



9-22-2005

The Grizzly, September 22, 2005

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Recommended Citation

Wagner, Ali; Brooks, Bart; Guardiani, Karen; Smith, Tim; Ritter, Cindy; Budzowski, Elsa; Landis, Kerri; Emery, Allison; Lamson, Dan; Givens, Lindsay; Diana, Katy; Rosci, Christina; Macconchie, Cecily; Blidge, Percelia; Gonzalez, Sonia N.; Harley, Darron; Higgins, Ashley; Chamberlain, David; Dalton, Aileen; Pastor, Matthew; Marcheskie, Dave; Repko, Jay; Langdon, Danielle; and Keck, Sarah, "The Grizzly, September 22, 2005" (2005). *Ursinus College Grizzly Newspaper*. 694.

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the grizzly

thursday, september 22, 2005

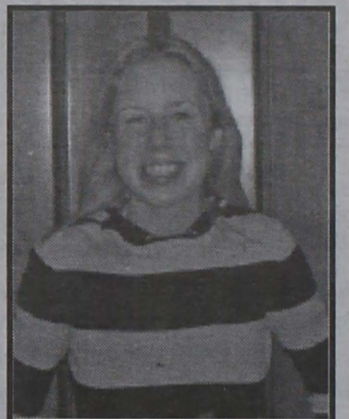
the student newspaper of ursinus college



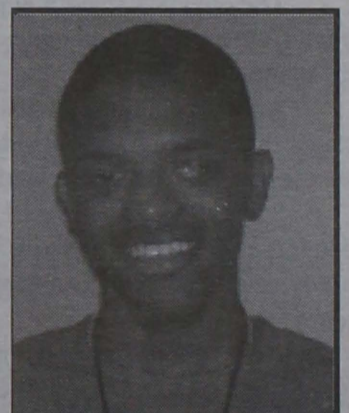
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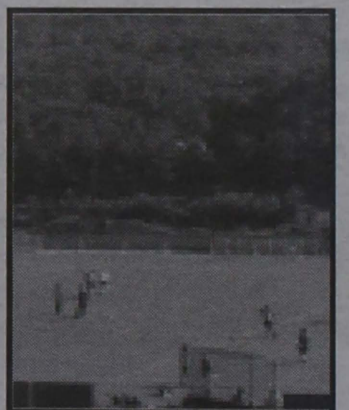
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collegeville, pa

volume 30 issue 4

Oktoberfest location still up in the air

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The future of Oktoberfest remains in jeopardy, as the USGA awaits the administration's response to its proposal to keep the event in Reimert.

Last year, flying bottles and drunken scuffles occurred during the last 15 minutes, resulting in a few hospital-worthy injuries and encounters with the Collegeville police. As a result, the administration threatened to completely cancel the event, because the safety of the students cannot be guaranteed.

The newest proposal from Resident Life is to move the event from Reimert to a location where safety issues would be less likely to arise. This came as unsettling news for many students, particularly the Ursinus Student Government Association, which sponsors the event. They have been doing just about everything in their power to try to convince the administration to reconsider the location change.

"I completely understand their point about safety, but there does not seem to be any other logical location," said Vince Rossomando, president of the USGA.

Rossomando believes that no other location would contain the event the way that

Reimert Courtyard does. They would have to use tarps to enclose any other area which would not successfully block the noise from disturbing any neighboring houses. The mess that it will inevitably create will also be better contained in Reimert, rendering the campus more presentable for the homecoming festivities the following day.

USGA's proposal lists all the steps it has taken to ensure that there will be no repeats of last year's problems. First of all, there will be absolutely no alcohol allowed outside of the building regardless of whether the container is opened or closed. Students will be required to present their IDs upon entering and all guests, alumni included, must be registered in order to enter. The USGA has hired four professional bouncers to monitor crowd control and the no alcohol policy.

In addition, six RAs have been hired specifically for the event and all members of USGA's executive board will be assisting in crowd control. Heavy duty plastic fencing will be installed on all balconies and openings that lead to the courtyard to prevent anything from being thrown into the crowd. They have estimated that all expenses total close to \$2500.

The USGA admits that spending this amount of money for safety precautions isn't entirely cost-effective, but that is not what is important. It is more about maintaining tradition and doing what they feel is best for the student body.

"To me and the rest of the executive board, Oktoberfest is an event that brings the student body together and helps kickoff the spirit-filled Homecoming Weekend," said USGA Vice President Cris Mathew. "It stands above other Ursinus events because it provides an outdoor atmosphere for live entertainment."

If Oktoberfest remains in Reimert courtyard, the USGA emphasizes full student cooperation with the new policies is needed to ensure that no incidents occur. A repeat of last year would give the administration just the push they need to cancel the event completely. If all goes smoothly, this year's Oktoberfest could very well set the precedent for future outdoor events on campus.

Activities Fair showcases clubs both new and old

TIM SMITH
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Each year, the various clubs and organizations of Ursinus vie for the attention of prospective new members at the annual Activities Fair. While the Activities Fair, which is normally held in Olin Plaza, is primarily meant to show freshmen the clubs on campus, there were a few new clubs and old clubs going through drastic new changes that upperclassmen may have missed if they walked on by this past Wednesday.

One club new to the Activities Fair this year is the Fencing Club, which was just started last year. "Last year as we were just starting, we originally said that there would be a cost for lessons," explained Vice President and Student Instructor Darren McGlinchy. "This year, with our expanded budget and more student instructors, we are offering free lessons to all students, and we provide free gear for use."

The club is also hoping to put on an expanded update of their Call to Arms tournament from last year, and hopes to sponsor trips to fencing meets and free movie nights for the campus.

Another club just started last year is the Ninjutsu Club. Club Treasurer Tom Dixon states that they are still deciding on when they will be having lessons each week, but stresses lessons will be free and that there will be a few free demonstrations for the campus.

Senior Rachel Bower feels that these classes "help women defend themselves in dangerous situations." She states that "it isn't about strength, it's about technique. I'm pretty small, but I can use what I've learned to throw a guy much bigger than me across a room."

Also new this year is the DDR Club, whose members meet to play Dance Dance Revolution once a week. They are now classified as a club sport, and are planning on having tournaments and fundraisers this year. While uncertain of their meeting time, they are planning on using one of the rooms with a projector in Olin on Friday evenings.

While they are an old, well-established club, the Investment Club is proud of one major new change - this year, they are receiving official funding from the school, and members will be investing real money. Each week the club will meet to re-evaluate and manage portfolios, explained member A.J. Davis.

The college radio station, WVOU, is undergoing a massive overhaul this semester under new management. The entire studio was moved out of the basement of Bomberger into the Ritter Center this week. The station will remain webcast.

Manager Chris Curley says that this year over 50 DJs have signed up for shows, and that they are hoping to plan more concerts and events on campus. Also, they now have their own domain name, so catch some shows at www.wvouradio.com.

The South Asian Student Association, SASA, is planning on holding many new activities this year, including various Asian movie nights, trips to UPenn for concerts and events, and trips to Philadelphia restaurants. Also, they will be working with Felicia Chou to once again hold the World Youth Peace Vigil here at Ursinus. This year the vigil should offer even more fun in the name of a good cause.

If you want to find out any more information about any of these clubs or any other clubs on campus, contact the Student Activities Office to be put in touch with members of any campus organization.

WVOU Relaunch

It's time for a change. For too long, you've been getting your music from corporate controlled music stations who play more commercials than music. For too long you've dealt with DJ's who do nothing but recite pre-written scripts designed to brain wash you into accepting their opinion. We've seen the problem, and we are the solution. WVOU is back, playing the best mix of rap, rock, hip hop, indie rock, and every other genre you can think of. We're giving you the choice. You decide what you want to listen to by tuning into one of our experienced (and attractive) DJs who will play what YOU want to hear. We are also making it our mission to bring you the best local talent from the Philadelphia area and have them play right here at UC. You can also expect CD reviews, concert announcements, and coverage of life here at beautiful Ursinus College. Change is in the air people, time to get on board. Tune in at <http://www.wvouradio.com>.

the grizzly
the student newspaper of ursinus college
volume 30 issue 4
grizzly@ursinus.edu

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Fringe Festival comes to Kaleidoscope

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This week, the sixth annual Ursinus Fringe Festival premieres in the new Kaleidoscope Studio Theater. From Sept. 21 through 24, a variety of theater and dance performances will feature several theater companies from the Philly Fringe Festival, a performance by Ursinus professors Chris Aiken, Cathy Young and Domenick Scudera, as well as the Ursinus Fringe Cabaret, highlighting the varied talents of budding artists from the Ursinus community.

In its traditional time slot, a week after the Philly Fringe Fest closes, this year's festival places an emphasis on comedy. Seating will be on a first-come, first-serve basis for all shows, and no reservations will be required.

The festivities began yesterday when Tina Brock performed her one woman show "The White Hoe Returns: Breaking New Wind." This was Brock's second appearance at Ursinus's Fringe Festival.

Today at noon and 7:30 p.m., there will be performances by Ursinus's professors Chris Aiken, Cathy Young and Domenick Scudera. Chris Aiken will be doing a dance improvisation piece entitled "Inside Out." Cathy Young and Domenick Scudera teamed up this summer to create "Between You & Me," a comic representation about the conflict that occurs between theater and dance when trying to

collaborate together on a project.

Then at 9 p.m. on Thursday there will be a performance by "LunchLady Doris," a long-form comedy improvisation troupe that has been a part of the Philly Fringe Fest for eight years. The five members take one topic and run with it in this completely improvised show that is filled with smart, witty banter and plenty of laughter to go around.

There will also be two performances on Friday night, Sept. 23, beginning at 8 p.m. The group Bad Hair will present "Fringetastic Sketchtacular 2: Sequelpalooza!" This popular Philly Fringe hit is back, and their show will combine live theater, videos and music in a great sketch comedy fashion! The *Philadelphia City Paper* writes: "Don't let the name fool you. There's nothing Bad about this group."

The other performance on Friday at 10 p.m. will be the Ursinus Fringe Cabaret. Artists from the Ursinus community present their latest works of music, poetry, and theater. Three Ursinus alumni, Shane Borer, Adams Berzins, and Drew Petersen will host this show which will feature acts by Felicia Chou, the Bearitones, Kathryn Moriarty, Sara Campbell, and Laurel Salvo.

Finally, on Saturday, Sept. 24 at 8 p.m., the Philadelphia sketch troupe "The Waitstaff: Sketch Comedy" will perform an unforgettable show full of wit and dysfunction. If you miss Bad Hair's performance on Friday or you just love sketch comedy, this show is a second chance during the week to see a popular Philadelphia group perform their hilarious comedic show right here on campus.

In anticipation of a great week filled with laughter and impressive performances, make sure to mark your calendars and come on out to the first performances of the semester in the new Kaleidoscope Studio Theater!



Writing Center opens

KERRI LANDIS

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The Writing Center. Everyone's been required to use this resource, but not everyone continues to take advantage of it after freshman year. Whether you're uncomfortable consulting the Fellows, too nonchalant to care about improving your writing, or under the impression that only bad writers go there, now is your chance to take another look.

Before 2001, the Writing Center as we know it did not exist. The writing tutors were mostly senior English majors with no training, as the Center had little structure. When Professor Fritz brought his ideas to campus in the fall of 2001, the Writing Center acquired a budget and developed a class to train aspiring tutors. In the fall of 2002, Professor Fritz started the Writing Fellow program, an organization that assigns writing tutors to specific courses. Erica Kaminski, a sophomore, describes her CIE Writing Fellow experience: "Our Fellow was great. She was a reliable source to go to if I ever needed help with my writing. As a freshman last year, I found her advice extremely beneficial in making sure my writing was up to college standards."

This semester, The Center opened for its fifth year under Professor Fritz. "Although using the Center will improve students' individual papers, we say our goal is to put ourselves out of business," explains Professor Fritz. "The Writing Center exists to help students become better writers and to maintain Ursinus' community of writers."

The Writing Center isn't about fixing the mistakes in a single paper and moving on. It's about showing student writers how to recognize and address problems in their writing.

To better serve the campus, the Writing Center supports Ursinus' Writing Across the Curriculum program. This means that Fellows can come from any major and can tutor students from any major about writing on any subject. No matter what class you're writing for, a Fellow can help you.

The Fellows can help any writer with any type of writing in any stage of the writing process. They can help you

get the kinks out of any type of writing. "I've worked with students on research papers, letters, resumes, bio labs, just about everything," recalls Maureen McCarthy, a second year Fellow. "The Writing Center is a great place for anyone to come who wants to improve their writing," she says. "I go to the center all the time." Professor Fritz told me that he often uses the Center for his own writing and knows several other professors who utilize the Center as well.

Each Writing Fellow is specially qualified to help you, as they must undergo a semester's worth of training. "The class itself is 2 1/2 hours long once a week, but it goes by fast. Then, there are 4 extra hours of tutoring and meetings to go to a week, so it takes a lot of commitment and dedication," says Hallie Andrew, Fellow-in-Training.

The class is interdisciplinary and focuses on such varied topics as the writing process and the psychology of working in small groups. The Fellows receive a well-rounded background from the class that helps them tutor effectively.

Many students are intimidated by sharing their writing with other; however, the Writing Fellows are a friendly group. Not a single one of them will insult your writing.

"The Writing Center offers a relaxed environment where students can go to discuss their papers and get suggestions to improve their writing. And you usually don't leave crying," jokes Colin McDermott, a pre-vet junior.

The bottom line is that whatever reason you're using to put off going to the Writing Center isn't good enough. Come put the Fellows to the test! The worst thing that can happen is your writing will improve.

The Writing Center is located in Olin 302. Hours are Monday through Thursday, 11 AM to 3 PM, and Sunday through Thursday, 7 PM to 11 PM. Call extension 2446 to make an appointment.

Theft on campus

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The following story was taken from an anonymous female Ursinus student who was the victim of a cruel crime: on-campus theft.

"On Saturday night I was over at a friend's suite in Reimert hanging out. I knew I would be going from party to party and I didn't think it would be a great idea to be carrying around my purse the whole time. I left the purse in their common room, nestled in the couch where it wasn't very visible . . . I woke up the next morning and went to get it because I was going home and needed my car keys. I couldn't find it in the common room so I checked each bedroom and it was gone. The girls [who lived there] were positive it had been there that night though. I went home that day, and when I came back, that night my purse was found. The only thing missing was the cash I had in my wallet and everything else was just thrown about in my purse."

Every semester, several students learn the hard lesson that Ursinus is not a completely secure fortress when they suffer the loss of something valuable in a place they thought was safe. This student was harmed financially (she lost about \$160), but still others lose laptops, entire wallets, etc.

Dwight Rhodes, a Campus Safety officer, offers students tips for protecting themselves against such tragedy. "The first step to prevention is don't bring anything of value to school." He also suggests keeping a checking account rather than having cash in your room, and informing your roommate, RA, or Campus Safety (as a last resort) if you are going to be away for more than a few hours, so that someone can keep a watch out for your room. Rhodes also cautions students to "always have your windows down and locked and your doors locked."

Kim Taylor, the director of Campus Safety, points out that Campus Safety can be reached twenty-four hours a day by calling ext. 2737 on campus or calling 610-489-2737 from off campus.

The student whose purse was stolen learned from her experience. "I now will never leave my purse unattended anywhere, even if it is a friend's house," she says. "I would just tell everyone to only carry on them what is necessary and to lock your rooms and common rooms up at all times." By taking the proper steps to safety, loss of property can be avoided and Ursinus can be a safe haven for all students.

Soldier speaks on rebuilding Afghanistan

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An Ursinus alumnus and army reservist who served two tours in Afghanistan talked about the rebuilding efforts there in a speech open to the Ursinus College community last Tuesday.

"This particular conflict requires a lot of reservists because so much of it has to do with rebuilding," Lt. Col. Alvin J. Banker Jr. said. "Unfortunately there are not enough of us to go around, but we are doing the best we can with what we have."

The rebuilding efforts include the funding and implementation of public works projects, including renovation of ministerial buildings, improving the condition of roads, and creating reliable electrical sources. Nearly all of the work is manual and labor intensive. Very few power tools are used. Banker explained the goal is to employ as many Afghan people as possible to get more money into the economy while rebuilding the infrastructure.

Currently Kabul, the capital of Afghanistan where Banker was stationed, has no steady source of electricity and some citizens use generators as an alternate source. Banker estimated that it will be another five years before Kabul will have consistent electricity. The main focus of the effort is bringing Afghanistan up to international standards and also to enable the Afghan government to eventually provide for itself. "It's going to take years, two generations, before at least the military can be out of there com-

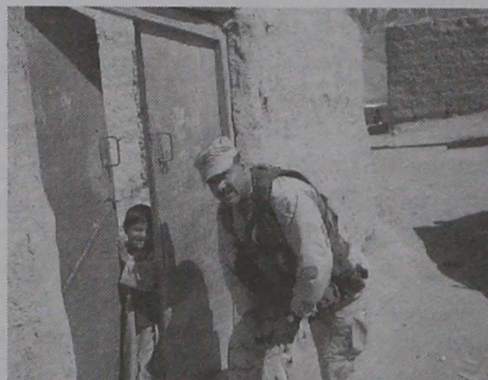
pletely," Banker said.

Humanitarian aid is a primary concern for Civil Affairs reservists in Afghanistan. The Ministry of Finance provides food for public works laborers. Other services include distributing food and shoes, providing medical care, and offering blankets during the winter months. There are special services for Afghan children such as the distribution of toothbrushes and toothpaste. The civil affairs reservists introduced baseball to the children by organizing teams and games.

Banker described the average Afghan citizen as hospitable, easy to work with, and receptive of the American military presence. Banker recalled the advice of a Pakistani-American friend: "If the Afghan people like you, they will give you the world. And if they don't like you, they'll kill you... So I made it a point that they'd like me."

Earlier this year, Banker returned from his second tour in Afghanistan earlier this year, where his duties included working with the Combined Forces Command-Afghanistan,

the Ministries of Finance and Commerce, the Afghanistan Central Bank, and on various projects to bring technological equipment to governmental buildings. Banker served in Kabul from October 2004 through May 2005. On his first tour in Bagram, a town about 50 kilometers north of Kabul, Banker served as the Operations Officer for Civil Affairs supporting the Special Forces from September 2002 through June 2003.



The Dirt on UC Soap

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The absence of hand soap in upperclassmen housing has Ursinus students seeking the dirt on the college's hygiene habit. This fall, soap was placed in the freshmen centers, yet remained mysteriously absent in upperclassmen residences.

"I think this is sick," exclaimed Emily Malinowski, an Ursinus junior, as she returned from the bathroom of her Main St. residence. Her words seem to echo across campus as students reach for soap to no avail. Malinowski's housemate, Gina Serago, added, "Considering the price of tuition, they should at least provide soap. It is as absurd as not providing toilet paper."

The absence of this simple hygiene aid remains a mystery to resident assistants as well. Senior RA Brian Schultz and his fellow RAs were encouraged to use their house allowance of eighty dollars, which is intended for house projects, to cover the cost of soap.

"No straight answers were given," Schultz remarked. "I assume the college as well as the cleaning staff does not want the responsibility of filling wall dispensers."

Two years ago, when the Director of Residence Life, Steve Larson, arrived at Ursinus, he was startled that the college did not provide soap in residence halls. "It just didn't make sense," Larson explained. "I found our college is one of all but two schools in our conference that does not provide soap in residence halls."

Ursinus' lack of soap creates a major issue as hand washing remains the single most effective way to prevent spread of communicable diseases. Serago, a pre-med major, stated, "Especially on a confined college campus, skipping hand washing can cause the spread of microbes that cause illness like colds and the flu." Concerned for their health, some students are taking matters into their own hands.

Spencer Morse, an Ursinus junior, found a solution to the deficient soap supply in the aisles of Target. "I spent upwards of twenty dollars on soaps and paper towels for the house," Morse noted.

However, other students feel soap is a necessity that room and board costs should cover. Ursinus student Jeanine Mahl stated her frustration, "Tuition goes up every year and they can't even provide soap. Soap isn't a luxury, it's a basic essential, and not providing soap is pretty unsanitary considering the habits of college students." With room and board costs totaling \$7,350 per student, the cost of providing soap seems insignificant.

Larson found soap remained a major budget issue, costing over \$1,000 per semester for freshmen centers alone. However, last year Larson pushed Residence Life and Dean Nolan to chip in to provide enough soap as well as dispensers for the first year centers, seeing as freshmen must use the most shared facilities.

Despite Larson's efforts, soap still remains missing in upperclassmen housing. "It's a gradual effort, but it will happen," Larson maintains.

New Mac lab in Ritter

DAN LAMSON

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Many new faculty members have joined the Ursinus College staff this year, but only one brought a computer lab with him. Professor Greg Scranton, new to Ursinus' Media and Communications Studies Department, came with a Mac Lab that is located on the first floor of Ritter.

Right now the only way to use the lab is the Introduction to New Media: Practice and Theory Classes, which according to the course description aims to introduce and explore the genre of New Media through artistic creation and critical engagement. Students will learn how to produce works of art as well as how to critique and deconstruct them.

Macs are renowned for their use in the art field because they process graphics much faster than PCs.

"The computers are Power Mac G5s with Dual 2.0 Gigahertz processors," said Professor Scranton. "This means that there are two processors working together to do the work, not just one." In layperson's terms, this means that things happen faster, and more things can happen at once.

This will allow projects that would normally slow computers down to be used with other programs simultaneously, with no loss of efficiency.

Another plus side to using the Macs is being able to use Final Cut Pro, a program that www.Apple.com says is, "the first choice for professional editors everywhere, Final Cut Pro delivers powerful and precise editing tools that work with virtually any format. Final Cut Pro gives you more creative options and technical control than ever before."

The program is only available on Mac computers, and it requires a high-end computer to run. These are the reasons that the regular laptops are not exactly right for his classes.

Professor Scranton said, "Yes, laptops can process videos like the Macs can, but it is about using the right tool for a job. You wouldn't want to cut down a wall with a hammer. It could work but it would take longer."

Professor Scranton worries that because of the visual attractiveness of the Macs they may become fetishized. Sometimes people with very nice computers do not know how to get the most out of them; but Scranton hopes to teach his students to utilize this technology to the utmost possible extent.

He compared this to buying a fast car without knowing how to drive swiftly. You need to learn to drive it correctly, but once you acquire the skill, it sticks with you for life.

So if you are interested in learning new computer skills and stretching your mind to new and exciting possibilities, Professor Scranton's classes are for you.

UC getting greener every year

KATHERINE DIANA
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As a college, Ursinus has grown in many directions and is attaining more and more praise. Besides having the "Hottest Freshman Year," we also have some amazing academic programs. Everyone knows the PreMed program here is fantastic, albeit extremely difficult, but fewer people are aware of our fast-growing Environmental Studies Program.

Not only does our program offer a plethora of courses in almost every discipline, but it also harbors several groundbreaking projects that are for the most part, directed by students. So, here's an update on what Ursinus has done to get greener – and ways that you can be greener too.

Since its birth four years ago, Ursinus' recycling program has made incredible progress. We went from recycling nothing to recycling everything from cardboard to batteries to printer cartridges.

There are green bins for glass and aluminum recycling and paper recycling bins in every academic and administrative building and some of the dorms.

In the Environment Suite on the first floor of Pfahler there are an assortment of appropriate boxes for both rechargeable and non-rechargeable batteries and printer cartridges.

We also recycle newspaper and shredded paper. For answers to all your recycling needs, contact UCRecycles@ursinus.edu.

There are so many little things you can do to keep your house or dorm environmentally friendly including taking shorter and/or colder showers. Cold showers are especially nice when you're taking your second one of the day coming back from the gym or pool.

Turn off the lights in your hallways, kitchens, and bathrooms at night and when you leave the room. When you leave for classes turn off the air conditioner (if you have one) or at least put it on low.

To save paper (as well as your money), reuse the blank side of paper you've already printed on. Most professors don't mind if it's for informal assignments.

Use real dishes to eat from rather than paper and plastic – you will have to wash them, but this is less wasteful for the environment and cheaper for you in the long run. For dishes and utensils check out Target sales or the Liberty Thrift Shop on Ridge Pike.

Another suggestion; although I know this sounds alien...and I have yet to get used to the idea myself...but try turning off your laptop at night. I know it's nice to have a witty away message up for all the night owls to peruse through, but it does save energy in the long run.

Admittedly, I have yet to try this experiment myself, but with the price of oil going up and or the current lack of nuclear waste storage, it seems like a worthy undertaking even if it only helps a little.

Walking or carpooling for food shopping and mall trips seems so obvious in our current state of gas prices that I don't even need to talk about it.

Also, Jazzman's now offers organic and or fair trade coffee and Zack's is preparing to add an organic food section! Your consumer choices can really make a difference if they help reduce the amount of pesticides or encourage economic development in poor countries.

And finally, the best way to become greener is to educate yourself and open your eyes – take an Environmental Studies class!

Our Environmental Studies program offers an introductory class as well as classes in many disciplines from Env Law to Env Chemistry to Literature to Psychology.

You may grow to love it as I did (I was originally a Bio and English Major) or even add it as a second major or minor.

In addition, Ursinus has many student-initiated environmental projects going on around campus such as the Organic Garden (contact me for more info) and recent graduate Erony Whyte's stormwater management plan.

I bet you never thought about where all the water goes when it rains on the athletic fields and parking lots or where some of your tomatoes come from at Zack's (if it's red instead of pink, it's from my garden).

There are tons of little things you can do each day to make Ursinus Greener – try some of them out!

Ursinus in Florence: A little rain never hurt anyone...

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In a yearly tradition Ursinus in Florence students usually embark on a beautiful scenic hike over Mount Ceceri, in the town of Fiesole - a twenty-minute bus ride from Florence.

However, this year the weather was unpredictably horrible. Out of an anticipated thirty-four, only eight students arrived to Mount Ceceri on the morning of Friday, September 9th to brave the torrential downpour which surrounded them.

Within a half hour of hiking, the group sought shelter in a deserted, Florentine cave in order to regroup and determine their route and direction.

While the rain continued to flood the hills of Mount Ceceri, Ursinus students and Dr. Jon Volkmer persisted on the hike through Fiesole. While the weather was obviously less than desirable, students were able to appreciate the

most beautiful and scenic views of Florence from a distance.

Additionally, students visited the specific location where famous artist Leonardo da Vinci's bold servant first experimented with the idea of human flight. Soon thereafter, the group caught a first-hand glimpse of several ancient Roman baths.

Following these historical landmarks, the group ventured back down the Ceceri and through the small town of San Dominico, below Fiesole.

The rough morning was ended with a well deserved meal in San Dominico, consisting of delicious pizza and various wines, all of which were greatly appreciated at that point.

Though the overwhelming thunderstorm refused to cease, students were still able to appreciate the beauty and history that surrounded them.

WVOU Fall lineup

<http://wvou.ursinus.edu/wvou>

Start the week off right with these great DJs!

6-7: Lisa Governa
7-8: Paul Vassilev
8-9: Chris Rogers
9-10: Lindsay Salsmann

Case of the Mondays? Not with WVOU!

3-4: Christopher Matsagas
4-5: Laurel Salvo
5-6: Ian Eglinton-Woods
7-8: Julia Black
8-9: Kristina Cerchiaro
9-10: Chris Curley
10-12: Ben Isser

Tuesdays got ya down? Let our DJs pick it up!

3-5: Sean Neil and Zac Tompkins
5-7: Kristi Blust
7-8: Chris McLaughlin
8-9: Natalie Rokaski
9-10: Chris Croarkin

Get over the hump with WVOU!

9-11 am: Josh Delano
3-4: Tim Garay
7-8: Matt Boice
8-9: Alex Sasso-Karelitsky
9-10: Matt Coulson
10-11: Erin Corrigan
11-12: Jonathan Kieran

Our DJs kick off the "unofficial" weekend!

6-7: Scott Jones
7-8: Jon Gagas and Brandon Brown
8-9: Ashley Higgins
9-10: Tim Smith
10-11: Elsa Budzowski
11-12: Greg Diamond
12-1am: Justin DeAngelis

Ready to party? We are!

1-3: Blaine McEvoy and Brenden Connor
3-4: Lauren Vaughn
8-9: Claudia Harper

Saturday... Need I say more?

3-4: Zach Gallimore and Andy Brienza
5-6: Jonathon Reth
6-8: Drew May and John Conte

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Get up and get moving - making exercise a routine



CECILY MACCONCHIE
Health advice for the couch potato in all of us

This weekend, I picked up a lifeguard shift for one of my suitemates. During the shift, I worked with a freshman girl. When the shift was almost over, we began to talk about what we were going to do for dinner.

She said that she and some of her friends were planning on walking to Saladworks.

What did I end up doing? I

drove to Roccas (which, for those of you that don't know, is a fabulous pizzeria right around the corner from campus,

on Route 29) and to Wendys with a bunch of my friends, complaining the entire way that neither of the two places delivers.

Although it is refreshing to hear that the Freshmen are still walking to places off campus, I know upperclassmen who, before the road through campus was taken out, would drive from Reimert to Corson. When did we become so lazy? More importantly, what can we do to put an end to this laziness and lead a healthier lifestyle?

According to the International Health, Racquet, and Sportsclub Association, over the past ten years the number of gym and health club memberships has increased by 16 million. As students at Ursinus, we have a spacious fitness center, a field house with an indoor track, an outdoor track, and a pool, at our disposal. Why waste these facilities?

The US Department of Health and Human Services recommends at least 30 minutes of physical activity daily. That's less time than we spend in one class.

Take advantage of the warm weather while it lasts and go for a walk after dinner, either around the track, around Collegeville, or on the Perkiomen Trail, a 19 mile trail that runs from Valley Forge to Green Lane, PA, and goes right

past Ursinus.

If you would enjoy a more structured, more intense workout, there are many options here on campus. In addition to team sports and intramurals, the ESS department offers several 2 credit activity classes every semester, and there is a free kickboxing class given every Tuesday and Thursday night.

If you really do not have time for any of these regimens, there are many simple ways to incorporate physical activity into your life. Resist the temptation to take the elevator to the third floor in buildings like Olin or the Myrin Library or if you have a car on campus, park farther away and walk to your building.

Not taking advantage of these excellent opportunities is just cheating yourself out of a healthier lifestyle. So get off the couch and get moving. I'll see you at the gym!

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Creating communication elation

Though it may sound like a tired cliché, communication is the foundation of a strong relationship. Unfortunately, many of us do not take the time to express what we're feeling to our partners, causing an emotional wall to be erected, which inhibits the relationship.

This wall will not only affect a relationship during daytime hours, but also during the portion of the relationship spent outside the classroom and in the bedroom.

So how do we demolish this wall?

This article will illustrate a few tips on communication enhancement that will ensure that the "erection" you're referring to has nothing to do with a wall.

Often, a communication breakdown begins with something left unsaid. This "something" will begin to feel like a burden, and depending on the severity of the situation, will affect you or your partner's life to some degree.

This will become noticeable to you or your partner, who will inevitably want to understand the change that has

occurred.

The first step is to inquire. If it is your partner who seems burdened or troubled, ask how they are feeling. It is important to ask in a caring mode, which allows your partner to feel that you are really interested in knowing. If they respond with the word "fine," which is all too typical, ask if they'd like to expand on that, or if they'd rather talk about something later.

Let them know that you are available to listen. When the word "fine" is used as a response, it may signify that the person is not in the mood to talk about their particular problem, does not feel comfortable talking with the person who asked, or hasn't yet determined or put words to how they're feeling. Of course, sometimes "fine" means fine, and even if that is not the response you were looking for, it is important not to appear doubtful of your partner by questioning their response.

When your partner opens up to you, it is important to be supportive and nonjudgmental. Depending on their problem, this may be a difficult task.

However, it is important to make every effort to make them feel safe and liberated, so that not only will he or she

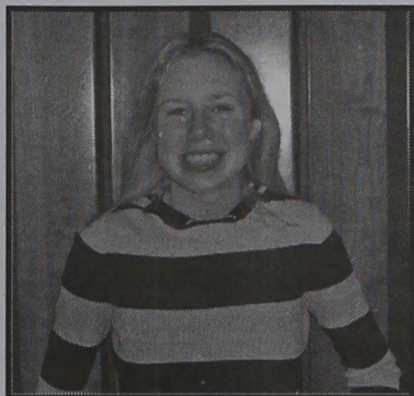
feel comfortable communicating their present problem to you, but those that occur in the future as well. If this is the first instance that your partner is opening up to you, how supported and safe you make him or her feel will determine how comfortable they are opening up to you in the future.

It is also important that you listen actively; don't interrupt, but reiterate what he or she is saying so that your partner knows that you're listening and so you make sure that you understand what he or she is saying. And unless they ask for your help or advice, do not offer any without first asking, "May I offer you help or advice?"

Your partner may just want to vent and discuss his or her problem, and may not want you to solve their problem, but only to listen and be supportive.

If you are the one opening up to your partner, only do so when you are feeling comfortable and your partner has made him or herself available to you. Be as open-minded as possible in sharing yourself with your partner, and go at whatever pace you feel comfortable. When you are finished talking, express to your partner how you felt he or she did as a listener and constructively guide him or her to the ways you feel that your partner can be most supportive.

And while keeping that in mind, you and your partner can achieve an innovative intimacy that can lead to euphoria both before and after dark.



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

Staff Profile: Gary Hodgson

PERCELIA BLIDGE
peblidge@ursinus.edu

Many people may know him as the friendly Campus Safety guy who checks in on us when things get out of hand. You may even remember him by his unique voice when he greets you or tells you a funny joke as he rides by in that ever-so famous Ursinus golf cart. Well, if you don't recognize the man of whom I speak of yet, his name is Gary Hodgson, and he has a story to tell.

He is a member of Campus Safety and has been for roughly 15 years. But, before he decided to grace us with his wonderful presence on campus, Hodgson had a variety of careers from professional baseball, to police detective, to local radio and TV personality.

Let us first work our way up from the bottom and then slowly ascend to the top, shall we? Born September 16, 1937, Gary Hodgson spent most of his life in an orphanage in Philadelphia, PA, and attended Girard College, which, at the time, was a school dedicated to the education and welfare of orphaned boys. He graduated from Girard College at age 18 only to become a member of a major league baseball team in 1957.

After the birth of his son in 1958 and later his daughter, he decided to quit the "hectic life" of major league baseball and settle down with his family, which needed him the most.

In 1963, Hodgson took the police officer's exam and became an officer, serving the Philadelphia community. Three years later he graduated to the title of detective, and was known to his peers as "Columbo," for his natural style and grace in his line of work, which was reminiscent to that of TV's most famous unconventional detective, Columbo.

While still in his line of duty, he guest starred on the popular children's program Captain Noah, which aired on WPVI-TV/6abc from the year 1970 through 1994.

Gary then retired from being a detective in 1983 and became the Director of Alumni Affairs at Girard College.

He got his first taste of radio when he had done a sit-in at CBS's WCAU 1210-AM radio station in Philadelphia.

When the host of the radio station retired, he was then called in to host his own show. (NOTE: He knew nothing about radio at the time.) Like all good things, his days as a radio personality came to an end. Though his leaving was abrupt, he did manage to leave behind a noteworthy record for having the #1 radio show in the region at the time of his reign.

It was roughly a month before he found a new job after his position as a host for WCAU. Just by chance, he so happened to find an ad in the newspaper stating that there were openings for individuals interested in becoming a part of a security staff. Lo and behold this ad was posted by Ursinus College.

When asked what keeps him here at Ursinus, he answered with a smile, "The students. I enjoy interplay with people. Listening to what they have to say. There's a heart beat to this campus; without the 'students, there's no heart beat."

A few words of advice that he gives to Ursinus students is: "To be yourself. Peer pressure, like water, has the tendency to erode things that are solid."

Hodgson actually retired from Ursinus, with the message, "As I leave, I will leave with fond memories of this college...#1: the students, #2: the students, #3: the students."

"The students" encouraged him to come back to Ursinus (post-retirement) as a member of the part-time staff, and he has been here ever

since.

Gary is a very special member of the Ursinus community and has a lot of personality and has much history behind him.

So, if you ever have a moment to rest your overworked minds stop by the Campus Safety Office and ask for Gary Hodgson and he just might take you back down memory lane.

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.

Veggie monster? A commentary on society brought to you by the letter H

KERRI LANDIS
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"Have you heard?" my friend asked me. "They're changing Cookie Monster's name to Veggie Monster." Shocked and appalled, I immediately decided to poke around on the show's website and get to the bottom of the matter. I was relieved to find that the head honchos at Sesame Workshop were not ridiculous enough to change my favorite monster's name. However, I did discover that *Sesame Street's* 36th season, which ran last April, was focused on health issues. A press release from the website revealed that the show's new theme is one aspect of Sesame Workshop's program, "Healthy Habits for Life," created in response to the growing crisis of childhood obesity among children." *How many obese children are there in America?* I wondered. The American Obesity Association reports that 30.3 percent of children ages six to eleven are overweight. I would say that is a bit of a crisis. But is it all Cookie Monster's fault?

"This season, Cookie Monster learns a lot about health, nutrition, and the importance of eating in moderation," says the press release. So apparently, the one monster whom is famous for eating everything in sight has learned moderation. Right. The same blue guy who eats soft-boiled cookies with a glass of cookie juice for breakfast has

learned that "a cookie is a sometime food." I remain skeptical.

"Who better to guide preschoolers towards a healthier life than Elmo, Oscar, Big Bird and the rest of the gang on *Sesame Street*?" says Rosemarie Truglio, Ph.D., Vice President of Education and Research at Sesame Workshop. Let me think about that one for a minute. Here is an idea: maybe *parents* could take responsibility for their children's diets! I do not know about you, but when I was a kid, running off to the store on my own for cookies was not really an option. Although some caregivers nonchalantly leave the childrearing to the tube, it is the sad reality that a lot of single parents and families who have to work to scrape a living just don't have the time to teach their kids how to eat healthy. So, hidden behind a *Sesame Street* curriculum funded by No Child Left Behind is a deeper issue: the fact that many parents do not have the time to take responsibility for their children anymore. I understand that children's shows are a useful tool for today's busy parent, since both parents have to work to support their family in our materialistic, money-eating society. But still, I wish that parents had more time to take an initiative to teach their children about health. Or, you know, how to read. Or count. But, as that is

not always an option in modern American society, the onus for teaching kids falls to children's shows.

As my tirade draws to a close, allow me to share with you part of *Sesame Street's* synopsis of show number 4089: "*Sesame Street* is transformed into a 50's musical show 'American Fruit Stand.' Miles sings 'I Love Fruit' (a parody of 'I Feel Good'), a song about how good fruit tastes and how good it is for the body. Elmo and Zoe get so excited about fruit that they now want an apple and an orange!" Is anyone else frightened by this? It continues: "Maria needs some broccoli. It happens to be her lucky day because broccoli is a special guest star on 'American Fruit Stand' and Miles sings 'Broccoli is Good' (a parody of 'Johnny B. Goode')." All of the fans and groupies become very excited about fruits and vegetables." It seems ridiculous to me that now, on top of teaching children numbers, letters, and general manners, *Sesame Street* has to show children how to eat healthily as well. Where are the parents? Many are working to support their families, but some are probably out buying the "Teletubbies: Go!" exercise video and trying to sue McDonalds for addicting them to fast food. I wonder if they know that McDonalds is a sponsor of *Sesame Street*?

The religion of ritual

Monotony is the sure way to lead a boring life, no matter how fun you think you are.

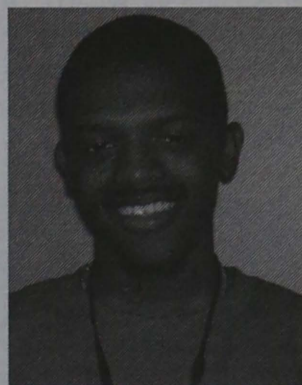
Most young people (especially college students) in America are very predictable. Many of you would like to believe that we live an exciting life that exempts us for the status quo of young adulthood. In our attempt to be different, we find ourselves constantly doing the same things repeatedly, enough that it becomes a ritual, or dare I say, a religious act.

According to dictionary.com, one definition of religion is "a cause, principle, or activity pursued with zeal or conscientious devotion." Think about the things that you commit yourself to doing everyday. Going to the gym, styling your hair, eating and spending time with your friends-these are all tasks that can be used to better yourself. The irony of these actions is that, when done the same way everyday, their effect begins to plateau, and they do not affect us as they did with our initial experience.

When people change their hairstyle, they usually get a reaction. In time, people grow accustomed to the hairstyle and it does not have the same effect as it first did. When

an unfit person begins to go to the gym and lifts 20 lb. dumbbells, the effect on their muscles is drastic. They begin to either build muscle or lose weight. If they do not begin to lift heavier dumbbells or do more reps, the most they can do is maintain the muscle mass, because their muscles get accustomed to the routine.

These same principles apply to our social and academic lives as college students. If we plan to leave college with the same viewpoints, same attitudes, and same friends that we had when we entered college, we risk a life of monotony. Over time, we begin to follow a religion of rituals, where we do things not because we enjoy them, but because we are so used to doing them.



DARRON HARLEY
The Left Side of the Hallway

Without change, many of us can be left behind in the proverbial rut we call life. Think about some of our senior citizens. Have you ever tried to teach your grandfather how to use the internet or program a VCR? It is no fun. The same thing that plagues them will eventually haunt you. Eventually all of us will grow older, get crankier, and eventually begin talking about how music was better when we were younger. Until that point, we should always seek new adventures and seek to learn more.

All of your classes, clothes, and colleagues (alliteration) should not look the same. You should rather live a life of experience than practice a 'religion' of dullness.

Darron is senior and can be reached at daharley@ursinus.edu.

Movie of the week

SONIA N. GONZALEZ
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"Any real city, you walk, you know? You brush past people. People bump into you. In L.A., nobody touches you. We're always behind this metal and glass. I think we miss that touch so much that we crash into each other just so we can feel something." That is the opening monologue to *Crash*, a movie that quite literally left me speechless. It stars many blockbuster type actors, but none of their names are of any importance. Come to think of it, character names are not even that crucial to the movie. This film's crisp view of life is what makes it so enthralling and worth watching.

In *Crash*, the title refers to car accidents. It is in fact the way the movie begins and ends. I would even go so far as to say, watching it is similar to slowing down and gawking out the window of your car as you pass a road side accident. As brutal as that sight may be, it's hard to tear your eyes away. You may even wonder about the people involved and what exactly happened. *Crash*, gives you approximately nine story lines that intertwine, mingle, and affect each other in many ways.

The underlying theme in *Crash* is racism in its many ugly forms. It emphasizes the constant cycle and the cruel way in which we treat one another. There is also an element of understanding the fact that no one person is all good or all bad. Every decision the characters make and every person they encounter builds a web around them that saves some and damns others.

I do not want to get into any intense scrutiny of this film. I will, however, give a bit of an overview. It all takes place in current day Los Angeles, California. During the entirety of this film, we witness racism through the actions and reactions of a Persian family, the white District Attorney and his wife, a successful 'white-loving' black director, and two irritated black youth just to name a few. Every individual person comes in contact with at least one other storyline, and everyone's choices seem to impact those of others in some rather unexpected ways.

Overall, I give *Crash* a rave review. It shocked me and gave me a new perspective on an issue that many people turn a blind eye on. This film is not in any popular genre of movie that is out on the market today. It is a concentrated view of a grim issue and everyone should watch it at least once to see what they get out of it.

Got milk?

Last week, Americans saw an unprecedented increase in the prices of dairy items. When faced with an ever-climbing human death toll, it is easy to forget about the other species affected by Hurricane Katrina. For you see, hundreds, maybe even thousands of dairy cows met their demise during Katrina's rampage across the Gulf Coast. This unexpected tragedy sent dairy prices sky rocketing. At Clemens in Collegeville, a gallon of 2% milk was priced at \$7.98.

"Eight bucks for a gallon of milk!? Outrageous," a Clemens customer reacted. With citizen outrage peaking, Silk, a popular brand of soy milk, saw its stock double in price. Erin Flowerchild, CEO of Silk, stated "Our hearts go out to the dairy cows affected by this terrible storm, but perhaps a shock like this is what Americans needed to finally realize the long-term health benefits of soy milk."

Inversely affected by this national outrage was President Bush's approval rating which dipped below 40% for the first time ever last week. A local complains, "He has done nothing about the rising milk prices. How are our kids, the future leaders of America, supposed to grow up big and strong if their parents can't afford milk?"

Dairy farmer Elmer Walderant picketed along the Pennsylvania turnpike with a sign reading "George Bush doesn't

care about dairy cows." Dairy farmers have also complained of thieves "stealing" milk from their cows. Local farmers have taken to installing security systems and even strapping on "chastity belts" to prevent thieves from accessing the cows' udders.



**MATT FLYNTZ
DAN SERGEANT**
Communism for Dummies

we take Calcium for granted. I call upon the federal government to invest in research for alternate Calcium sources."

But that does nothing in the meantime. Citizens are creating their own solutions. David and Mary Ann Polski have actually purchased their very own dairy cow. "Now we need not rely on the unstable milk industry. Plus, we

Duke University Bio-Chemistry professor, Dr. William Elderman, explains "Americans have long viewed milk as the primary source of Calcium. This storm has shown us that

know it's fresh!"

The Parish family of Phoenixville purchases whole milk and dilutes it with tap water. "It comes out tasting like skim, and it lasts longer!" These families have taken a much more noble approach than some, for local Acme employees have noticed that milk has passed vanilla extract as the most stolen item in the store. They have even taken the precaution of paying an employee to stand in the dairy section and watch for thieves. Phil Janson, general manager of Acme in Collegeville, notes "It has cut our milk losses in half!"

However you choose to respond to the milk crisis, keep in mind what Ben Stiller said in *Meet the Parents*: you can milk anything with nipples.

The next generation

ASHLEY HIGGINS
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Though some are still stuck on the terms 'millenials' and 'y-generation,' the newest categorization for the current youth of American is the echo boom generation, or simply, echo boomers. Some of the oldest members of this generation are about to graduate from college. The younger members are still in grade school. This generation includes all those born from 1982 to 1995, and is the largest generation of young people since the 1960s. They were dubbed echo boomers because of the genetic and demographic echoing of their parents, the baby boomers.

The echo boomers are 80 million strong and account for nearly a third of the US population. They spend \$170 billion a year, mostly on technology and name-brand clothing. The sudden explosion of clothing and technology advertisements was caused by the tremendous spending habits of the echo boomers. Advertisers are shelling out millions for longer commercials with celebrities just in the hopes of attracting some attention from this shop-happy generation.

Though the echo boomers are barely coming of age, they are already the most highly studied generation in American history. Few of the echo boomers can vote, but sociologists and demographers alike have already collected enormous amounts of data.

The echo boomers are also interesting from a research perspective in being the only generation to grow up with the Internet and 500 channels. The echo boomers are constantly plugged into an ever-growing community.

According to research, this is a generation that favors convention over rebellion, and teamwork over individualism. Though researchers claim that echo boomers have mostly traditional values, the echo boomers are the most tolerant generation in history. This is due to 35% of this generation being non-white.

Researchers claim that the more they study the echo

boomers, the less they seem like their egotistical parents. In fact, the echo boomers share many common traits with their grandparents, the WWII generation.

The echo boomers are apparently also the most pressured and overscheduled generation. Toddlers of this generation were driven by overbearing parents to soccer on Mondays, Kung Fu on Tuesdays, play dates on Wednesday, music lessons on Thursday, etc.

Parents of the echo boomers are desperate to instill a sense of structure and mission into their children's lives. Protected by what are called "helicopter parents," the echo boomers are trophy children in every sense of the word. Everyone is expected to be above average. As a result, the echo boomers are desperate to please parents, friends, teachers, college admissions staff, and employers.

As a result of a great deal of attention from parents and the insidious appeal of the Internet and video games, echo boomers suffer from a phenomenon known as visual motor ecstasy, where any social interaction not immediately gratifying is thought to be boring. This has proven problematic in employment, as echo boomers are expecting constant attention and compliments from employers. They expect to be able to rise to the top quickly, and are easily frustrated by the corporate grind.

As with any sociological analysis, questions arise about representative sampling and data collection. Any generalizations are bound to leave certain groups of individuals on the margin. Obviously, not everyone born from 1982 to 1995 is a conservative group-thinker, as these studies imply. Some of the conclusions put out by researchers seem wildly speculative, mainly in terms of echo boomers' values. Also, any research at all seems premature with a population still so young. Regardless, true or not, the data is at least a thought-provoking portrayal of young America.

career

corner

Take Time off after Graduation to Serve

If you aren't ready to commit to a career path and you feel a call to serve others, consider taking a year off after graduation to learn more about yourself and where you fit in the world. You may just help yourself after graduation by helping others for a year or more.

There are hundreds of full-time volunteer and service programs for new grads. You can choose among a wide range of positions, living situations, and locations. Many provide living arrangements, professional development opportunities, stipends, and some provide Educational Awards after your year of service is completed. Programs can be faith-based or secular in focus. Below is a sample of organizations that offer a post-grad service program. You can also check <<http://www.idealists.org>> for more service opportunities.

Americorps-
<<http://www.americorps.org/>>
Avodah- The Jewish Service Corps
<<http://www.avodah.net/>>
Campaign Corps
<<http://www.campaigncorps.org/>>
Catholic Network of Volunteer Service
<<http://www.cnvs.org/>>
City Year <<http://www.cityyear.org/>>
Green Corps <<http://www.greencorps.org/>>
Lutheran volunteer Corps
<<http://www.lutheranvolunteercorps.org/>>
Peace Corps <<http://www.peacecorps.org/>>
Teach for America
<<http://www.teachforamerica.org/>>
United Way Community Fellow
<<http://national.unitedway.org/jobs/fellows.cfm>>

If you are worried that stepping out of the traditional workplace for a year will be detrimental to your long term career- stop worrying. This kind of experience shows an employer you are resourceful and hard working. Grad schools are also impressed with this kind of experience on your application. Visit Career Services to discuss your ideas on how to make a difference in the world through a year of service.

If you are a current student interested in service- contact the Volunteer and Community Service Office in Wismer Lower Lounge.

Priorities

DAVID CHAMBERLAIN
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The Gulf Coast lies devastated. The bungled response to Hurricane Katrina has revealed that four years after September 11 we are no more prepared to deal with a disaster than we were before. Abroad, the Iraqi war rages on as American casualties mount and international support slips away.

In the face of these disasters, Republicans are returning to what they have done so well in the past: cutting taxes for the rich. Republican actions have recently taken on a surreal quality. Days after Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast, Ken Mehlman sent out an email to his supporters calling for the elimination of the estate tax, which affects the wealthiest three percent of Americans.

"Unfortunately," says Mehlman, "Senate Democrats are working hard to oppose our efforts to eliminate this unfair tax."

Those mean, mean Democrats! They must hate rich people. Why else would they oppose a tax cut? What would the federal government use that money for anyway?

The Iraq war costs us about \$5 billion per month in military operations costs. That doesn't include veteran's benefits or additional interest on the national debt. Eventually, the toll will be much higher. A *Christian Science Monitor* article quotes Linda Bilmes, an economist who teaches budgeting at the Kennedy School of Government. "The war will cost \$1.4 trillion dollars... if [it] lasts another five years."

How about the devastation wrought

by Hurricane Katrina. Congressmen from both parties agree that the federal government will eventually spend over \$200 billion rebuilding devastated areas of Louisiana and Mississippi.

Then there are Bush's previous tax cuts. His cuts, which have been tilted predominantly towards the rich, have already cost the treasury \$651 billion. Eventually, Bush's tax cuts will increase the national debt by \$2.2 trillion. That's \$2.2 trillion that we will borrow from the Chinese and Japanese national banks. It's a \$2.2 trillion loan in bonds that future Americans will have to pay back with interest. Bush's tax "cuts" are really just taxes passed on to future Americans. And speaking of the national debt, it now stands at \$7.9 trillion, increasing by \$1.66 billion every day. When will fiscal conservatives realize that the G.O.P. has become the party of fiscal insanity?

You may have gotten the mistaken impression recently that the Republicans, with their tax cuts for the rich, plush contracts for industry lobbyists, and cushy jobs for campaign contributors (see: FEMA head Mike Brown) have turned into big softies. Do not be fooled. They are still cold-hearted enough to cut programs for the less fortunate. They intend to cut \$10 billion from Medicaid and \$7 billion from the federal college loan program. That is right; in a budget that will contain another \$70 billion in tax cuts favoring the wealthy, the Republicans want to save \$17 billion by slashing health insurance and student loans for low-income Americans. Republican priorities could not be clearer.

Hard vs. soft news

AILEEN DALTON
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Entertain me.

This seems to be America's ongoing mantra, applicable to all areas of consciousness, and even, unconsciousness. We seek entertainment in our work, friends, hobbies, dreams, and ourselves. We look to Hollywood to fill the majority of the entertainment void, in one way or another. We live to be entertained, so it is really no surprise that we demand the same of our media. But has the media subscribed to American viewers' wishes?

In taking inventory of my knowledge of the latest events in the world today, I shamefully admit that Brad and Angelina's scandalous affair and Jen's heartbreak over the breakup tops the list, with the devastating effects of hurricane Katrina coming in at a distinct second. Here I am, a sophomore at a distinguished liberal arts college, and I have fallen prey to the glitz of the media. However, am I completely at fault for my lim-

ited knowledge of today's "hard" news, or am I just a typical American victim who has not actively sought out the news, but let it drift toward me?

I did not search for Hollywood dirt; it found me. I know that it is my responsibility to be an actively informed individual, but is the media completely innocent in their broadcast emphasis?

With so many more important things happening in the world, such as the Iraqi occupation, the AIDS epidemic in Africa, food shortages, discrimination, terrorism, etc., why do we still preoccupy ourselves with Paris Hilton's latest blonde escapades, or Britney Spears' pregnancy?

My answer? The "hard" news is more difficult to digest. We feel guilty and helpless for not being able to change such devastating situations. It does not entertain us; it horrifies us. An overdose may make you rethink walking alone at night, or appeal to the philanthropic side of yourself. The next thing you know, you will be donating your hard-earned dollars to children dy-

Saying Goodbye...

My dear readers, my loyal public: a tragedy has befallen me. The hat you see in my picture is gone; gone and gone, lost to the giant loom in the sky (and possibly some street-punk in South Philly). It was a companion to me, a

counterpart – an adept conversationalist with a passion for theater. I liked it better than most people (it told better jokes). And with its loss, I feel a vital part of me has withered away. But I must be brave and counsel my grief.



CHRISTOPHER CURLEY
The 7 1/2 Floor

A Valediction: Forbidding Mourning
My Hat

As students pass by, taking time
In brotherhood without a care,
I watched them with a friend of mine,
Who made his place above my hair.

We had this love, a charm refined
From the first I knew 'twas meant to
be
When I saw you cruelly thrown aside
In a Lititz haberdashery.

This life brings with it harms and fears,
But never was a worry spent
Because you came with a swigger's cool:

A confidence, and a pack of Kents.

You let us merge, so debonair,
With subtle grace, so smartly made

'Twas th'only profanation of my tongue:

You never got us laid.

O my hat, who never saw my face,

You've gone, and though I know not where,

I see you in a warm, safe place,
Beneath a beggar's derriere.

And though discov'ring we'd been had

I found myself both pale and ill,
Staring at these books, I'm glad
You made it out of Collegeville.

So let it lie, in ashen dust

This thread upon my brow you'd spun

To think about the thing I've lost:
I'll bet you're having much more fun.

Chris Curley lost his hat; he is now quite alone in the world. Condolences can be sent to chcurley@ursinus.edu

ing of malnutrition in third world countries instead of blowing them on yet another pair of shoes you will wear once or twice, or the next model cell phone.

We want to feel good about ourselves, and a typically human way of doing so is by seeing others fail. How can we do this and not feel that pang of guilt? Simple – look towards the people who supposedly "have it all" – the rich and famous. We can safely assume that there is nothing we can do to help the situation, so we might as well sit back and be entertained. It makes for interesting, light conversation as well as a morale booster. We might not own a multi-million dollar home or be a revered sex icon, but at least we do not have *that* relationship problem, or *that* addiction. The world just seems better when you can put people like that down, because they are not viewed as

people anyway – they are stars.

So is the media replacing "hard" news with "soft" in supply and demand form? I have always found the idea of selective listening a bit alarming, but selective information truly worries me. Today's media is guilty of a clearly human ambition – we all aim to please. Let us make sure the media knows what we really want – balance.

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Ursinus triumphs over LaSalle

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On a hot and humid day in Philadelphia, the Ursinus Bears were determined to avenge a close 21-19 loss to LaSalle from a year ago. With both defenses keeping the opposing offenses in check, it was the Bears defense in the end that made the big play and gave Ursinus its first win of the season, along with ending a 10-game losing streak 13-12 Saturday afternoon.

After no scoring in the opening quarter, Ursinus was able to strike first as Bears' quarterback Vince Gallagher hit Josh Hannum on a bubble screen from 4 yards out for six points and a Bears 6-0 lead. The point after attempt was blocked.

LaSalle was able to put up two scores late in the second quarter with both point after attempts being stopped, one was blocked and one was missed, it turned out to be two crucial plays made by the Ursinus kicking game. LaSalle took the lead into the locker room at 12-6.

The third quarter was all about the LaSalle offense managing the clock and keeping the Bears' offense on the sidelines. The Explorers were able to waste a great amount

of the third quarter clock until 1:33 left when Bears' defensive tackle Mike Kimpel intercepted a screen pass and rumbled 79 yards with a surplus of teammates leading him into the end zone. Matt Baney added on the extra point and the Bears took a 13-12 lead going into the fourth quarter.



The fourth quarter once again became a defensive battle as neither offense was able to muster any type of drive or scoring opportunity. After James Sproule punted with 1:36 left in the game, the Explorers needed to cover 90 yards in a short amount of time. The Bear's defense was able to withstand a late surge by LaSalle and come out on top in what was an exciting and very close game. Vince Gallagher led the way with 41

yards rushing and 103 yards passing for the Bears. The Bears defense was also able to intercept three of LaSalle's passes throughout the game, including Kimpel's touchdown.

Ursinus returns to action October 1st where they open conference play at McDaniel. The Bears haven't won a conference game in three years, but maybe this is the confidence boost they needed to make a run at the Centennial Conference championship.

Athletic facility facelift

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The Ursinus College athletic facilities received a major facelift this summer. Construction crews were hard at work installing brand new fields and renovating existing facilities.

The most notable change to the campus is the installation of a brand new turf field. The state of the art turf field is where the field hockey and women's lacrosse

team now call home. Turf fields are a staple in almost every field hockey program across the country and our 2004 Centennial Conference champs now have their very own.

You'll notice the new turf field replaced the old baseball field. The new baseball field is located on the east side of the field house. The field features a built in sprinkler system and a state of the art

drainage system. The brand new baseball field will become the baseball team's home after a yearlong wait for the chance to play on it.

Other improvements to Ursinus athletic facilities include the newly painted football grandstand. A brand new press box was also added to the grandstand.



Upgraded drainage systems were also added to the soccer and softball field. This upgrade will ensure that fewer games are cancelled and the fields stay in better condition when inclement weather strikes.

According to Win Guilmette, the Vice President for Finance and Administration, the work for these projects will exceed over two million dollars. A million of that was raised by an independent group, in order to cover the cost of the new turf field. Guilmette also said the projects were funded through the plant fund. The plant fund receives its money from gifts. The athletic renovations were funded completely through gifts and not tuition.

Bears dominate Dickinson

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Domination was the key to success as Ursinus pounded Dickinson College to a 10-0 shutout last Saturday at home on the new Snell turf field.

The Bears would open the conference campaign with a 2-1 record overall, challenging the Red Devils who were struggling with a 1-3 record. Dickinson deserved respect for making the conference championship tournament last fall but like most things in life, changes occur.

Six different people scored on Saturday, including an outstanding performance by sophomore Lindsay Cappa. Cappa worked her magic and pulled out a hat trick scoring three goals on three shots. Cappa's punishing play has prompted her to first Centennial Conference Player of the Week. Cappa is ranked third in the Centennial Conference for goals, and leads the team with six goals.

Cappa describes the win as exciting, yet remarks on the focus of the team by saying, "We were definitely excited about the win. Every conference game is important to us so we were really happy with the outcome. At this point in the season, we're staying focused and taking one game at a time. Since we are defending a championship, everyone is out to get us, so we can't afford to take anything for granted."

The Bears are defending a conference championship with poise and confidence, but they realize this squad is special for two reasons, the depth and work ethic. Cappa claims, "We played well together with six different people scoring, which I think highlights the depth of our team. We know what

we want and where we want to be at the end of the season, but we know we have to work hard to get there."

With the young sophomore scoring three of the ten goals it is obvious that she had great support from her teammates.

Molly Stevens, a junior forward, scored two goals. Freshman phenomenon Jenni Moore also racked up two goals. Senior Ashley Ettinger also contributed three points, one goal, and two assists.

The Bears squad posted 28 shots against Dickinson, while the Red Devils themselves only fired three shots. Ursinus goalies split time on Saturday as Jessica Lamina posted a shutout for the first half with one save, and Erin Bender also posted a shutout with one save in the second half.

With their first conference win, the Bears now have to focus on the rest of the conference with confidence. Coach Moliken is eager to fight their rivals like Franklin & Marshall and Gettysburg at home on the new turf. "Possibly there is a slight advantage to playing on our turf, because we practice on it day in and day out, but it is nice to have a good playing surface against those tough teams" remarks Moliken.

If the Bears can go undefeated in the conference, chances are that the championship tournament will be here at home. This could prove to be even more of a home field advantage late in the season.

The field hockey squad is currently ranked sixth in the STX/NFCA Division III national poll. The Bears will travel to Washington this Saturday. Their playing field will now be equalized with Washington's thick, slow-moving grass; this should prove to be a powerful match-up. Game time is at 1 p.m.

Phils one game back

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The hunt for October continues with the impressive play of the Philadelphia Phillies.

This past series with the Florida Marlins has showed Philly Phans that our team is definitely a playoff contender. Last Friday night, the Phils fried the fish with a 13-3 beating that would humiliate any team. The Philly faithful would hold their breath on Saturday night as the game was a close 2-0 in favor of the Marlins heading into the 9th inning. The events that would ensue after Marlins Manager, Jack McKeon would take out starting pitcher, Dontrelle Willis, a Cy Young candidate with a comfortable 2-0 lead in the top of the ninth. The Phillies posted ten runs in the 9th to astound baseball history and just degrade the Marlins bullpen to

a shameful low. The Marlins also had costly errors which fed into the merry-go-round of run after run.

After Saturday night the Phillies were on top of the world looking to finish Florida off with a sweep. Sunday was the Marlins turn as they would score early and often to spank the Phils 14-6.

Philadelphia has won seven of the last ten games since the Astros series. Jimmy Rollins also continues his hot streak of 24 straight games with a hit. His performance has named him this week's Bank of America's National League Player of the Week.

The Astros lost to the Pittsburgh Pirates on Monday night 6-0 making the Phillies one game back in the NL Wild Card.

Philadelphia is now in Atlanta for a four game series, and is also five games out of the NL East. A sweep could prove to be huge, making it almost a definite

Tumblebears at UC

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Most college students don't see young children in leotards populating their campuses on a regular basis, but for an Ursinus College student, this might not be an uncommon sight.

These children are part of TUMBLEBEARS, a recreation gymnastics program for girls and boys ages five and older. The program runs Monday through Wednesday at 6:30 PM in the Helfferich Gymnastics Training Center.

While TUMBLEBEARS is run by Jeff Schepers, head coach for the Ursinus College Gymnastics team, the program is essentially an entire team effort. All 11 girls on the 2005-2006 roster help out with the coaching duties. "[Coaching] is a great opportunity for us, because it gets us excited about gymnastics," said sophomore gymnast and coach, Melissa Garman. "It shows us why we love the sport, and why we are still doing it at the college level." The proceeds from TUMBLEBEARS will be used to offset travel expenses that the team will have during their upcoming season.

Children who take classes are grouped by both age and ability. For the most part, however, coaches focus on helping younger students with their coordination and emphasize strength and skills with the older students.

As the sessions go on, many of the children's abilities allow them to learn harder and more difficult skills. Children are expected to work hard, but the number one priority for the coaching staff is making sure

that they are all having a good, safe, time. "Everything is geared towards making it fun

for the kids," said junior gymnast and coach, Jessica Furman.

So what is it like to have all of the stresses of a college lifestyle and then be expected to have patience and enthusiasm with children every week? According to the coaches, it's e a s y . Garman said that "when you walk into the gym and see 10

six year olds screaming your name, it gets you excited." "It's a lot of fun, a stress reliever," Furman added, her face showing amusement. "They make you laugh."

Currently, TUMBLEBEARS runs classes Monday through Wednesday, but its members hope to expand the program. The organization also offers birthday parties on Saturdays and Sundays and is hoping to plan a few "Parents' Nights Out" for the future.

TUMBLEBEARS is a spin-off program of Tumbleweeds, which was sponsored by a local community member out of the Helfferich Gymnastics Training Center. Due to increased family commitments, she's no longer involved in the program, but the women of the 2005-2006 Ursinus Gymnastics team are eager to keep it alive. Registration for this session includes both new students and students that were involved in Tumbleweeds. Furman says that there is a "good mix of new students and returning ones."

TUMBLEBEARS has two six-week sessions scheduled. The first session began Sept. 5 and will run until Oct. 12. The second session is scheduled to begin after fall break.

If you are interested in registering for either the upcoming session or a birthday party, contact Jeff Schepers at jschepers@ursinus.edu or ex. 2113.

Bearly Reminder

Friday Septmeber 23rd

Volleyball vs. Elizabethtown- 3 p.m.

M&W XC at McDaniel Festival
@ Richmond- 4:30 p.m.

Volleyball vs. Neumann- 5 p.m.

Saturday September 24th

Football- Idle

Volleyball vs. Wilkes- 9 a.m.

Women's Soccer at Dickinson- 12 noon

Field Hockey at Washington- 1 p.m.

Men's Soccer at Dickinson- 2:30 p.m.

Monday September 26th

Women's Soccer vs. Cabrini- 4 p.m.

Tuesday September 27th

Volleyball vs. F&M- 7 p.m.

Wednesday September 28th

Men's Soccer vs. Haverford- 4 p.m.

Women's Soccer at Moravian- 4 p.m.

Field Hockey vs. F&M- 4 p.m.

Grizzly Sports Report

Septmeber 15th- 19th

Field Hockey vs. Dickinson W- 10-0

Football at LaSalle W- 13-12

Men's Soccer vs. Washington L- 1-3

Women's Soccer at Gwynedd-Mercy W- 2-0

Women's Soccer vs. Gettysburg W- 1-0

Volleyball vs. Lebanon Valley L- 1-3

Volleyball vs. Keuka L- 0-3

XC at Muhlenburg Invitational
Men-5th Women-3rd