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The Grizzly, October 14, 2004

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the grizzly

thursday, october 14, 2004

the student newspaper of ursinus college



Ex voto artist Maureen Drdak speaks at the Berman Museum of Art

inside



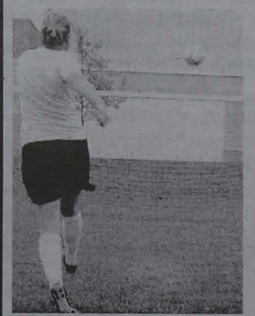
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Inside Scoop: Tenure, how to make your vote count

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Almost every year professors come before their colleagues, the college deans, and the Board of Trustees to try and gain tenure. Each time that the process is conducted, the Deans ask for student input and this year is no different. But what is tenure?

In essence, becoming a tenured professor is like getting a promotion. With tenure, professors earn increased job security and more academic freedom. It is much more difficult to terminate tenured faculty than non-tenured. In fact, tenured faculty are only terminated in cases of gross misconduct or severe financial difficulties for the college. Additionally, tenured faculty experience more freedom in their curriculum choice. Because of their increased job security, tenured faculty are free to choose more controversial topics to address in their classes and have the ability to challenge authority more so than before becoming tenured.

Dr. Cirka is professor for the Business and Economics department and a candidate for tenure. She says that from the college's standpoint granting tenure is a "major investment." When a college makes a professor tenured it intends that the professor will be a part of the staff long term. Because of its serious implications, becoming tenured is no easy process.

From the first day a professor is hired, he or she is designated as either visiting, on contract or tenure track. During a tenure-track professor's second and fourth year, he or she is reviewed and given feedback on teaching and professional performance especially in reference to becoming tenured. At those points, especially in the fourth year, professors are given areas to focus on to improve. During their fifth year, professors are given a semester in which they are relieved of all campus obligations in order to close or redirect any research they are working on. The

following year professors apply for tenure status and the following steps take place:

-The professor's research is sent out to the leaders in their field of research for evaluation

-Alumni from the professor's department for the past 5 years are contacted

-Each tenured member of the applying professor's department makes recommendations

-Students are solicited for their comments and opinions.

The entire process takes several months to complete and stretches from the summer to February of the next semester.

In February, faculty who have applied for tenure are given a final decision. Faculty who do not become tenured will receive a one year contract, and after such time will be terminated.

Tenure is a lengthy, resource-consuming process because it is so important to the school. The faculty at a school can determine so much about the school itself. Students should and do have a say in what they want their school to be like and this is one way to do so. This fall Dr. Carol Cirka, Dr. Rebecca Kohn, and Dr. Domenick Scudera are up for tenure review and the deadline is rapidly approaching for students who want to have input. **Any student is invited to submit a signed letter, to Dean Judith T. Levy, Office of the Dean by October 15, 2004.** Students should also be aware that their names may be withheld, upon request, when their comments are shared with the Promotion and Tenure Committee and the faculty member about which they are writing.

This is our chance to have a voice in the Ursinus community. Don't pass up this opportunity to be heard.

Walk for AIDS awareness

SHANNON BURKE
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Jessica Soto, a senior here at Ursinus, is captaining a team for the AIDS Walk in Philadelphia. The Walk raises money to help support those living with the devastating disease. "I'm originally from Philadelphia, so this is something that's kind of close to my heart," she says.

Soto has an internship with a non-profit organization in Philadelphia called *Choice*, which helps to educate people on sexual reproductive health. They are funded by the AIDS Fund, and some of the proceeds from the Walk will go to *Choice*.

Ursinus has about 15 people who are currently raising money to help the Walk. Despite the small turn out of students, "There will be thousands of people down there on Sunday," Soto says. Soto is a biology-sociology major who plans to become a doctor, with an interest in public health. For her internship, Soto talks to kids in underprivileged neighborhoods about the truths behind the myths surrounding sex.

The AIDS Walk hopes to encompass more than just walkers. "They have a one mile stroller walk for families with small children and there is a certified 10K route for runners. So, if you're a runner and you want to run...it kind of gets a lot of people involved." Even though the AIDS

Walk is centered in Philadelphia, the AIDS Fund funds different AIDS research and support groups throughout the entire Delaware Valley. "It's a pretty important cause and there is never enough money for the services that they (AIDS infected people) need. A lot of people, who have AIDS, are low-income," Soto says.

According to the Philadelphia Health Department, there are 30,000 people living with HIV in the Greater Philadelphia Region. According to the Philadelphia Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area (PMSA), there are 15,335 cases of AIDS in the county of Philadelphia. Those are high numbers, considering the Center for Disease Control reports there are 800,000 to 900,000 people in the United States living with HIV.

If anyone is interested in joining Soto's team, you can contact her at jsoto@ursinus.edu. If you're not interested in walking, you can sponsor a walker by pledging any monetary amount wished, because every cent helps. The Walk is on Sunday, October 17, 2004. The opening ceremonies begin at 8 AM, and the Walk & Stroll begins at 10 AM at Eakins Oval, in front of the Philadelphia Museum of Art. For more information, you can call 215-731-WALK, or go on-line at www.AIDSWalkPhilly.org.

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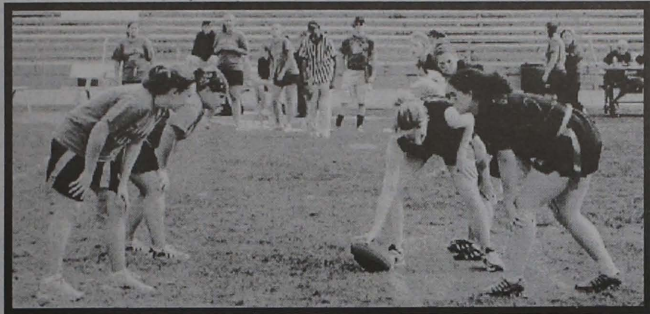
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Powderpuff football raises money for cancer research



Tau Sigma Gamma (left) and Alpha Sigma Nu (right) battle it off in the championship Powderpuff football game. All proceeds from the game were donated to the Crozer Chester Medical Center for cancer research.

CECILY MACCONCHIE

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Congratulations to the sisters of Tau Sigma Gamma for their victory in the Powder Puff football tournament, and to the sisters of Phi Alpha Psi for raising \$350 for the Crozer Chester Medical Center, to benefit breast cancer research.

The sisters of Phi Alpha Psi, the oldest sorority on the Ursinus campus, hosted a Powder Puff football tournament on Sunday to raise money for breast cancer research. One of the sisters of the sorority lost her mother to breast cancer, so the sorority has been raising money to donate to the Crozer Chester Medical Center, which was very helpful to her mother. This tournament succeeded in doing just that.

The sororities on campus that participated in the tournament are Phi Alpha Psi, Tau Sigma Gamma, Alpha Sigma Nu, and Omega Chi. The tournament started at noon. Admission cost \$2, half of which was given to a foundation for breast cancer research.

The tournament consisted of three 40-minute games of flag football. Tau Sigma Gamma played Omega

Chi and Phi Alpha Psi played Alpha Sigma Nu. The winners of each game, Alpha Sigma Nu and Tau Sigma Gamma, then competed for the championship, which Tau Sigma Gamma won.

The girls of Phi Alpha Psi were very excited about this event. "I think it's a good opportunity for people to see that Greek organizations aren't all about partying," said Phi Psi member Barbara Donald. "What everyone should realize from this event is that Greek organizations can all get together and host a dry event for a charitable cause."

The members of Tau Sig feel the same way. Each of the teams met to prepare themselves for the game, so they knew what to expect and were ready for the competition. Jill Reganato, a member of Tau Sig and a Powder Puff player, said "I think this is a really fun way to raise money, and might even start a tradition."

Eden Swick of Omega Chi said, "It's gonna get ugly." And indeed it did. The competition was fierce but the girls had fun, and a lot of money was raised. Overall, the event was a great success.

Ex Voto artist speaks on campus

JONATHAN GAGAS

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Ex Voto is the best thing to hit Berman since last semester's Tibetan monks. Maureen Drdak, the artist who created the pieces in the *Ex Voto* exhibit, extrapolated on her work in the upper gallery of Berman on Thursday, October 7.

Although a slight woman, Drdak brings a large presence to a room. Behind her piercing blue-green eyes, dark red hair, and pumpkin orange high heels lies a burning question: Why do the three major Western religions have such an enormous emphasis on sacrifice? She explores this question through the *Akedah Triptych*, a series of three primal paintings representing the sacrificial figures of these religions, namely Isaac, Jesus, and Ishmael. The *Akedah* is the story that each of these religions share, the story of Abraham sacrificing his son, Isaac (or, in Islam, Ishmael) at God's direction. In this account, which can be found in the book of Genesis in the Bible, God saves Abraham's son at the last second, when Abraham has his knife raised over the boy, by providing a ram to be sacrificed instead.

Each painting in the *Triptych* features a fleshy red sweep of color in its midst, surrounded by a field of black, the void. Vertical and horizontal lines made from mineral thread cage in the central figures of each painting,

representing the sacrificial altar and the Panjara, a cage containing cosmic forces. "Isaac," representing Judaism, contains in its midst an abstract representation of the horn and the eye of the sacrificial ram. "Jesus," representing Christianity, replaces the eye and the horn with two objects that symbolize both an inverted horn and the thorns of the crown thrust upon Christ's head before his crucifixion. "Ishmael," representing Islam, retains the horn and eye of "Isaac" but adds the crescent of Islam, showing that this religion grew out of Judaism, attempting to step over Christianity altogether.

Drdak presented the paintings of the *Akedah Triptych* as three quarrelsome brothers. Followers of each religion believe that *their* sacrifice is the perfect sacrifice, the only one able to bring about mankind's salvation.

I asked the artist if she saw any hope for these three great religions of the West, and she told me that although they may fight, these religions are still brothers and there is still hope for their peaceful coexistence. This is truly a comforting message in this troubling time of holy wars and crusades.

The artist also spoke on some of her other works exhibited in Berman, including *The Killing of Lions* and *Ashur 2*. If you have not yet seen *Ex Voto*, do yourself a favor and set aside an hour to go to Berman's upper gallery and peruse Maureen Drdak's visionary works of art.

Princeton Review wants your opinion

MEGAN HELZNER

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Not so long ago, we filled our bookshelves with college guides packed with many facts provided by universities and colleges and compelling opinions offered by undergraduate students themselves. Now the tables have turned; the *Princeton Review* will ask all Ursinus students to complete an extensive survey about our College for the next edition of their book. The survey, which you should have received via e-mail, includes questions about academic affairs, the social scene, and quality of life, among other things. As an added bonus, upon completing the survey, we are automatically entered in a drawing to win prizes totaling \$5000!

The Princeton Review ranks Ursinus as one of the top 357 of roughly 3,500 U.S. colleges. Back in 1991 when *The Review* started they were surprisingly one of the only college review publications. Since that time, capitalizing on high school students' needs and uncertainties has exploded into a billion dollar business. We are all familiar with the shelves upon shelves devoted to college prep and review guides at nearly every bookstore and the hundreds of websites and computer programs that tout that they have the inside scoop on colleges.

Of about twenty Ursinus students from different years surveyed, only about five used *The Princeton Review* while others used the similar Constitution-sized manual called *Fiske's Guide*, the more petite volume by Lauren Pope, *Fifty Colleges that Change Lives*, or websites such as collegeboard.com. One of the perks of *The Princeton Review*, comments first-year Brian Anderson, is that it reports some "funny negative things" about schools – and on a more academic note it "is really helpful for getting and comparing statistics." *The Princeton Review* prides itself on using lots of student input (good or bad), avoiding confusing mathematical calculations that publications like *U.S. News and World Reports* use, and simply representing schools in a succinct, accurate way.

Although *The Princeton Review* puts out a new edition every fall, they only assess one-third of the colleges in their book each year, since surveying is both expensive and time consuming. This rotation schedule means that Ursinus students will not be asked to respond to a survey again until 2007. In the last edition, Ursinus ranked in the 97th percentile for academics and wrangled 4 out of 5 stars; campus life totaled in at 92% with 4 out of 5 stars. Franklin and Marshall, for example, ranked in the 94th and 87th percentiles for academic and campus life, respectively.

So, in the next weeks, we'll have the opportunity to share with confused pre-college students what we know, like, and dislike about our school. We can expect to be asked questions like: How often do you go home? What percentage of classes do you actually attend? Are the professors accessible outside of the classroom? President Strassberger said, "Anyone who wants Ursinus College to be better known can take this opportunity to say what they like about Ursinus. *The Princeton Review* is also sort of inviting people to say some negative things."

Admissions director Paul Cramer suggests to Ursinus students, "Don't respond to the survey in stereotype. Respond specifically to your experience. If *The Princeton Review* looks at the varied responses collectively, they'll get a much better idea of what Ursinus is about."

Ursinus faith

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Religion is one issue in which many of us have different needs. There are various religions celebrated at Ursinus College, some major ones including Catholicism, Judaism, and Hinduism. While there is no way that the college can provide for every denomination on campus, there are a few organizations for those serious about their faiths. These organizations offer support to the students, provide religious services, and have social events for students to share experiences with others of their own faith.

The three main sources for worship on campus are the InterVarsity (IV) Christian Fellowship, Hillel, and the services held by Reverend Charles Rice.

Other organizations found on campus include the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Interfaith Outreach, and the Newman Association.

IV Christian Fellowship is a national association. On campus, it is advised by Dr. Economopoulos, who states that his main goal is to "support Christian students on

campus." The group is primarily Protestant, and they are conservative in the Christian belief system. They hold large group gatherings on Wednesday nights with about 30 to 40 students attending, and small group gatherings are sometimes held with about five to eight students per group. These



groups generally may either hold services or have Bible studies. However, this is by no means a closed-minded group.

Dr. Economopoulos also comments that, "This group is always interested in hearing various world views and is always willing to share their views in relation to other belief systems."

For Jewish students on campus, Hillel is an incredible organization. The Hillel advisor, Nomi Manon, is currently

training at rabbinical school. Hillel is more of a student-run organization in that students come up with ideas and help to plan the programs.

However, Nomi is on campus every Thursday to offer emotional support, answer religious questions, or help any of the students in general. Hillel has grown to have around about 47 students in Hillel who are beginning to participate in more interesting, exciting programs this year. Some upcoming events include a Falafel dinner and a show, a Shabbat dinner, movie nights, a Chanukah party, and a Passover Seder in the spring. Hillel is hoping to have a great amount of participation from the Jewish community on campus this year, which appears to be very promising.

Aside, from these two groups, the widely respected Reverend Rice is the Ursinus College chaplain. He provides spiritual guidance for all members of the community, as well as teaching. Reverend Rice holds a weekly service on Sunday mornings, which is generally non-denominational. In addition, there are also places of worship nearby the college that students may attend.

However, though all these religious activities and groups are available, Ursinus College is not affiliated with any particular religion. It is a tolerant and diverse community that simply encourages students to step outside their comfort zones and try something new. Since, each of the religious organizations on campus can be found on the Ursinus College website, it may be an idea to get involved. These groups are supportive, helpful, and available to everyone.

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 its review process. Letters should be sent to Dean Judith T. Levy, Office of the Dean, by October 15, 2004.

Learning versus earning in the college years

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School is back in session, classes are in full swing, clubs have begun their activities and financial services is sending out final notice bills for the semester. As students struggle to scrape together the remaining tuition balance, many are splitting time between classes and part time jobs.

According to the *Monthly Labor Journal* more than half of all college students hold down full or part-time jobs during the school year. Many students struggle to balance their classes and activities with jobs. This is especially true of students who choose to work off campus. As junior Darron Harley notes, "off campus jobs sometimes don't take into account you are a student. They work you crazy, like the work is your first priority. At Wendy's I was working 5pm to 2am three times a week."

One solution to this is to work on campus where job schedules are more flexible. There are several jobs around campus including those at the library and campus safety where students can study while they work. The downside to working on campus is the college's restrictions on jobs and the limited selection. Students may only work 20 hours per week at an on-campus job, which is the recommended limit from the American Council on Education. Additionally some jobs on campus simply don't pay enough for students to sustain themselves.

An alternative to both is to work on the breaks; however, even this is not always enough. Money earned over break often becomes tuition and book payments leaving

students with no cash during the semester for miscellaneous expenses.

Although each student and situation is different, one common factor is the need for time-management. Students who work should make sure they allow sufficient time for studies and may even need to create a schedule for themselves to get their work done. Additionally, many off-campus jobs in the area recognize the difficulty in working and going to school and will try to keep in mind your student status.

Working has other positive aspects besides just the pay. Employment during college sometimes lead to full-time job offers. Research has also found that students who are employed while they're in college are more successful and have higher retention rates. The key is learning time management. So how can you find a job?

Start with career services. Students can use UC CareerNet to search for jobs in the area both part time and full time. Try checking out the want-ads or Monster.com. Also call around to local stores and keep an eye out for stores which are hiring. Ask around; use your resources. Check with department heads on campus for job openings they may be aware of.

As the cost of college continues to increase, students will be paying more and more out of pocket and the need for jobs will become imperative. Take steps in the right direction now and you never know where it could lead.

grizzly
classifieds

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From humor to horror: a *Poe on Poe* preview

TOMMY HERRMANN
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Whether you are an avid Edgar Allen Poe fan or not, the upcoming play, *Poe on Poe*, is a must-see. Written and directed by Dominick Scudera, with choreography by Cathy Young, *Poe on Poe* will take you on a rollercoaster ride of emotions. From humorous poems to horror stories and melancholy tales, *Poe on Poe* will dance its way into the heart of the audience.

Scudera put together many different pieces of Edgar Allen Poe's work to create a piece of his own. The play is comprised of an actor—portraying Edgar Allen Poe—discussing his own stories, followed by a recreation of these stories by the actors and dancers. Hence, *Poe on Poe* is no misnomer.

"I think that this play is being performed at the right time of the year, when people will really like it—right before Halloween, when people will appreciate the dark horror stories of Edgar Allen Poe and the fine line between life and death that he deals with. It's not just a play involving gory horror stories, but also comic tales and poems, melancholy tales, and movement-based pieces," explains Scudera.

He recommends two scenes that the audience should look forward to in particular. One is "The Tell Tale Heart," performed by senior Shane Borer. Borer tells the story by himself, painting a vivid picture for the audience. Another is "The Bells," a lengthy poem performed by sophomore Lindsey Nicolo, accompanied by a group of dancers who simultaneously move with the words of the poem.

The scenes, lighting, and costume designs are all handled by professionals from the Philadelphia area, which give the play a great look. The tiled floor, double doors, large windows, and multiple levels enclose the set and give it a great atmosphere for Poe's engrossing stories.

Jason Comcovich, who plays Edgar Allen Poe, seems rather excited for his role in the play. "It's a fun part, since pretty much all of my lines were derived from Poe's essays. This is the first play I've been in [that is] focusing on an artist's approach to composition. Each scene is a different story with a different feel," says Comcovich.

Comcovich, along with 14 other dancers and actors, comprise the cast of the play. The play will begin on Wednesday, October 13, and run until Saturday, October 16, in Ritter Theater. Please call in advance to make reservations at 610-409-3604. Tickets are \$2 for students and \$5 for general admission. Prepare to be entranced.

CORRECTIONS

In "Spotlight on Alpha Sigma Nu," which appeared in the October 7 issue, Alpha Sigma Nu was incorrectly identified as the founding party of the Powder Puff Football Game. Phi Alpha Psi Sorority developed and coordinated the Game.

In "The Ursinus Political Campaign" which also appeared October 7, the article was incorrectly attributed to Dan Devlin. Ruthie Dell wrote this article.

the grizzly strives for journalistic excellence. Please address any concerns to the Editorial Board of the grizzly at grizzly@ursinus.edu.

the grizzly

Real Gone is real good!

MATT KROLIKOWSKI
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Eclectic, rhythmic, jazz musician Tom Waits returns with his brand new album, *Real Gone*.

Waits has been creating albums since 1973, and with *Real Gone* as his 19th album, he offers original material and redefines his style, but somehow manages to subtly remind listeners that it is still Tom Waits they are hearing. The greatest difference in *Real Gone*, as compared with other Waits albums, is its utter lack of keyboards, normally a focal point of Waits albums.

Every track on the album has the same Waits attitude --the song is entirely different, yet exactly like the rest. Upbeat, arrhythmic, and wild tracks such as "Top of the Hill" mirror his older, "Big in Japan"-like material. These songs get listeners to nod their heads, tap their feet, and sing along.

The raspy, gruff quality of Waits' voice in these songs would normally discourage listeners, but his interweaving of instrumentals and vocals produces a quasi-tribal feel to which nearly all listeners can relate and enjoy.

Another interesting song, "Circus," diverges from anything Waits has ever tried. In this song, he spends roughly five minutes speaking the lyrics, while drums and a bell

set play mildly in the background. Waits uses his rough, raspy voice while speaking the song to produce a haunting, malevolent affect to it. The song, which revolves around a circus, has its mood heightened by Waits' singing, and listeners are reminded of old faux horror films about circuses.

The hallmark of a Waits' album, however, is his somber, slow, depressing songs, and this album certainly has its share of them. Through tracks such as "How's It Gonna End" and "Sins of the Father," listeners get a very strong feel for the emotion and depth of Waits' music.

The most unique songs, though, are definitely "Trampled Rose" and "Dead and Lovely." Both songs have the honkey-tonk, blues feel to them, while also maintaining Waits' grizzled, one-of-a-kind sound.

Despite the distinctive foci of his music, the solemn mood of his music invites listeners to share in his pain. The up-beat tracks carefully placed among depressing ones take listeners on an emotional rollercoaster ride that is an otherworldly experience. Casual listeners are generally resistant to Tom Waits and his music, but even the most unaccustomed listener can enjoy these songs.

Real Gone was released on Tuesday October 5, and runs from about \$15-\$20, depending on the record store. King of Prussia's FYE carries it for \$15.99, so acquire this easy listen as soon as you can!

career corner

The Road to Graduate and Professional Schools

Have you decided that grad school is in your future? If so, you may have many questions including how do I research programs? How can I make my application stand out? How can I gain admission to competitive graduate programs?

Career Services can help! Check out the graduate school resources in the Career Services Office. Various specialized directories and websites, such as www.gradschools.com, can help you narrow your search. As you consider the schools offering programs that interest you, develop criteria to help guide your decision making. Consider issues such as location, faculty research interests; reputation of the school, program, and faculty; funding/financial assistance; and time required to complete the degree.

Don't forget to seek advice from your faculty members. Their knowledge of the field and of your interests will allow them to make helpful suggestions.

Start getting ready! The complete grad school application will typically include an application form, an official college transcript, graduate entrance exam scores, letters of recommendation, a personal statement, an application fee, and, sometimes, a personal interview. For information on these steps and for a suggested timetable for application activity, schedule an appointment with a career counselor in Career Services.

Plan on attending our upcoming program, "Getting into Grad School," presented by nationally recognized author and speaker, Don Asher, on Monday, October 18, at 7:30 pm in Pfahler Auditorium. Asher will pump you up with graduate school admission strategies and terrific tips based on his popular book, *Graduate Admissions Essays: Write Your Way Into the Graduate School of Your Choice*.

Lastly, save the date for the largest graduate school fair in the region on November 11, at Temple University. Transportation will be provided and details will be announced soon.

Operation Haverfordian Freedom: A call to arms

In this day and age of uncertainty, we must take no chances. We must obliterate any possible enemy before it gets a chance to inflict damage upon us. Pre-emptive strikes



**MATT FLYNTZ
DAN SERGEANT**
Communism for Dummies

are the new standard of war. We, the authors of "Communism for Dummies," have substantive evidence that Haverford College is in the process of developing the capabilities needed to invade and conquer

Ursinus College and other Southeastern Pennsylvania liberal arts schools. Ursinus faculty and students, this is a call to arms. We must invade Haverford College.

In July of 2000, six Pennsylvania liberal arts schools, including both Ursinus and Haverford colleges, received hefty grants to "expand interdisciplinary science classes, student research opportunities, and minority science-education programs." Haverford received \$1.7 million, whereas Ursinus received \$800,000. Both Haverford and Ursinus spent \$800,000 on the expansion of the aforementioned programs, but Haverford spent their leftover \$900,000 on something completely different: the development of nuclear capabilities and other weapons of mass destruction. Our proof: slightly blurry images taken with Dan's digital camera. It's unnerving, really. We could be attacked at any moment!

Perhaps even more unnerving is Haverford's mascot: the black squirrel. Any Ursinus student or faculty member knows about the sneaky, selfish ways of squirrels. However, Haverford has taken it a step further. As I said, they are the black squirrels. Why black squirrels, do you ask? So they can sneak up on us at night and steal our stuff! To any Ursinus student or faculty member who has been the victim of a robbery, it was Haverford. Those damned black squirrels steal our stuff, and we let them get away with it! Well, I've had enough!

For those who haven't had anything stolen (first off, you're lucky) or don't care about weapons of mass destruction, perhaps this will make the case: Haverford makes its students sign an "Honor Code". Do you know what that really means? It means that Haverford wants its students to act the same way. What is this, Taliban University? What happened to freedom of expression, Haverford? Ursinus, it is our civic duty to uphold the First Amendment to The Constitution of the United States of America and spread democracy to the poor students of Haverford!

Upon invasion, you may encounter some resistance from some students. They may tell you that they hate you, and they may even kill you, but trust me, the majority of Haverfordians will welcome our presence because they want freedom! It is our responsibility to the world to spread freedom. Please, join us at "Communism for Dummies" in this noble crusade to rid Pennsylvania's liberal arts college community of the terrifying specter of weapons of mass destruction.

Thank you, and may God continue to bless Ursinus College.

Matt and Dan are freshmen. You can reach them at maflyntz@ursinus.edu and dasergeant@ursinus.edu.

Who is to blame for the Vioxx withdrawal?

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On September 30 Merck and Co., Inc announced the worldwide withdrawal of the popular drug Vioxx. This drug, which treats arthritis and other acute pain, has been prescribed 91 million times in the US alone since its introduction in 1999. Vioxx has been confirmed to elevate the risk of heart attack and stroke if taken for more than 18 months. Merck's stock plummeted 27 billion dollars in a single day after the withdrawal, which amounts to about 25% of the company's net worth. The sales of Vioxx, its most popular drug, accounted for 11% of the company's income.

The discovery of these fatal side-effects of Vioxx was made by some of the company's own researchers, who were testing the effectiveness of Vioxx in treating colon cancer in a three-year study. FDA studies that test for this kind of side-effect only last for the first 6 months of treatment. Merck discovered the side-effects themselves and withdrew the drug out of conscience.

"We are taking this action because we believe it best serves the interests of patients," said Raymond V. Gilmartin, chairman, president and chief executive officer of Merck. "Although we believe it would have been possible to continue to market VIOXX with labeling that would incorporate these new data, given the availability of alternative therapies, and the questions raised by the data, we concluded that a voluntary withdrawal is the responsible course to take."

Who is responsible for this? Merck, the company that reported the side-effects as soon as researchers were aware of them? Or the government, whose mandatory drug testing lasted a third of the time necessary for evidence of these side-effects to emerge? In addition to the plunging share price of Merck stock, lawsuits from scared and angry Vioxx patients are inevitably on the horizon. Should they sue Merck or the government?

Merck developed, tested, and marketed Vioxx completely unaware that patients taking Vioxx for over 18 months are twice as likely to experience a cardiovascular event such as heart attack or stroke as patients taking a placebo. Merck discovered these new risks, even though it is the purpose and interest of the FDA to clinically test for this kind of side-effect. The FDA approved Vioxx, thus intimating that the drug is safe and effective. Therefore, the FDA is responsible for the new discovery of cardiovascular side-effects in Vioxx, and they should publicly shoulder the blame and expense.

Letter to the Editor: Segregation in Wismer

An article was printed in the grizzly not too long ago, entitled "Segregation by Letter?" This feature was not only misinformed, but very misleading to anyone not part of the Ursinus community. It's true that in Wismer Hall, the "jocks" sit with the "jocks", and brothers of fraternities sit together at the same table day in and day out, but why is that all of the sudden a crime?

If I went through three weeks or more of pledging rights with a group of guys that I now called my brothers, there would be no other guys that I would want to sit with. Likewise, if I were on a sports team, and played day in and day out with the same group of guys, every day practicing for the big games on the weekends, or the conference titles at the end of the season, why interrupt the good communication and team cohesion? Is there any need to?

The point of view of the article detailing the necessity of diversity at Ursinus College was very skewed. No, personally I am not part of a fraternity, nor do I have an invested interest in becoming a letter bearer anytime soon, but I am part of a sports team here at Ursinus College and speak from the point of view of a team member. I'm sorry that if I feel most comfortable when I sit with my fellow team mates. I apologize if it offends you greatly that I choose not to sit with other people because I may not identify with their culture.

It's not my intention to help proliferate a single form of segregation here at Ursinus College. However, I would like to point out that I believe segregation starts and stops at Wismer Hall. Yes, it is true, students here at Ursinus would like to sit down at breakfast, lunch or dinner with friends, team mates, brothers, sisters, room mates, hall mates, suite mates, or how about just people they know. But why is that such a bad thing? Submitted by: Chris Fratz

Dio ages, but still rages on stages

GOODY
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Ronnie James Dio - a man whom has been bringing fist-pumping rock and ear-splintering vocals to rockers everywhere for the past three decades returned to the Trocadero in Philadelphia last Monday night. He is touring to promote his latest album, *Master of the Moon*, a heavier, deeper album reminding me of the days when Dio was the frontman for Black Sabbath.

Dio proclaims, "What was going on in the world around us, the album naturally became more realistic in theme." To the delight of those in attendance, Dio performed songs from the new album, "Just the Eyes," "One More for the Road," and the title track, "Master of the Moon," as well as other Dio classics such as "Sign of the Southern Cross" from his days with Sabbath, "Man on the Silver Mountain," "Rock 'n' Roll Children," as well as perpetual rock classics "Rainbow in the Dark," "Last in Line," and "Holy Diver."

Drummer Simon Wright also took center stage, churning out a spectacular four minute plus drum solo. Between each song, fans paid tribute to the rock legend by chanting

"D!-O!-D!-O!" and flashing the infamous "devil horns" hand signal, a creation of Dio's very own that has now become a staple at concerts everywhere.

Opening for Dio was speed metal alumni Anthrax, performing thrash classics "Caught in a Mosh," "I am the Law," and "Antisocial." With grinding guitars and blistering solos, Anthrax had heads banging in the crowd and bodies slamming in the pit.

Other similar upcoming rock concert events at the Trocadero include Fear Factory with Lamb of God (10/16 & 10/17), German rockers KMFDM (11/3), and Cannibal Corpse with Napalm Death (11/17).

The Electric Factory will host Goth posterboy Marilyn Manson on November 21st, while Stage Show Legend Gwar looks to both terrify and electrify audiences on Halloween night (10/31). Cradle of Filth headlines the Headbanger's Ball Tour (11/5), not to mention Speed metal extraordinaire Slayer thrashes the Jägermeister tour November 18th.

Special thanks to Kim Salmon and the rest of the good people at Chipster Entertainment and Dio for providing press materials as well as the opportunity to attend the show.

Phone phollies

While I am critical of many things in this modern world of ours, something that really bugs me is the cellular phone. Now I really have no problem with the piece of plastic, wires, circuit boards (and presumably black magic from my understanding), it's more how people act when talking on them. So let us try to set down a few ground rules on cell phone etiquette.

First off, if you're hanging out with someone, at least *pretend* that you want to hang out with them. When I'm

mid-sentence and someone whips out their cell, answers it, and holds up the "just a second while I take this" finger, I want to rip the phone out of their hand and start talking to whoever called them. See how they like being dropped for a "more interesting conversation."

And along the same lines, if you go somewhere to hang out, don't take calls to see if anyone else is doing

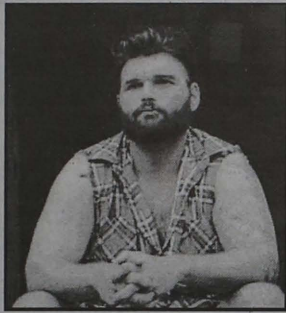
anything more exciting elsewhere. Example: last New Year's Eve I was in Kutztown, just me and six rugby girls in a room celebrating. Now let's be honest, I was picturing some hot double ménage à trois action, or at least something similar to *Girls Gone Wild*. But no, they all busted out cell phones and started calling their friends to scream. Not having a cell phone, I was alone with my beloved Dick... Clark, that is. (Perhaps had I showered or shaved that night, things would have gone differently, but hey, what I lack in appearance and charm, I make up for in egomania).

Thus said, point number two. There is nothing (not even the "no beer bong on campus" rule) more annoying than those phones that can "chirp" people. Not only do I not want to hear a beep before and after every sentence, but I really don't care about your conversation, which is broadcasted on apparently the exact speaker system used for Slayer concerts. Now I don't have any friends who own this type of phone (for good reason) to ask if it's possible to turn down the volume, plus I understand everyone likes feeling like a cop (*booop* we have a 5150 at three-oh-one McCarthy Boulevard, backup requested *booop*), but for the love of God, if at all possible, turn it down.

Finally, ring tones. As much as I love the crappy dance music played at every Reimert party, I don't want to hear it unless I'm standing next to a trashcan filled with ice cold Natty Light. Can't they just make a phone that simply rings?

While I do find them annoying, don't get me wrong, I have been tempted myself to purchase one of these communicative devices. However, not only am I afraid I would instantly turn into one of you people (honestly, what's so important that you need to take calls while standing in line for Wismer mozzarella sticks?), but I also know that I would lose it in a week. Or accidentally drop it in the trashcan full of Natty.

Goody has problems. If you have a problem you would like him to muse on, you can reach him at jagood@ursinus.edu.



GOODY

**The Skipped Diploma:
Musings of a Social
Senior**

Larry, part II



CAM FURMAN
It's the Mind

My loyal reader(s) may remember Larry. For those who don't, he is my friend who claims that George W. Bush is the greatest president this country ever had.

Since that column first ran, I have had several people ask me if there is, in fact, a Larry. Yes, there is a real person, and his actual name I will not divulge. Like Woodward and Bernstein, my Deep Throat will only be revealed upon his death.

Another interesting question is whether Larry had read my column. He has, I made sure of that. For all of his faults, Larry does have a sense of humor (he would have to, I suppose, to argue the superiority of Bush over, say, Lincoln.) He was not particularly angry over what I wrote. In fact, he enjoyed it quite a lot.

We had a discussion about the first presidential debate, a debate reminiscent of watching a cat batting at a moth before finally growing bored and eating it. In this case, Bush was the moth, Kerry the cat.

Larry's view was somewhat different. I had found the only Republican that I know who thought Bush decisively won the debate. "Did you see Kerry?" inquired Larry, "He was so shocked at how good Bush was doing that he didn't know what to do. No one thought Bush would do as well as he did, it was amazing." There is not enough pain medication in the world, really, to get through these sorts of headache-inducing conversations with Larry.

But he is still my friend, because to judge a person on a purely partisan level is rather repulsive. My own political persuasion is that of a Rockefeller Republican. Larry's political leanings tend toward being, well, unsettling.

But "democracy," define it how you will, is about having disagreements, having serious conversations on the issues, but at the end of the day, shaking hands and sitting down to be social.

Maybe I'm just a hopeless romantic, but I can't see the point of having a personal hatred of people just because they find themselves on a different side of the political spectrum. Some of my best friends are democrats, and others, like Larry, are deranged Republicans.

But they are still my friends. In this heated and ugly election season, we should remember the question posed by the band War: why can't we be friends?

Oh...and my apologies for the social commentary, I'll try not to let it happen again.

Blurring the lines in American media

CHRIS CURLEY
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American confidence in the media is at an all-time low. 44 percent of the country believes the media is an accurate and trustworthy body, according to a recent Gallup poll. In an era of information overload, a lack of faith in our most prominent news sources is disheartening.

But where should the blame fall? There are examples of corrupt journalism in the print media, with the *Times'* Jason Blair and *USA Today's* Jack Kelley, both fired for fraudulent reporting, but most of the fault lies with the glowing box sitting in your living room.

Television news could be – and was – a great boon to the spread of information in this country. But, with the success of cable news outlets like CNN and MSNBC, ratings have become more important than the news itself. Getting the facts out first, even if inaccurately, has become more important than getting the facts correctly. Gaining viewership is more important than fostering a well-informed public.

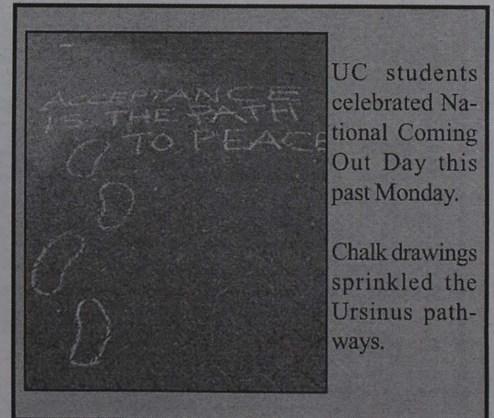
Many have accused the media of having a "liberal" bias. In part, this is true. Most journalists lean to the left. On the other hand, most professional newspaper editors lean to the right. Journalism is founded upon the elimination of bias, and the best journalists are impossible to discern where their political loyalties lie.

If there is single organization to cast blame on, it is Rupert Murdoch's *Fox News Network*. Along with his *New York Post*, a "legitimate" newspaper bordering on tabloid in its bias, and the openly conservative *Weekly Standard*, Murdoch has done more to polarize and infect good journalism with venomous bias than any other news mogul in history.

Instead of attracting healthy, unbiased commentary, the network is filled with people with conservative commentators from Sean Hannity to Bill O'Reilly to Ann Coulter. Granted, these people have opinion-based news shows, but this too is an infection.

The problem with media in this country is that it has become impossible to distinguish op-eds from news. The networks have blurred the lines so much between opinion and fact, that the public has no idea what to think. This sort of media environment is responsible for the intensely polarized political spectrum in this country. Everyone picks sides, left or right, based on which talking head they agree with more.

This is a troubling sign. In a democracy, the media is the most important weapon we have to keep our leaders in check. Journalism rest on the ideals of integrity, accuracy, and lack of bias. If we lose our faith in the media, we have nothing left to trust.



UC students celebrated National Coming Out Day this past Monday.

Chalk drawings sprinkled the Ursinus pathways.

Women's soccer team fools the oddsmakers

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The Ursinus Women's Soccer team is half way through its second season with coach Jeff Ykonuk, who recruited 12 promising freshmen to add to the existing 11 players on the team. Although the team is young, featuring only three seniors and two juniors, the talent cannot be overlooked.

Going into last season, the team was ranked to finish at the bottom of the conference. To the surprise of its competitors, the soccer team was no longer a joke or "an easy win."

The Bear's finished fourth in the conference and are getting a taste of playoff action for the first time in the program's his-



tory. No other Centennial Conference team thought Ursinus could generate the statistics, and the season was thought to be the result of a bit of luck. Again, the rankings for the 2004 season reflected little confidence in the young team and ranked them to finish sixth in the conference.

These girls know that last season was just the beginning. After being disrespected not once, but twice, the soccer team is determined to make this season even more successful. Already, the team broke a new record by beginning conference matches with the most wins (5) on their record. Most recently, Wednesday's Centennial Conference soccer action for the

Ursinus Women's team featured an away match against Swarthmore, which resulted in a 2-1 victory. The Garnets put the ball in the back of the net 22:23 minutes into the game, but senior forward Aubrey Andre responded about 11 minutes later (33:22) to tie the game at 1-1 and pick up her fifth goal of the season.

The second half brought out a different Ursinus team where the Bears kicked up their intensity. Freshman Chelsea Morin picked up her first goal of the season by burying the ball past the Swarthmore goalie with 22:44 left in the game.

The Women's Soccer team ended the

game with 25 shots and only allowing 12 shots against with freshman goalkeeper Ashley Potter collecting two saves.

The loss of goalkeeper Jaime McCormick (to a torn MCL), freshman forward Paula Keller-Lee (quad injury), and freshman Katie Morello (sprained ankle) has had an effect on the depth of the team. However, the return of sophomore defender Lauren Washam and freshman forward Chelsea Morin made a distinguishable impact by increasing the intensity and talent on the field.

"We played with energy and Wash and Chelsea definitely contributed by playing physical and with power," Andre remarked after the match. "We just need to keep our defense strong and keep shooting and you will see us in the playoffs".

The Bear's improved their record to 7-4 overall and 3-2 in the conference and will face Franklin and Marshall this Saturday.



Conduct in pro sports becoming an issue

EDDIE MURRAY
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At the end of this summer, Dolphins star running back Ricky Williams retired from the NFL at the ripe age of 27. He had many reasons for walking away from the game. Among those reasons was his heavy workload on the offense this year for the Dolphins as well as his admitting that he lost his love for the game. One last and pretty important reason Ricky Williams walked away from football was that he failed a third drug test, testing positive for marijuana. Had he not retired, he would have

faced suspension as well as fines and added embarrassment. He later had to pay the Dolphins \$8.7 million in compensation for the remaining years on his contract. Not only does Williams have a drug problem, he also could not take the fall for his actions.

Major League Baseball added excitement to the end of its regular season as well. Frank Francisco of the Texas Rangers was charged with aggravated battery on September 14th after throwing a chair into the stands and hitting a woman in the head. Francisco could not handle the heckling from fans and erupted in a very unprofessional manner. This was captured

by cameras on national television and Francisco was suspended for the remainder of the season. This kind of conduct is not setting a good example for athletes nor children who look for positive role models.

Days later, Dodger Outfielder Milton Bradley spiked a beer bottle next to a fan in the stands during a ballgame on September 28th. His insane outburst was also due to heckling from a fan and he too was suspended for the remainder of the regular and post-season games. It could be the end of his career with the Dodgers as well. Yet another athlete showing America's youth how to react to adversity.

With these three examples all happening within the last few months, it is safe to say there is a drastic decline in athlete's attitudes, respect and actions in the last few years. No longer is it a rare case that an athlete interacts with a fan or fails a drug test. It is now that an athlete fails three drug tests and there are two fan interactions in as many weeks. What does this suggest? Athletes think they are bigger than the game and bigger than their team. This is not a good sign for professional sports.

UC Sports Recap 10.07-10.13

Men's soccer

| Date | Opponent | Result |
|-------------|---------------------|--------|
| Thurs. 10/7 | Cabrini | L, 1-2 |
| Sat. 10/9 | at McDaniel | L, 0-2 |
| Mon. 10/11 | at Richard Stockton | TBD |

Women's soccer

| Date | Opponent | Result |
|------------|----------|--------------|
| Sat. 10/9 | at F&M | W, 3-2 (2OT) |
| Wed. 10/13 | Widener | TBD |

Volleyball

| Date | Opponent | Result |
|-----------|--------------|--------|
| Thu. 10/7 | Immaculata | L, 1-3 |
| Sat. 10/9 | at Dickinson | L, 0-3 |

Cross Country

| Date | Opponent | Result |
|-----------|--------------------------|--|
| Sat. 10/9 | at Goldey-Beacom Classic | Men - 4th out of 14 Women - 6th out of 15 |

Field hockey

| Date | Opponent | Result |
|-------------|---------------|--------|
| Sat. 10/9 | at Haverford | W, 8-1 |
| Tues. 10/12 | at Swarthmore | TBD |

Football

| Date | Opponent | Result |
|-----------|----------|----------|
| Sat. 10/9 | LaSalle | L, 19-21 |

UC Sports Schedule 10.14.2004-10.20.2004

Men's soccer

| Date | Opponent | Time |
|------------|---------------|--------|
| Thu. 10/14 | at Neumann | 4 p.m. |
| Sat. 10/16 | at F&M | 1 p.m. |
| Wed. 10/20 | at Washington | TBA |

Volleyball

| Date | Opponent | Time |
|------------|------------------|---------|
| Sat. 10/16 | Rowan/Washington | 11 a.m. |
| Wed. 10/20 | Muhlenberg | 7 p.m. |

Women's soccer

| Date | Opponent | Time |
|------------|------------------|--------|
| Sat. 10/16 | at Elizabethtown | 2 p.m. |
| Wed. 10/20 | Bryn Mawr | 4 p.m. |

Field hockey

| Date | Opponent | Time |
|------------|------------------|--------|
| Sat. 10/16 | at Elizabethtown | 1 p.m. |

Football

| Date | Opponent | Time |
|------------|---------------|--------|
| Sat. 10/16 | at Muhlenberg | 1 p.m. |

Women's Rugby

| Date | Opponent | Time |
|------------|-----------|------|
| Wed. 10/20 | Bryn Mawr | 6:30 |