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## The Grizzly, April 7, 2005

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# the grizzly

thursday, april 7, 2005

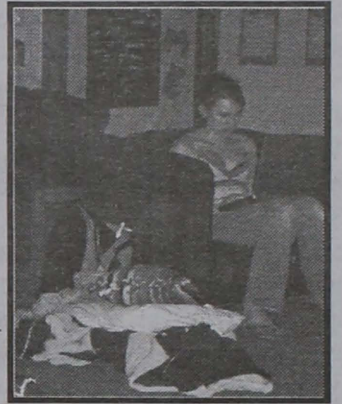
the student newspaper of ursinus college



Fans cheer on UC Bears Lacrosse



## inside



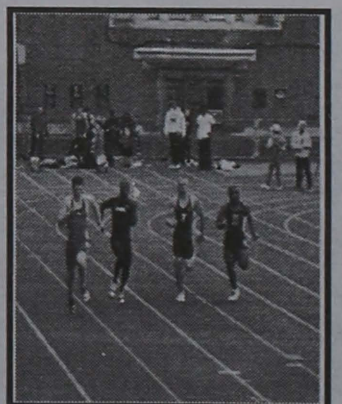
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## The week that - almost! - wasn't Greek

JENN MCCANN

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Rumors had been spreading like wildfire through the Ursinus community that Greek Week, an Ursinus tradition which helps create cohesion amongst the different Greek organizations on campus, was going to be cancelled for this semester. But, after much discussion and debate between the Greek Presidents Council (GPC) and the Administration, it has been decided that Ursinus will have a Greek Week. So from Monday, April 25<sup>th</sup> to Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, the tradition continues, but not without a few changes.

According to Austin Duckett, Assistant Director of the Student Activities Office, the major decision he and the GPC made at their meeting last Monday night was whether or not to have a Greek Week at all. That decision made, it was settled that the Week's events will be decided on by Duckett and a Greek Week committee, which is to be composed of some members of each Greek organization. He hopes that certain traditional events, such as "Mascot Building" in Wismer, the Greek Feud, Letter Day, and the Volleyball Picnic behind Reimert, will be continued. Also, inductions for the Greek National Honors Society, Gamma Sigma Alpha, will be conducted at some point during Greek Week. Duckett said he was looking forward to meeting with the committee to discuss other events, such as Greek Olympics, that could be added to the festivities.

Events that will not be included in the tradition are those Duckett described as, "binge drinking events" such as the *Beer Crawl* down Main Street and the *Case Race*. It

was events such as these which conflicted with the College's alcohol policies and caused the Administration to cancel the traditional Greek Week last year. Duckett said that he hopes binge drinking will not occur during this year's celebration. "Every Greek community should have a Greek Week. It's important to create a unified atmosphere within the Greek community, and that's the reason we are having Greek Week again," Duckett said.

Marina Torres, a junior member of Phi Alpha Psi, expressed her excitement towards the decision to have the Week this year. "I can't wait for Greek Week! We all have so much fun when we come together as a Greek community." Likewise, Matt Meeker, president of Sigma Rho Lambda, said he always looks forward to Greek Week, because "aside from all the fun activities, it gives the Greek community a chance to show the pride we have in our organizations." Greeks on campus are thrilled about the upcoming Greek Week, and it seems that the non-Greek members of the campus community are supportive about the decision to continue this tradition. "I'm not in a Greek organization," said junior Hilary McNamara, "but I thought it was ridiculous that they were even thinking about not doing Greek Week this year. Regardless of who is involved, it's an Ursinus College tradition and it should continue to be."

## Class trip to Mississippi revisits the Civil Rights Movement and transforms students

RACHEL DANIEL

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While some Ursinus students hit the beaches for Spring Break, a group of dedicated students and professors went from Jackson, Mississippi to Memphis, Tennessee to learn about Civil Rights firsthand.

The Religion and Civil Rights Class, taught by Davis Chair Dr. Claudia Highbaugh and Chaplain Reverend Rice, has been influential in impacting students' lives. The class was structured around the trip.

As the Davis Chair of Judeo-Christian Values, Dr. Highbaugh felt it was important to create a class that would give back to the community. "It's important that students learn about the civil rights movement," Dr. Highbaugh said.

Throughout the spring semester, students in this small class have been learning in detail the impact religion had on the civil rights movement. Going to Mississippi was a critical part of the class. Both Dr. Highbaugh and Reverend Rice wanted to take educated students to make textbook matter come to life.

The students had five days of intense hands-on learning. They participated in a moving seminar, often holding class meetings and presentations in hotels. Not only did they meet influential activists of Civil Rights Movement, but also visited student protest grounds, attended Salem Baptist Church, a leading activist church, and historically black colleges and universities such as Jackson State University and Tougaloo College.

"It was the best five days. It was overwhelming and compelling" said junior Chanelle Houston. "The trip put everything into perspective. It pieced things together. It made me want to work for civil rights."

"The most rewarding thing for me was the seriousness and carefulness and sacredness that the students approached the trip with," said Reverend Rice. "It was joyous to be with a group of students who were transformed."

### Graduating Seniors, did you borrow through the Federal Stafford Loan and/or Federal Perkins Loan programs while at Ursinus?

If you did, you are **REQUIRED** to participate in an EXIT INTERVIEW before leaving Ursinus College. This is an interview you agreed to when you signed your promissory note for your loan funds and is a federal requirement of student loan borrowers.

The following date and time has been reserved for a group Exit Interview:

**TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 2005- 7:00 P.M. - Olin Auditorium**

A representative from PNC Bank will be available to answer your questions on **LOAN CONSOLIDATION**. It is very important that you attend this required exit interview. If you absolutely cannot attend, you will need to call Student Financial Services at 610/409-3600 to schedule an individual interview. The interview takes about an hour to complete.

Please bring a pen, your driver's license, and complete addresses and phone numbers for two personal references that are not relatives. You must complete the Exit Interview before you will be allowed to participate in graduation activities.

**Two \$50 Gift Certificates to the King of Prussia Mall will be given away. YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN.**

## the grizzly

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# The Kaleidoscope to open 4/21



**KRISTIN CARTER**  
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Soon we will no longer be awakened in the wee hours of the morning by the sound of construction. The Kaleidoscope Center of Performing Arts, the first brand new building at Ursinus College since 1991, is virtually complete. On April 21, 2005 Ursinus College's new PAC (Performing Arts Center) will open its doors with a spectacular array of opening day attractions.

Ursinus College Dance Company will have numerous performances throughout the day beginning with a concert at 1:00 p.m. in the brand new Black Box Theater for the people who donated money to make building the Kaleidoscope possible. At 3:00 p.m., Cathy Young's Dance Composition class will perform their own work in the black box. Around 6:00 p.m., during the evening cocktail reception preceding Wynton Marsalis's performance, over 60 dance students will perform a site-specific work in the Atrium (on the balconies, stairs, etc). Finally, the evening will conclude with a performance by Wynton Marsalis, which only approximately 125 lucky Ursinus students as well as Board of Trustee members and other prestigious guests will have the privilege of seeing live.

Current UC students were given the opportunity to get free tickets on Saturday April 2 at 8 a.m. in the Student Activities Office (SAO) in Wismer Lower Lounge (WLL). Approximately 125 tickets were available and given out on a first come first serve basis. Students were permitted one ticket for themselves and were required to show ID. The SAO and Alumni Office hosted an "overnight ticket bash" with games, movies and free food in WLL starting on Friday, April 1 at 11:30 p.m. and ending the next day. Numerous students came out with pillows and blankets for the festivities throughout the night and the chance to reserve tickets in the morning. Tickets will be mailed to those students' MSC mailbox the week of April 18.

If you have any questions concerning the PAC opening, please contact Todd McKinney or Coco Minardi.

## Edible Book Festival a delicious success

**JOHN GAGAS**  
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Reading at Ursinus has never been more tasty than at the Edible Book Festival on Wednesday, March 30, held in the coffee shop section of the library. Organized by Ursinus senior Jessica Gallagher, the feast of a festival hosted a great deal of creative culinary concoctions based mostly on children's books.

Both students and faculty contributed the festival's edible works of art, some of which featured amusing wordplay. Carolyn Weigel's piece, "France's Bacon," a play on the title of a biography on famous thinker Francis Bacon, was a pizza carved in the shape of France and covered in bacon. "The Velveeta Rabbit," a creation of Kerri Landis, Robin Pierce, and Cynthia Shimer based on *The Velveteen Rabbit*, was, as its name suggests, a rabbit carved out of a block of cheese.

Several judges chose what they thought were the best entries for both faculty and students. The faculty and staff winners were: in first place, "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" by Kimberly Nolan and Karin Sconzert, in second place, "The Tortoise and the Hare" by Brian Pfenning, and in third place, "France's Bacon" by Carolyn Weigel. The student winners were: in first place, "If You Give a Pig a Pancake" by Marissa Rotz, in second place, "The Velveeta Rabbit" by Kerri Landis, Robin Pierce, and Cynthia Shimer, and in third place, "Harry Pot Pie" by Kelsey McNeely.

After the entries were judged, the "edible" part of the festival took place, as those who came to the event were allowed to eat the creations. Although it felt a bit odd ripping the rice krispie treat leg off a pig or carving a

piece out of a rabbit made of cheese, the entries proved to be delectable, as evidenced by the attendees eagerly gobbling them up.

The Edible Book Festival brought some much-needed flavor to Ursinus, both literally and figuratively. All involved should be proud of their appetizing accomplishments as I end this article before making more terrible food puns.



Student 1st place: "If You Give a Pig a Pancake"

## Academic Awards Ceremony

**MEGAN HELZNER**  
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Last Sunday evening, students and faculty gathered in Bomberger Auditorium to celebrate the accomplishments of distinguished students. For the 2004-2005 academic year, there were nearly 575 students who made the Dean's List with a GPA of 3.5 or higher, all of whom were recognized at Sunday's event. President Strassberger opened the evening by welcoming students, faculty, and guests, congratulating students on their groundbreaking undergraduate accomplishments.

The first of the student speakers was co-valedictorian for the Class of 2005, Kari Baker. This student of the sciences talked about her tough decision in choosing a graduate school. Baker revealed that she decided on Princeton not simply because of their world-class research, the fact that she might live near Einstein's former residence, or the comforting idea that there was a Wawa within walking distance, but because Princeton's intimate and stimulating environment reminded her a great deal of Ursinus' atmosphere.

Alison Shaffer, poet and second valedictorian, spoke next. Shaffer, a philosophy and religion major, talked about how the support she has received over the years for her writing from teachers, professors, and friends, has inspired her and driven her to continue and thrive. While Shaffer acknowledged her appreciation for the honor of being valedictorian, she reminded the audience of the many outstanding seniors who also deserve recognition. This published writer ended her remarks with a poem.

Next, Professor of Philosophy and Religion, Stewart Goetz, looked out onto the audience of students and said, "You work hard and deserve to be commended. [At least] I think you deserve to be commended." He continued by talking about the philosophical implications of working (or not working) hard and deserving praise. He finally concluded, "I'll simply assume that you deserve praise," and then got a lot of laughs upon saying, "If I'm wrong about this, see me afterwards." Goetz read two emails he received from former students. After sharing their exciting and challenging experiences in law and medical schools, Goetz proudly stated that these two students received a first rate education at Ursinus just as we are now receiving.

Dean Levy proceeded to begin the awards portion of the evening. She stressed the value that Ursinus places on the mind and the importance of the intellectual vitality here on campus. Levy thanked the faculty for all their work; a hearty round of applause from students followed. Next, she announced the winners of prestigious national awards: Kate Simmons, Elizabeth Blair, and honorable mention recipient Patricia Ciucci for the Udall; Abby Hare for the St. Andrews; and Oksana Yaworsky, a finalist for the Fulbright. Seventeen became new members of the men's honor society, Cub and Key. Thirteen were inducted as members of the women's honor society, the Whitians.

Professors Lyzack, Harris, King, Davidson, Stern, Novack, Dole, Seidie, and Woodstock then presented the inductees for divisional honor societies in biology, economics, history, exercise and sports science, political science, modern languages, English, scientific research, and communication, respectively. Professors gave their sincere congratulations to these students; they gave certificates, books, and even hugs. Students whispered "Congratulations!" to one another. Following the ceremony in Bomberger, students and faculty moved to the Berman where they talked over dessert.

## The pleasure in honesty

As in all aspects of life, a healthy sexual relationship requires honesty and being completely open and forthcoming with what you enjoy and what displeases you.



**LANE TAYLOR**  
**Everything You Never Knew You Wanted to Know About Sex**

It is human nature to take the easy route, make a few noises and simply say, "I'm done," instead of explaining a way one can help another cross that finish line.

There are several of us reading this column and thinking, "Hey, a

few noises? I put on a better show than that." And it is with you and other curious readers in mind that I aim to help avoid one having to wear a guise in the bedroom (unless that's your thing) as I ask you to put down your script to better achieve the best standing O (Yes, pun intended).

Some may find no harm in telling a fib to make one smile and avoid hurting the feelings of their partner, which is often why men and women fake sexual pleasure. Ironically, it is exactly those good intentions which end up hurting a partner, usually when this is discovered

outside of open and honest communication. The harm in distorting one's pleasure for the sake of another is actually very internal and can corrupt a relationship.

To achieve the most from your sex life, both partners must feel safe and comfortable enough to feel completely uninhibited. For example, if one is faking orgasms, then this person is withholding information from his or her partner, which alludes to this person's fear, inability, or unwillingness to be completely honest with that person. Interestingly enough, a faked orgasm can be a symptom of a problem in the relationship and signifies that the couple may need to take a step back to examine their situation; both partners need to feel comfortable in being honest with each other and openly discussing sexual issues.

Another way that faking pleasure may inhibit a sexual relationship is through halting the progression of the relationship. You can't move forward when you've hit a wall; you have to find a way around the obstacle to continue on the path on which you and your partner are traveling. When honesty is removed between the sheets and a partner is not achieving what he or she needs at a certain stage of a relationship, than it is impossible to continue to the next stage without first communicating one's feelings.

But how do we initiate communication and take the first plunge, hoping it doesn't end with puncture wounds? Luckily, there are several ways to avert this outcome. The paramount way in which to achieve this honesty and new level in a relationship is to find a neutral time and place during the day when both you and your partner have time to talk and be with one another. Then, start the conversation by stating the things you like and

are grateful for in the relationship, sexually or other. Next, you may choose to describe ways in which you feel the relationship can be enhanced and ultimately draw you and your partner closer together. Then, allow your partner to speak, being sure to listen attentively to his or her feelings and thoughts, reassuring your partner that you are concerned with what he or she is feeling.

Presenting the issue this way should soften the blow and open up a dialogue, but your partner may still feel defensive and hurt. Reassuring your partner that you brought up the issue because you felt safe and comfortable with him or her and able to communicate should aid in your partner's confidence recovery. From there, you and your partner can enhance your relationship and cross emotional and sexual borders originally closed by a lack of honesty.

## New diner will get old fast

**ASHLEY HIGGINS**  
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The jarring appearance of the new Collegeville Diner, conveniently placed across the street from the always-popular Wawa, is one of the many details of the new institution that seems slightly out of place. The diner features fluorescent lighting and seems dripping in chrome, making it conspicuous, to say the least, amongst the modest and slightly shabby homes and businesses that surround it. The new Ursinus escape from the wrath of Wismer promises to provide stiff competition to the rival Liberty Diner in the Trappe Center. The Liberty Diner is reputed to have once been a popular place, but has slumped into mediocrity in recent years, and now near nonexistence in the presence of its shiny competitor.

Upon first entering the diner, the chrome décor remains consistently glaring, but in some regards seems inconsistently elegant and certainly reminiscent of the 1950s. Patrons immediately begin salivating when bombarded with dessert cases in every direction. Diners always seem hit-or-miss in cleanliness and actual food quality. The Collegeville Diner glimmers on practically every surface, and seems thoroughly sterile. The quality of the food is at times questionable.

The menu is expansive to an intimidating extent and features items conspicuous for a diner, such as twin lobster tails or the traditional Greek moussaka. In accord with diner tradition, breakfast is offered at all times of day or night. The menu also offers many pages of clubs, hot and cold sandwiches, and gyros. More formal dinners involve pasta, chicken, and even surf and turf. These items, as impressive as they may be at a high-class restaurant, are most likely unpopular in a diner, as patrons would assume such a facility could not deliver on fancier entrees, and rightfully so.

The service of the Collegeville Diner does not seem up to par. The expansive and highly specific menu allows for frequent kitchen mistakes. Bus boys and some waiters often speak English only as a second language, which leads to missing takeout containers and other common but annoying errors.

In conclusion, for all its shiny exterior, the Collegeville Diner is an unremarkable place. It might seem great to college students just dying to escape cafeteria food, but the appeal that the Collegeville Diner currently holds with families and seniors is baffling and will most likely peter out as the novelty of the diner fades.

## New Zealand rocks: a plea for an under-exposed genre

For Spring Break, I went to New Zealand to visit my father, as I



**PETE BREGMAN**

have several times before. To get to Auckland, the biggest city in New Zealand, you have to travel for about 20 hours, which is obviously an inordinate amount of time.

So, to avoid going insane, I always listen to music and read on the flight. I don't have anything to do or anywhere to go—I can just sit there and listen to music. On this particular flight, while flipping through the airline's magazine, I came across an article on music from New Zealand.

I had heard the campy Maori-chant (Maori are the indigenous people of New Zealand) CDs, and while I appreciated them, they always seemed really touristy. So, my preconceptions of New Zealand music never involved any good music. The only band I had recognized from New Zealand was The Datsuns. They're pretty cool, but I always assumed they were an anomaly. I was wrong. The article I read actually noted several of local rock bands and discussed how big the local rock and punk scenes had become. I made it my mission to pick

up a good compilation while I was in the country—and that's just what I did.

The CD was expensive (\$29.95 NZ exactly, or around \$20 US), but it was well worth it. I found some great bands: Opshop, Dimmer, Evermore, Eight, Pluto, and others, but there were some derivative punk rock bands too. All in all, I was impressed with the high ratio of good music to bad music (it seemed to be much higher than in the States). In addition to discovering the music itself, I found that the New Zealanders are also passionate about their music; for such a relatively small country, they had a ton of rock artists.

I talked to an employee in the store in which I bought my CD, who told me that New Zealand has a lot to offer musically, but that it can't compete with the huge budgets of American record companies. Therefore, most people outside of New Zealand never hear about New Zealand bands. This is a shame, since some of these bands are awesome and would definitely do well in the United States if they had the chance. Especially with the online music revolution, I would have thought that bands and labels in other countries would be able to compete, but it seems that they lack a way of getting their names out. I only hope that this article can do some small part in spreading the word about great New Zealand rock. I highly encourage anyone into rock to check out the bands I mentioned—I give them my seal of approval.

And, as a reminder, if you have any questions or comments, you can e-mail me at prebregman@ursinus.edu.

## Major highlight: the politics department

MATT FLYNTZ

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As I write this article, my pink notification regarding the selection of a major sits right next to me. I am not worried, for I have made my decision, but many other freshmen have not, nor should they fret. They still have time. However, they must take advantage of it. That is why I am here. Perhaps next year, you wacky undecideds could take a look into the Politics department.

First, let me explain the requirements for a Politics major. The course catalogue states, "A major in Politics requires Politics 218 (American Government), 237 (Political Philosophy), 242 (Comparative Politics), 252 (International Politics), one seminar at the 400 level, plus five courses at the 300 level or above." Those four specified courses lay the groundwork for the four "sub-fields" of the politics department.

The first sub-field is American Government, a fairly self-explanatory course: we study the workings of our own government. Regarding Political Philosophy, Dr. Paul Stern, our Political Philosophy Professor, explains, "We study the writings of the most profound philosophers to understand the meaning of justice, which requires

## Professors yearn for childcare

JACLYN PARTYKA

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Lately, Ursinus has been undergoing many improvements to its campus and programs in an attempt to better the college. One project that has recently been proposed is on-campus daycare. Under such a program, professors and other faculty members would be confident that their younger children are safe while they are at work. On-campus daycare would allow professors to bring their children along when local schools are closed due to inclement weather or holidays, which would decrease the amount of professors canceling classes due to childcare issues. Furthermore, the program could potentially supply on-campus work for Education or Psychology students who need child experience for future employment.

There is a high demand for on-campus daycare, as many professors at Ursinus are young women and men who are just beginning to thrive within their fields, and most have young children. Xochitl Shuru, Assistant Professor of Spanish, feels that on-campus daycare would create a sense of community on the Ursinus campus. Dr. Shuru has a two-and-a-half-year old girl named Carmen. She feels that if Carmen went to daycare on campus, she would thrive in the intellectual environment. Dr. Shuru also mentions that daycare would allow professors to concentrate better because they would have the peace of mind that their children were secure. Professors would also have the benefit of visiting their children anytime and playing with them throughout the day.

Dr. Shuru says, "If Carmen went to daycare on campus, I would work longer hours on campus, thereby having more time to dedicate to my students, scholarship and committee work." Furthermore, a project like on-campus daycare would be an attraction to entering faculty members.

However, though on-campus daycare would greatly benefit the campus community, there are many obstacles to overcome before the project can be officially undertaken. For instance, a place would have to be rented or bought to house the facility. Other financial limitations concern hiring professional child care specialists or funding salaries for student work. Most likely, funding for other projects would have to be cut if there were to be no donations.

If on-campus daycare cannot be approved, faculty and professors still have the option of enrolling their children in one of the local schools or childcare providers in the surrounding area. The Goddard School [(610) 454-0225] is a private institution that offers part-time and full-time childcare and is located only two miles away on 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. Creative Beginnings Preschool and Childcare [(610) 489-4525], located on Germantown Pike, is only six minutes away from campus. Collegeville Day Care School, Inc. [(610) 489-4523] is even closer, located less than a mile away on Main Street, and offers both before- and after-school programs, as well as daycare. Though there are discussions about providing these services, professors still must put in the extra effort to ensure their children's safety during their work here at Ursinus.

more deeply an understanding of human good." About Comparative Politics, Dr. Stern says, "We look at different regimes and evaluate and assess them in terms of justice." In order to do this, we must first attain a thorough understanding of a regime and its culture. Dr. Steven Hood, Professor of Comparative and International Politics, recently wrote and published a book entitled *Political Development and Democratic Theory: Rethinking Comparative Politics*, which, as the title would suggest, challenges the accepted views of comparative politics. Lastly, International Politics is also pretty self-explanatory: we study the governments of different nations.

Politics classes at Ursinus College are mainly discussion-based and tests are rare; grades tend to be based on writing assignments. However, Politics students experience some unique challenges, one of which is the "interior design challenge," as Dr. Stern puts it. On the first day of a class with Dr. Stern, you will be forced to rearrange the desks into a semi-circle. Alas, the Politics major is not for the weak. On a more serious note, however, Politics students will constantly be faced with "the exhilaration of challenging discussion," and they will be forced to assess their own personal views and entertain the possibility that they may be wrong.

The Politics department tries to encourage political discussion on campus by bringing in speakers and providing forums for students to voice their opinions. Ambassador Joseph Melrose brings certain opportunities to Ursinus College that we otherwise would not have, such as influential speakers and great internships, because of his connections in Washington.

So, what can someone *do* with a degree in Politics? Well, there's the obvious answer: become President of the United States. But sadly, Ursinus College is not corrupt enough to pump out the sort of sub-human that would ever want to run for president. So, besides entering the greasy, grimy world of American politics, Politics majors may go on to careers in law, business, defense, intelligence, the foreign services, teaching, and even writing.

You may be inquiring as to my academic goals. Well, I am a freshman Politics major with aspirations of getting my Ph. D and eventually becoming a political writer or a Politics professor. The advisors in the department are great and will work with you if you want to create your own personalized major or minor. They really do want you to get the most you can out of your four years at Ursinus. Dr. Stern says, "We welcome innovativeness and will adjust to people's needs. I am willing to make house calls. After all, I *am* a doctor."

## career corner

### Turn your internship from "blah" to "yeah"

Over 100 Ursinus Students will brave the real world this summer as they participate in various internships. Every internship has the potential to impact the life of a student who is fully engaged in the experience and has an intentional plan for how he or she will learn. Turn your internship from "blah" to "yeah" by following these important tips.

1. **Begin with the end in mind.** It is in your best interest to talk extensively with your supervisor about what you would like to learn from your internship experience on or before your first day of work. This will help him or her understand how you can make a contribution to the organization, while learning and growing in ways that you desire. Also, a clear agreement gives you a way to begin conversation if you believe you are not being allocated the type of work that will contribute to the intended outcomes of the experience.

2. **Reflect.** Students seeking credit for an internship are required to keep a journal in fulfillment of the academic requirements, but it is recommended for those pursuing non-credit bearing internships as well. Meaningful reflection can increase your learning exponentially. It is important to take time to intentionally think about things such as how your work applies to classroom theory, what career related skills you are developing, and what the culture of the organization is.

3. **It's not *what* you know—it's *who* you know.** This popular phrase describes the importance of networking. Get to know your co-workers within and beyond the parameters of your department. If you are interested in the work of someone who is not in your department, explain to him or her that you are trying to learn as much from your internship as possible and invite that person to have lunch with you one day.

To learn more about getting the most out of your internship, contact Jen Potson in the Career Services Office.

## Fighting inner city violence: Where is the love?

**DARRON HARLEY**  
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Since the beginning of 2005, through March, there have been 77 murders in Philadelphia. These numbers, while alarming, are not totally shocking to me, and I will tell you why.

I grew up in North Philadelphia, also known to some as North Filthy. In my lifetime I have witnessed my share of crime, poverty, and overall poor quality of life. It is images of this life we witness on television as reporters refer to "run down sections," or my personal favorite "urban areas."

Despite the exceptional media coverage of these neighborhoods where crime is known to manifest itself, there seems to be no significant effort in changing the

community. How can we know what neighborhoods are declining in societal value and sit idle?

Collegeville is approximately 40 minutes from Philadelphia. For some, this distance is far enough that the chaos occurring there will not affect you enough to do anything. Fearing of sounding cliché I must ask: Where is the love?

The key element I see missing in areas of violence is love. In Philadelphia there is much more work being done to handle the problem, then to *prevent* the problem. Detention centers and alternative schools (the terms are virtually interchangeable) are becoming the method of handling children and teenagers whom educators diagnosis as mentally unstable.

We must realize that unlike the children in Collegeville, Montgomery County, or any other suburb in the U.S., Philadelphia's children do not get the benefit of quality education. School buses do not pick the children up from their homes, classes are sometimes over 35 students per teacher, and the learning material predates the Industrial Revolution. The problem with violence starts as our children are developing.

Violence in Philadelphia is not an issue of black and white, male or female, it's of love. What people love in these modern times are material things, which benefit only themselves. The pursuit of money is blinding everyone to the fact that there are people born in poverty who will forever remain that way; many of them look like me. Commerce is taking precedent over caring

and driving lower class people out of their wits.

In Philadelphia, at least where I am from, young people are constantly talking about making money and getting out of the "hood." They know that their neighborhood is not designed for success, but rather their demise. The sad thing is the aspirations of many of these children are virtually impossible to obtain, at least in the "American" way, of working hard and getting rich.

As I have written in many of my articles, no positive action by the public leads to no results, especially as it concerns our children. Although the media is covering the murders very well, where is the reaction from the public, better yet where is the reaction from you?

## Beer or wine: What is your choice?

**MATTHEW PASTOR**  
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When it comes to parties on Ursinus College's campus, most students are holding the infamous Natty Light can in their hand. There are trash bags outside every suite in Reimert with empty beer bottles. It's apparent that everyone was at or throwing a beer party the night before. However, has it ever occurred to anyone that wine might be a better alternative to beer?

In order to consider this, one must compare beer and wine. First off, beer is a lot cheaper than wine, but that is because most people drink wine for special occasions only whereas beer is more common. There are "keggers" on campuses all across the country, not wine tasting parties. A case of beer can cost as little as ten dollars (and if you are wondering which beer, it's Lion's Head), a bottle of wine is usually about 50 dollars and that might not be the best on the market. When it comes to money in college, it is very well known that the cheaper the alcohol is, the better off college students are.

Josh Wissler, a sophomore on campus had this to say about the feud between beer and wine: "Both beer and wine taste good. There are so many beers and so many choices, but wine tastes better! Also, it has more alcohol content than beer so you'll get drunk quicker."

Besides the fact that drinking in excess can lead to becoming inebriated faster, many experts believe that a glass of wine a night is healthy for the body. In fact, according to a Yale School of Medicine researcher in the "Journal of American College of Surgeons," drinking two or three glasses of red wine a day is good for your

heart. The study goes on to say that "drinking two to three ounces of alcohol each day has a beneficial effect, but any more than that and the alcohol begins to have a negative health effect." They also did a comparison between spirits, beer and wine and although there are some benefits from spirits and beer, drinking red wine has an overwhelming benefit.

Even if this is true, the fact of the matter is when it comes to beer or wine on Ursinus College's campus, the popular choice seems to be beer. Obviously, it's easier to throw a party with six cases of beer than it is to throw one with six jugs of wine. Personally, I don't know how well wine pong would go over here at Ursinus either. I myself prefer liquor over both, but that's not what we are talking about right now. However, I usually kick back with a tall glass of beer on the weekends. That's not to say I hate wine. I've tried a few wines in my day and some I enjoyed and others I disliked. Just like I had to develop a taste for beer, I'm positive I can develop not only a taste for wine, but also a liking to it.

Unfortunately, until that time comes my choice is beer over wine and I'm sticking to it. I feel that drinking beer is not only fun, but entertaining; I'm sure everyone has had their share of stories to tell. It's a beverage that you can enjoy with your friends and have a good time. I'm sure wine can do the same thing, but to me wine is more of a drink to have on a lovely evening out with your lady friend, to drink during a special event or to have while sitting and reading a good novel late at night. However, I can guarantee you that the next barbeque I'm at, there will be a burger in my right hand and a tall glass of beer in my left.

## The importance of a living will

**HUNTER BERRY**  
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The Terri Schiavo case has captivated American attention over the last month, culminating in her death last Thursday. Though Ms. Schiavo has slipped into peaceful oblivion, she leaves behind a heated debate begun by her parents and husband, and picked up by the entire country. The argument over Terri's right to life as well as her husband's right to follow out her wishes has stirred up many of the same points of contention that are usually seen surrounding the abortion issue.

Though we all have our own differing opinions on the issue, in order to truly understand its affect on our culture we must consider the decision from the judge's point of view. With the absence of a living will, the testimony of the husband as to the wishes of the disabled woman must be considered the clearest signifier of the woman's intentions while alive. Though the opinions of the family members must also be taken into account, they can not be allowed to outweigh Terri's attitude while still in a lucid state. Allowing the removing of the feeding tube based on Mr. Schiavo's testimony seems the right decision, until the consequences have been fully understood.

Though removing her means of sustenance is legal, euthanizing her is not. Therefore, the only way to legally follow Mr. Schiavo's requests was to allow the

woman to starve to death. The court's decision to order the tube's removal shows a determination to adhere to the legal basis of the case; though this is to be admired, it comes at a terrible cost to the members of Terri Schiavo's family. The decision has sent shockwaves through our culture, prompting many to create their own living wills in order to avoid such a dire situation.

Though the living will may clear up many of the questions that the Schiavo case brought up, it still does not remedy the situation. Personally, I would not want to be kept alive in a vegetative state. Nor, however, would I wish to be starved to death, and so though I support the judge's decision, I am unsure if I could have followed through with it myself. Terri could never have thought of the situation in which she left the world, and therefore we will never know what she would have really wanted. The doctors' report that she passed calmly and quietly, lets us hope that it was as gentle of a transition for her as possible.

Though the idea of starvation seems barbaric, the idea of keeping her alive against her wishes is equally as unjust. The end of this ordeal must come as a welcome relief for all involved, which seems the most positive aspect of this decision. Though I do not know if I could have passed the same judgment on this case, the outcome seems the best possible ending to the situation, and therefore the correct decision in the case.

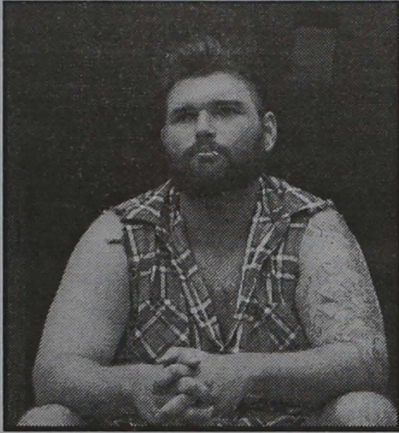
Please send your questions, comments, compliments,  
and complaints to the  
Opinions Editor at [tinguyen@ursinus.edu](mailto:tinguyen@ursinus.edu).



## Wismer woes

Ok, I wrote this before spring break, so if you're anything like me, you'll have completely forgotten the event that I'm going to talk about. But remember that "KO in the Kitchen" thinger where they brought in dudes from other schools to cook their best dish? It sounded like a good idea, but what a debacle.

Really though, I knew it was going to suck as soon as I scanned my card and saw a line from the grill to the drinks. Now I understand the concept of waiting twenty minutes for your food, but usually at a place with a name along the line of "TGI TuesdaysBee" And at least in those types of establishments, you can at least sit down and wait for your food rather than shuffle along wishing the girl in front of you would just turn around a little so you can make up your mind if she's cute or not.



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

After cresting the summit of the line, I was disappointed to find that I was only to receive two rather small pieces of chicken or ribs. When I requested more, the server told me that I was supposed to sample everything so I could make up my mind for the competition. Now this is a simple matter of physics: at

275 lbs. (before breakfast), my hunger will not be satisfied by two pieces of chicken every twenty minutes.

To top off the experience, I returned to my seat to find that, while I was in line for twenty minutes waiting for the dude to make swirls of BBQ and honey mustard on every plate, both the soup and the chicken had become cold. It was at this point that I would like to apologize to the Wismer worker who had to clean up the soup poured onto the floor in disgust. Sorry.

After sampling several plates of food to varying degrees of disappointment, I was ready to vote on a winner: Chef Jared Good of Sprinkle for his delightful concoction of Turkey and American on White with mayonnaise sauce, garnished by lettuce.

Now back to the present: remember the potato skins bar the other week? Now I find it pretty hard to believe that Ursinus is "one of the top 50 liberal arts colleges" when its students are willing to stand twenty-five deep waiting for potato skins that don't even already have cheese melted on them.

Let's be honest. Wismer is a scam. Not because of the food quality selection. I've come to understand that kids here could eat a lobster with a pitcher of beer every meal and bitch that they only serve lobster and beer. The scam is the meal plan. You're forced to buy one; it's included in tuition. This is because not enough people would purchase a meal plan to support Wismer. When's the last time you saw someone pay cash who wasn't some sucker who came here for some special exhibit? But yeah, in six weeks I'll be subsisting on Hungry Man dinners and cold baked beans straight from the can, so I can't complain.

*Goody is a senior. You can reach him at jagood@ursinus.edu.*

## Meet the new boss



**CAM FURMAN**  
**It's the Mind**

I approached the new American version of the BBC cult hit "The Office" with an open mind. And when I say an open mind, I mean I figured going into it that I wouldn't like it. But I watched it, which I felt was open minded enough.

I am a huge fan of the British original, because it is as close to a perfect show as I have ever found. Every single character is perfectly cast, and their parts are perfectly performed. The key of the show were the long, awkward pauses that seemed to go on forever in a show of only half an hour. The brilliance of each and every actor on BBC's "The Office" was their ability to underact. Everything about the show was subtle, to the point of being an art form.

And then there is the new NBC version. First, I have to applaud NBC for having the courage to put a very non-traditional sitcom on the air. Gone are the predictable plot lines, happy resolutions, and laugh tracks that are found in most "must see tv." And I appreciate the fact that NBC has tried to keep the best elements of the original BBC version. The awkward silences are there. The crucial directorial style is still present. And the characters retain the quirks that made them great.

But some of you might be sensing a hesitation on my part. The truth is my first thoughts on the pilot episode were positive. Was it as good as the British version? No. But was it better than most shows that could be found on network television? Yes.

And then I saw the second episode; the first episode which was not based on a script from the original. The problems with the American episode started becoming clear. The biggest issue was the casting of Steve Carrell as the boss.

Ricky Gervais, the star of the British version, underacted his part. While his character was obnoxious, you still felt bad for him and to some extent rooted for him. You could understand how he could keep his job as long as he has, and you could see the midlife crisis overcome him.

Steve Carrell's character, on the other hand, is simply annoying; someone who should have been fired long ago. And instead of the subtle acting of Gervais, Carrell has a tendency to overact the part, like he's trying to tell the audience "can you believe this guy?"

There are other, little things that worry me as well. It seems that the American show, at least in the second show, is showing signs of having to be about something. The second episode was all about sensitivity training, and most jokes were centered on this.

One of the great things about the British version was how very hard they tried to remain realistic, as a documentary of an office. Most shows had no focal point; it was just the everyday interactions at an office: the occasional joke, a problem with an employee, meetings, etc. It rarely rested on a single event, in a way to avoid the clichés of traditional sitcoms. The American Office shows signs of disregarding this, and that would be disappointing.

Still, despite these complaints, it has several things going for it. The characters are well enough cast, outside of Steve Carrell. And it is well acted and directed for the most part.

All in all, I suppose I would like to see "The Office" succeed. There needs to be at least one non-traditional sitcom on network television, as a sign that not everything has to be formulaic. Although if I had my choice, that show would be Arrested Development.

*Cam is a senior. You can reach him at cafurman@ursinus.edu.*

## Stickers for Bibles

Two arrests were made outside Collegeville's First Baptist Revival Church on Easter Sunday. Ralph Stranier and Will Froland were arrested under charges of aggravated assault. Mr. Stranier and Mr. Froland are members of the church, outside of which a protest was staged by atheists on that holiest of days.

What exactly were they protesting, you ask? Mark Ferrero, president of the Collegeville chapter of Atheists 4 Equality, stated, "We are protesting the indoctrination of America's youths by priests and pastors. They are being told that the Bible is truth at such a young age that they have no chance to even ask questions. It is not fair to the children, so what we propose is this: On the inside cover of every Holy Bible should be placed a sticker reading as follows: 'This book contains material on creationism. Creationism is a theory, not a fact, regarding the origin of living things. This material should be approached with an open mind, studied carefully and critically considered.' We also feel that evolution should be taught alongside creation in church and Sunday school. After all, we want our children to be exposed to many philosophies so that they can make their own decisions."

In a statement to the arresting officer, Deputy Craig Johnston, Mr. Stranier said, "Yeah, I punched some of them

heathens. They was askin' for it, hootin' and hollerin' outside of my church. They's just tryin' to turn our kids into godless sinners like them."

Pastor Paul Smith of the church said that he condemns the actions of both his parishioners and the protesters. "No one is forcing these children to be here. They are here because they have made a personal connection with Jesus Christ, our Lord and savior. Church is a place to strengthen that connection, not weaken it. So, I decline the notion of putting these stickers in the Bible. However, I do so peacefully, because Jesus was a peace-loving man. He would never strike another man for disagreeing with Him. He would just send him to Hell."

The Collegeville Town Council could not be reached for comment.

These sorts of protests have been going on all across the country, and they show no signs of stopping. Mr. Ferrero added, "We are very serious about this plan. Remember, it's for the children. Always remember the children."

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

## Evans breaks 100m record at Quaker Invitational

**KARL MICHENER**  
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In the first meet of the season, freshman Brandon Evans had a fantastic performance at the University of Pennsylvania's Quaker Invitational on Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup>. In the midst of Division I athletes, Evans came out winning two first places with times qualifying him for the Eastern College Athletic Conference Championships.

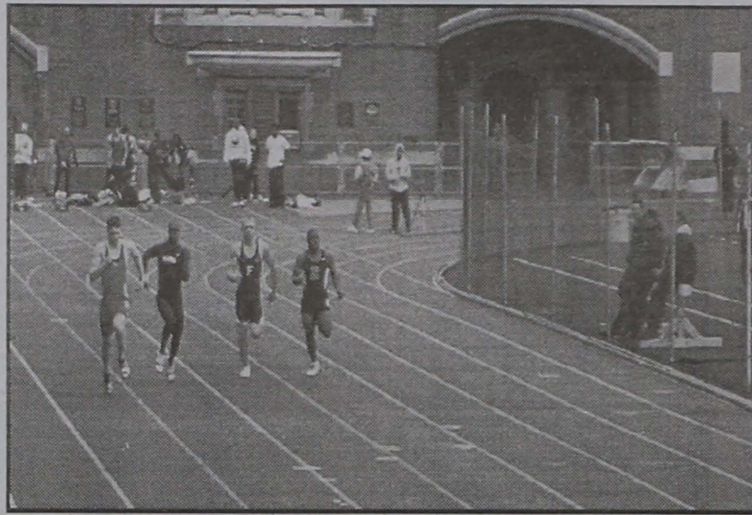
Evans posted a time of 11.11 in the 100m, which not only was a first-place finish, but also a new Ursinus College record that was previously held for 20 years by Zach Robinson. His time of 22.42 in the 200m took the other first place at this outstanding start of the outdoor Track and Field season.

"I was just looking to get better times than I had in high school [Governor Mifflin]," says Evans about his performance on Saturday. "It was nice to compete against Division I schools; it was a new experience."

It is clear that the Division I competition was no factor for Evans to worry about,

although it did make him feel good to steal some places from those schools.

Brandon Evans said, "It was different; I'm just a freshman. When you see big names like Villanova and Penn, you are just happy to



run against these guys. It was my first race and it was cold, and I didn't expect much. It

was a surprise to take a win from them, and it's a real confidence booster. Now things can only get better, and hope-

fully I will break the record a couple more times during the season."

Brandon was also part of the 4x100m team

that took a second-place finish with a new school record time of 42.69. The other legs of the team were Steve Stern, Matt Terry, and Sabir Peele. Stern took a fourth-place finish in the 400m with a time of 50.15, which was good enough to qualify him for the ECAC Championships, as well.

There were also several top five finishers on the team. Matt Granteed finished third in the 400m hurdles with a time of 1:00.34. Sabir Peele jumped 5.86m in the long jump which earned him fifth-place. Karl Michener had two fifth-place finishes in the Discus and Shot Put.

Britiany Gilbert ran a time of 13.80 in the 100m for the women which captured a fifth-place finish. She also ran one leg of the 4x100m team which included Audrey McKenna, Kelly Magnin, and Perrin Moses who took fifth-place. Their time was 53.65.

Going into a difficult meet, the Bears came out with several great performances. This year is looking to be successful.

## Men's lacrosse team plays tough in losing cause

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The Ursinus College men's lacrosse team took on a nationally ranked conference opponent, the Washington College Shoremen, on Friday. The Shoremen entered the game ranked eighth in the nation, and undefeated in the tough Centennial Conference.

The Bears came into the match-up coming off of a tough loss to Franklin and Marshall, but were looking forward to putting a full game together and upsetting a nationally ranked team. The Bears came out fired up, and jumped on top early.

James Lawson, who is having a career season, got a pass from Mike Stein and netted the first goal of the game in the 11<sup>th</sup>

minute. Not wasting any time, Stein netted two goals within one minute to put Ursinus up three goals to none, but that would not last long. The Shoremen answered with two goals, and the teams entered the half 4-



2 after a goal by Sean Tillman off of a pass from Lawson.

The Shoremen knotted the game at 4 after the break, scoring an extra-man goal and getting another in a two-minute span. Lawson then helped the Bears get on the board and regain the lead, but that would be the last time Ursinus had the advantage.

Washington then unloaded four unanswered goals to take an 8-5 lead that they would not relinquish. Although down, the Bears kept up the effort, and got third and fourth goals from James Lawson to keep Ursinus in the game. This effort, however, was matched when the Shoremen got on the board once again making the game 9-7.

The Bears have proved that they are able to play in the tough Centennial Conference, and although dropping the last two conference games, the Bears remain optimistic.

## Slow start for the men's baseball team

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It is that time of year again. Yes, it is spring time and that can only mean one thing: baseball season is back. No, I am not talking about Major League baseball that has been overtaken with Supreme Court hearings and steroid allegations. I am talking about college baseball. The Ursinus College Bears, lead by Head Coach Brian Thomas, are back and ready to make a strong push toward a Centennial Conference title. For four gentlemen, this is their last chance to make that happen.

For senior starters Ryan Regensburg (centerfield), Ted Piotrowicz (first base), Victor Rodriguez (second base), and Jerry Rogers (catcher), the 2005 season will be their last on the diamond, and their expectations are high.

"We have great leadership on this team and know we have what it takes to win. We have the experience of the seniors and plenty of talent from the underclassmen. When we put it all together, we are a very good baseball team," Rodriguez said.

They will certainly need to be a good baseball team this year to be competitive in their tough schedule. They have already faced nationally ranked opponents (19<sup>th</sup>) The College of New Jersey (L, 2-11), and (27<sup>th</sup>) Arcadia (W, 6-5).

"We had tough spring training in Florida and play some tough non-conference opponents this year, but it prepares us for conference play where there are plenty of good teams as well," said Regensburg.

In a preseason Division III poll, the Bears were picked to finish fourth in the Centennial

Conference behind nationally ranked (7<sup>th</sup>) Johns Hopkins, and rivals Franklin and Marshall and Haverford.

After a disappointing spring in Cocoa Beach, Florida, that saw the Bears post a record of 0-9-1 including being held scoreless in their last four games, the Bears returned home with back-to-back wins over Arcadia and the University of the Sciences (4-1).

The Bears opened conference play in a dramatic fashion on Wednesday, March 30 against Franklin and Marshall. Trailing 5-1 in the bottom of the ninth, junior third basemen Bret Jenkins hit a single to start off the inning. Junior right fielder Ben Fisher then singled to left, and Rodriguez walked to load the bases. Sophomore Eric Sulock pinch hit and singled to right to score Fisher and Jenkins. Shortstop Tommy Herrmann reached on an error which scored Rodriguez. Regensburg then singled to left, scoring Sulock to tie the game at five.

The Bears held strong in the extra inning and Rodriguez hit a line drive down the third base line to score Brad Wickersham, and take the victory.

"It was a huge win for our team. To come back from a four run deficit and win in extra innings like that, it just goes to show the type of team we have. That's a great start to conference play for us," said Herrmann.

The Bears will travel to Swarthmore on Friday, April 8, before returning home on Saturday, April 9 for a doubleheader with Gettysburg. Game time is 12:30.