most prestigious of them all was the Open Look Dance Festival in St. Petersburg, Russia. For those in the dance profession,

summer is the time for festivals. In the dance world, festivals are a great opportunity in both to share yours and to view others' work in a short period of time.

Thankfully, Ursinus provided a generous grant to

enable Aiken and Young to attend this festival, produced by Kannon Dance, which draws from primarily professional and pre-professional dancers from all over the world to study, teach, and learn dance for 14 days. This grant allowed literally hundreds of students to experience the wealth of creativity and talent that Aiken and Young have to share.

Unfortunately, because of Russia's poor economy, all dancers who attend the festival must raise their own money to fund the venue. For Chris Aiken, the amazing experience of the festival itself completely dismissed the issue of money. Aiken states that one of the reasons the Open Look Dance Festival is so incomparable was because "the students from

Russia [are] so appreciative and have such a rich understanding of dance."

Cathy Young has worked with Kannon Dance in the past and has traveled to Russia for the festival twice before. As a result of the respect for Young's previous work, she and Aiken received an invitation for this year's festival, an arena rich with activity. A typical day at the dance festival for the two Ursinus teachers includes attending rehearsals every



Professor Chris Aiken performs in Russia

morning for their personal performances, teaching classes in the afternoon, and attending performances in the evening. While at the festival, Young taught three classes a day, and Aiken taught one a

day. Each of their classes consisted of about 50 to 70 students eager to learn their techniques of jazz and improvisation. Aiken explains that both his and Young's performances were given standing ovations, and many viewers even told them that their performances were favorites. Aiken especially appreciates this kind of recognition because "you get an honest opinion of what people actually think. Since they don't know you, they have no reason to give you positive feedback unless you deserve it." Also, for Russia, dance is not just a hobby; it is a major part of its culture.

Therefore, if the citizens of Russia approve of your dancing style and technique, you know you're good. And as Cathy Young and Chris Aiken received innumerable accolades for their work, it's a compliment of which to be proud for sure.

### COMMENTS SOUGHT FOR TENURE REVIEW

In accordance with the Ursinus College Faculty Handbook, student comments on teaching effectiveness and student-faculty interaction are invited at the time of a faculty member's review for tenure. Although student letters must be signed to be considered, student names may be held, upon request, when their comments are shared with the Promotion and Tenure Committee and the faculty member.

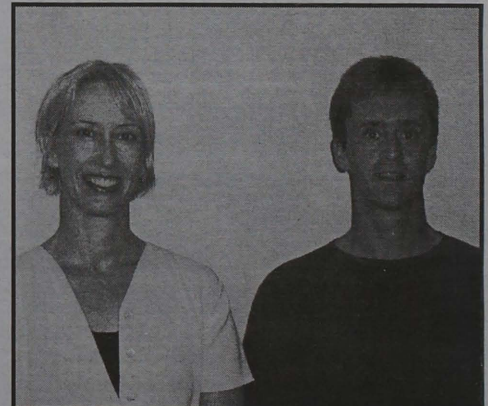
This year, the following members of the faculty are being reviewed for tenure:

**Dr. Carol Cirka**, Business & Economics (Economics and Business Administration)

**Dr. Rebecca Kohn**, Biology

**Prof. Domenick Scudera**, Theater & Dance (Communication Studies and Theater)

Your feedback is strongly encouraged and will assist the Committee in their review process. Letters should be sent to Dean Judith T. Levy, Office of the Dean, by October 15, 2004.



Back home in the states, the professors gear up for another semester.

## Two sides to every story: Should the Miss America Pageant qualify as one of the great American pastimes?

G.I. JANE

BARBIE GIRL

**ASHLEY HIGGINS**  
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Each year an estimated 27 million Americans tune in to the Miss America competition, which will be celebrating its 50-year anniversary as an aired television program this year. The Miss America pageant, however, existed for many years before the invention and mass-marketing of televisions. This time-honored pageant



features contestants in evening gowns, swimwear, a bland talent competition, and a painfully trite interview portion.

Though according to a reporter for PBS "these contests showcase values, concepts, and behavior that exist at the center of a group's sense of itself and exhibit values of morality, gender, and place," the contest has been riddled with negative press since its conception in the 1920s. Conservative republicans were the first to protest, but the most memorable demonstration occurred in 1968 when angry feminists flooded to the pageant in Atlantic City and threatened mass suicide.

So what's so awful about the Miss America pageant? It has been criticized as being consistently and significantly behind

the times. In its original form, the pageant consisted only of swimwear and other modeling. The talent and interview portions were added many years later.

A more recent development in the pageant is the addition of a multiple choice quiz for the contestants. All of the questions are basic and based on simple knowledge of US history. Sadly, the winner of the quiz category only averaged 75% of the questions correct.

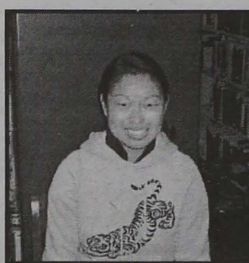
Also, according to former Miss Virginia and now pageant consultant Samantha Miller, the perfect Miss America is 5'8" and 110 pounds, which by the standard of a body-mass indicator would make this 'perfect' woman at least fifteen pounds underweight. It is not uncommon that pageant contestants are hospitalized because they have starved themselves to the point of losing consciousness.

What is equally unnerving is that the average Miss America contestant usually participates in 1200 beauty pageants prior to her involvement in the Miss America competition. Contestants start their beauty pageant careers very young, in what one dissenter calls "pukey child beauty contests, which are nothing more than a process of commoditization of the female form and a deranged sexualization of minors."

In summation, the Miss America pageant celebrates the female form in the worship of vapid pinups who model an unfair and unhealthy standard of beauty. Any female with an iota of self-respect, and any man who hasn't succumbed to chauvinism, should take a stand and change the channel on September 18<sup>th</sup>.

**SHANNON BURKE**  
shburke@ursinus.edu

On the eighteenth of September, I will be sitting in the audience of one of the oldest running pageants in American history. Since its birth in 1921, the Miss America Pageant



has been a favorite of young and old, boys and girls. Why is it a favorite?

Miss America is not just a beautiful pretty girls prancing around on the stage, although some people make it out to be just about that. Instead, "Miss America represents the highest ideals. She is a real combination of beauty, grace, and intelligence, artistic and refined. She is a type which the American Girl might well emulate." Frederick Hickman, the Atlantic City Chamber of Commerce President summed up the meaning of the entire pageant with those beautiful words.

I am sure that you have heard of the controversy surrounding this pageant. Feminists and other groups have, in the past, considered it to be antiquated and degrading to women.

Why should women ever have to be ashamed of their inner goddess? Some Americans are also saying that by placing

too much emphasis on aesthetics, we are giving young Americans the wrong ideals to grow up with. Of course, these would be the same children listening to Britney Spears and Eminem. It seems highly unlikely that, out of the three, Miss America is the one causing irreversible psychological damage.

At one point, the audience voted on whether or not to keep the swimsuit portion of the contest. The reason for the swimsuit is to show athleticism, to prove that Miss America can be everything all at once: strong, smart, and beautiful. The men never seem to mind much when it comes to the swimsuits. Matt Fralen, a junior at Ursinus College says, "I like the pageant. I like the swimsuits."

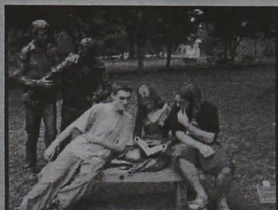
The contestants for the pageant have to be intelligent and passionate about the problems we face in our society. According to the Miss America website, the current Miss America is constantly traveling and educating people about existing societal problems.

Kate Shindle, winner of the 1998 pageant, pushed for "better HIV/AIDS prevention and treatments worldwide." Shindle was also "the first Miss America to travel internationally with her international platform, as a moderator and panelist for the 12<sup>th</sup> World AIDS Conference in Geneva, Switzerland."

Miss America is a role model for all people, especially young girls. These women are resilient, independent, and proud to represent their country. That means so much, especially now, after the resilience of our America was tested on September 11<sup>th</sup>. Our country is at war with terrorists; let us not be at war with one another as well.

## Why America needs four more years of George W. Bush

These past four years under President George W. Bush have been wonderful, but we can do better. The laws that have been put in place by the beautifully Republican Congress and George W. Bush need to be intensified, not removed, as that pinko bastard John Kerry would do. Let us take a quick look through the catalogue of Bush administration laws and see how they could be improved upon with another four years of George Bush.



**MATT FLYNTZ**  
**DAN SERGEANT**  
**Communism for Dummies**

No Child Left Behind. As the kids would say, I'm "down" with any law that increases the usage of standardized testing. These liberal teachers nowadays have way too much freedom to teach whatever they want, and before George W. Bush came around, we could not hold them accountable. Now we can. Teachers must now teach directly for the standardized tests, and any deviation will result in their school receiving a low mark. This is certainly a move in the right direction, but teachers still have the freedom to insert their liberal ideologies into their lesson plans, which is simply unacceptable.

Here is my suggestion: Students are to be taught not by teachers, but by digital avatars created by the Department of Education. This eliminates the possibility of any liberal bias, unless of course we somehow elect John Kerry. My plan can work only if America reelects George W. Bush. Come on, guys. Register Republican today!

The USA PATRIOT (Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism) Act. Only a communist would oppose

this act. I mean, come on! It helps us catch terrorists! Who cares if the government can gain access to your library records without any probable cause? Who cares if "suspected terrorists" can be held indefinitely without access to an attorney? I don't! I want the terrorists gone! And sadly, the USA PATRIOT Act isn't quite cutting it; however, I have faith in George and in Jesus that we can do better. George has the ability to improve our terrorist-catching abilities; we must simply put our faith in him.

Do you know how many pot-smoking heathens there are on this campus alone? Lots! If we reelect George W. Bush, I have faith that he, in conjunction with Congress, can allow the government to search the dorms of these dirty hippies without what you might call "probable cause". I say that their long hair and loud music are reason enough. Who's with me?

The Bush Tax Cuts. Who doesn't like money? I know I like money. I love it. Bush gave me more money, and I'm

See BUSH, pg. 7



## Surviving 'R-ships' in college

A tough decision that faces many freshmen is how to deal with relationships from back home. Not only is a long distance relationship often difficult to maintain, but it is often stressed by all the additional changes that starting college life involves. Class schedules, homework, sports practice, social life, and meeting new people can put strains on a relationship.

Brenden Shaw is a freshman at Ursinus who is currently maintaining a long distance relationship. His girlfriend and he agreed before leaving for school that she would call him every night at nine in order to stay close as a couple. While he feels no different about the relationship, he reports that it has become more difficult for her. He also admits that "sometimes it can be irritating if she calls when I'm hanging out with friends or trying to get work done, but it's generally not a big deal."

### GOODY

#### The Skipped Diploma: Musing of a Social Senior

While that plan might work for some people, it is not uncommon for one partner to become annoyed with constantly having to give or receive cell phone calls over a long period of time, constantly interrupting their daily activities. Remember that it is possible to suffocate someone even over a long distance—well, not literally, but you get the point.

Planning ahead and realizing that there will be challenges to face is a good start to maintaining a long distance relationship throughout college. Being well prepared for the transition to college life not only involves buying a mini-fridge and a George Forman grill (which is currently hidden under your bed because it's not allowed by the college, but you decided to bring anyway...yeah, I know what's up), but also being ready for changes in your relationship with your loved ones. Or liked ones. Or maybe even your I-don't-like-her-that-much,-but-let's-be-honest,-I'm-not-going-to-do-any-better-with-my-looks, ones.

My sister, who recently began her collegiate career at Muhlenberg (yes, I am disappointed with her taste in colleges), chose to break things off with her boyfriend from home. "We were both really busy and out meeting new people, so we didn't have much time to talk. Plus there's some guy here I kinda like" (yeah, "some guy" who will be less enthusiastic about my sister once he has a run in with me). By mutually ending the relationship while on good terms, they were able to better their chances of remaining friends, and keep the possibility open for a future relationship come summer time.

Jill Kosikowski, a recent Ursinus College grad, broke up with her boyfriend from high school during the spring of her freshman year through the fall of her sophomore year. After taking a break to adjust, she got back together with her high school boyfriend, to whom she is currently engaged. She suggests that "it's important to explore your options and to know what's right for you... not just what you are used to."

It is also important to remember at this age, changes will be aplenty, and what you want in life will change over time. I know I've changed. Hell, four years ago I applied here as a math major. Now? English. Four years ago I was shaving my head on a regular basis, now I'm doing my best to impersonate Ted Nugent.

While I wouldn't write off any promising current relationships merely because distance makes the association more difficult, keep an open mind to new things and don't let the sentimentalism of the past interfere with what could be a promising future. It's important to keep your options open and make sure you know what you want. Like right now I want to sit on the sofa and play X-box until it's time for lunch. Peace!

While Goody is not a legal psychologist or of any professional status to be giving advice (in this state anyway), he has been there, done that, and yes, plans to do it all again. If you're in need of some advice, or just have a topic you'd like to get someone's opinion on, shoot him an email at [JaGood@ursinus.edu](mailto:JaGood@ursinus.edu)

Goody is a senior. You can reach him at [jagood@ursinus.edu](mailto:jagood@ursinus.edu).

## Four more years

From BUSH, pg. 6

sure if we ask nicely, he will give us more. He doesn't care that America is in the largest deficit in its history and I don't either. What does that even mean, anyway? "Largest deficit in history." That's just liberal propaganda, and don't you listen to it. Bush is a man of the people. He knows that we like money, and he's not afraid to give it to us like that pansy John Kerry would be.

In closing, I think Bush has done a pretty good job so far. I mean, I sure as hell am a lot better off than I was four years ago when that pervert (I don't even want to say his name) was president. We're on the right track, and with another four years of George W. Bush, we can reach our goals. Just give him a shot. He's a nice guy! I trust him.

Matt Flyntz and Dan Sergeant are freshmen. You can reach them at [maflyntz@ursinus.edu](mailto:maflyntz@ursinus.edu) and [dasergeant@ursinus.edu](mailto:dasergeant@ursinus.edu).

## Opinions

### Roger the Fly

Here's the story of Roger the Fly. I was sitting in my room one day watching TV, like you do. The show was *Law and Order*. The show is almost always *Law and Order*.

About twenty minutes into this particular episode, a fly landed on the television screen. My first instinct was to kill and dispose of it. However, that was overtaken by my second instinct, which was not to get out of the chair. Laziness spared this fly's life.

My interest soon left the show and turned toward this fly, which seemed unwilling to leave the television screen. I threw a pencil at it. As is representative of my aim, I missed completely. The fly didn't seem phased. In fact it was probably laughing at me.

After a few more minutes, I began talking to the fly. Now I'm not insane, I knew it wasn't going to talk back, but it was there, and I had nothing better to do.

In fact, I soon found myself justifying my laziness by claiming the fly as a pet. As real pets weren't allowed in the dorm, I felt I had found a loophole. No one could complain about a pet fly. Now all I needed was a name.

I went through several ideas. At first I thought I'd just call him 'Fly,' but that had its obvious disadvantages. I couldn't very well

introduce him by saying, 'That's Fly.' I would sound like an idiot.

'You mean that's a fly,' people would politely correct me. No, I needed a real name.

There was a brief time when the fly was called Lindbergh, but I decided the fly probably didn't share the same politics as the pilot, so that was abandoned.

I thought about Guy, but Guy the Fly, as it turns out, rhymes, so that was vetoed as well. It was not until the phone rang that the fly was finally christened.

See ROGER, pg. 8



**CAM FURMAN**  
It's the Mind

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## Field hockey team continues where they left off **Pet fly**

**EDEN SWICK**  
edswick@ursinus.edu

After ending their 2003 field hockey season undefeated in the Centennial Conference, the Lady Bears are out for more, already beginning their season with a 3-1 overall record (0-0 CC).

The Lady Bears overcame one of their most predominant personal goals by getting their first win of their season against Division III stronghold, snapping TCNJ's 23 game home streak.

Captain Joyce Anne Koubaroulis excitedly discussing the game in saying, "We really came together as a team. We went in the mentality that we were gonna win the game and we charged them right from the start. We played for each other. It felt great to open the season with this huge win after all the hard work we put out during pre-season. We turned some heads, but most importantly we set the tone for the rest of the season."

The Lady Bears ended the game with a thrilling 2-1



win, with Captain Crystal McCarney scoring the game winning goal in the 65<sup>th</sup> minute.

Jess Rogers finished the game with one goal, and Molly Stevens tallied a game high of two assists.

Wednesday, the Lady Bears had it easier in their first conference action versus Bryn Mawr College. Ursinus College clearly dominated the field, coasting to an easy 11-0 win.

Molly Stevens recorded career highs of five goals and four assists, with Crystal McCarney and Joyce Anne Koubaroulis each adding two goals. Captain Kristen Pearson also added a goal to contribute to easily sweeping Bryn Mawr.

Sophomore Melissa Buckley has high hopes for the season in stating, "This season we have a very strong offense that does well at finishing in the circle. Our defense is just as strong, they communicate and work well together. With our positive attitudes and will to win we will go far."

From the looks of it, the Lady Bears' hard work is paying off, and from a distance their fans can hear the team chanting "GIT-ER-DONE!"

**From ROGER, pg. 7**

"Hey, is Roger there?"

"Ah no, you must have the wrong number."

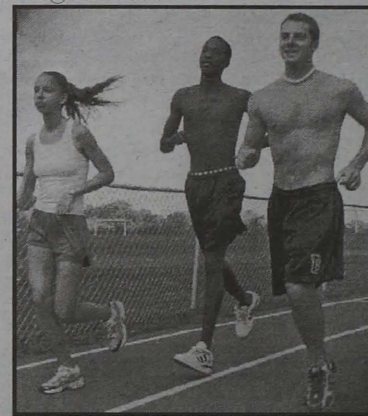
After hanging up the phone, I began to wonder if that person had indeed called the wrong number. Roger...maybe that was the name of the fly. Roger the Fly. That sounded right. Finally it had a name.

For the next couple of days, Roger and I hung out a lot. There was little choice really, we both called my room home. I introduced him to my friends. I knew that their look of concern really just masked their own jealousy.

On the fifth day, Roger died. It was through no fault of his own. I killed him, mistaking him for another fly. The funeral was a brief affair. I opened my window and threw him out.

But he will not be easily forgotten. Indeed, every time I see a fly, before lifting my textbook and sending it to its next life, I think of Roger, and realize that having a fly as a pet...well that's pretty screwed up.

Cam Furman is a senior. You can reach him at [cafurman@ursinus.edu](mailto:cafurman@ursinus.edu).



**Cross Country:** Sara McNally, Eric Delone, and Eric Wickersham practice for the Muhlenburg Invitational on Saturday.

## Men's soccer shows promise

**ERIN HOBAN**  
erhoban@ursinus.edu

Three wins and only one overtime loss to start the season shows promise for the Ursinus men's soccer team. The team came back to school two weeks early to begin practice, and so far, their hard work has paid off.

Head Coach, Wayne McKinney, along with Assistant Coach, BJ Callaghan, a former Ursinus student and soccer player, have confidence that their team will have a successful

season. Up until this point in the season, they have been proven correct.

Things were a little shaky with Junior Brian Berkowitz going into the season injured. He overcame his doubters with 5 saves in the game on Tuesday against Philadelphia Bible recording his second shutout of the season.

Team captain and Junior Tommy Hanlin states, "The team looks good this year with more experience, and the freshman help create a positive attitude which has been good motivation for us." He believes the team is more focused and that will only prove to be a positive attribute.

## UC Sports Recap 9.8 - 9.14

### Men's soccer

Date	Opponent	Result
Tue. 9/7	at Phila. Bible	W, 2-0

### Women's soccer

Date	Opponent	Result
Thu 9/9	at Cabrini	W, 4-1
Sat 9/11	DeSales	W, 1-0

### Field hockey

Date	Opponent	Result
Sat 9/11	Messiah	L, 1-2
Tue 9/14	Lebanon Valley	W, 6-2

### Volleyball

Date	Opponent	Result
Wed 9/8	Albright	L, 1-3
Sat 9/11	Wilkes/Alvernia	L, 0-3

### Football

Date	Opponent	Result
Sat 9/11	Catholic	W, 39-0

### Cross Country

Date	Opponent	Result
Sat. 9/11	at Lebanon Valley Invitational	12th place (men) 14th place (wom.)

## UC Sports Schedule 9.16.2004-9.22.2004

### Men's soccer

Date	Opponent	Time
Sat. 9/18	at Washington	1 p.m.
Wed 9/22	at Eastern	4 p.m.

### Women's soccer

Date	Opponent	Time
Sat. 9/18	at Gettysburg	12 p.m.
Wed 9/22	at Moravian	4 p.m.

### Field hockey

Date	Opponent	Time
Sat. 9/18	at Dickinson	12 p.m.
Sun. 9/19	at West Chester	12 p.m.

### Volleyball

Date	Opponent	Time
Tue. 9/21	at Haverford	6 p.m.

### Football

Date	Opponent	Time
Sat. 9/18	at Albright	6 p.m.

### Cross Country

Date	Opponent	Time
Sat. 9/18	at Muhlenburg Invitational	10 a.m.