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The Grizzly, November 3, 2005

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the grizzly

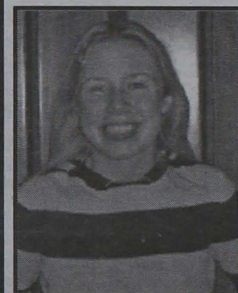
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inside



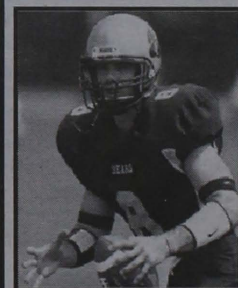
Remembering Michele McLennan **news, 2**



Popping the pill with Lane Taylor **features, 7**



Harriet Miers aftermath **opinions, 8**



Bears continue to climb out of hole **sports, 11**

Chikara wrestlers body slam their way into the hearts of UC students

Remembering Professor McLennan – a passionate teacher and a beloved friend

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The Ursinus College community recently lost a beloved teacher, tireless mentor and esteemed colleague, when Michele C. McLennan, associate professor of business and economics, passed away last month after a valiant battle with ovarian cancer.

The lives of countless members of the campus community were enriched by Dr. McLennan's vibrant personality and academic dedication, as well as her profound compassion for others, since she began her work here in August 1997.

"She had a personal touch and gleam that just made you feel right at home," said senior Dan Uba. "Dr. McLennan's smile and funny personality will greatly be missed, but her effects on everyone will live on." Jon Ichter, class of 2004, said, "Her passion and love for her students and their well-being radiated from her every time she stepped into the classroom."

Dr. McLennan was honored with the Lindback Teaching Award at graduation 2004, and was also recognized in *Who's Who Among American Teachers* after nomination by James Turner, class of 2002.

Dr. McLennan was much more than an exceptional teacher, however. She was also an outstanding mentor who truly cared about her students. "Dr. McLennan was a professor with a kind heart and a warm spirit," said Krista Marina, class of 2003. "She took an active interest in the lives of her students both in and out of the classroom."

"Dr. McLennan had a profound impact on my life, more than she probably could have ever known," said Allison Guerin, a junior business and economics major and education minor. "Her classes were my favorite I've had here at Ursinus, and not necessarily because of the subject matter, but because of her. The passion she had for her subject and for teaching was an inspiration to me."

This past summer, Dr. McLennan worked as a summer fellows mentor to senior Sarah Smethie. "Professor McLennan's enthusiasm and passion for the research project, her work in general and for her family were apparent through every interaction I had with her," Smethie said. "Her contagious charisma, warmth and willingness to get to know me on a personal level were the most influential aspects of our time together, and I will always hold these in my memory."

Such thoughts were echoed by many faculty, students and alumni who visited the all day open house held in Dr. McLennan's honor on Oct. 12 in Bomberger Hall. "Dr. McLennan will always have a special place in my heart," said Jamie Ruhling, class of 2004.

"I never once saw her ask for sympathy or let her situation get the best of her," said Evan DiBlassio, class of 2005. "She was one of the strongest, and most liked, women I have ever met. She will be sorely missed."

Dr. McLennan was also a respected colleague who, according to Professor Heather O'Neill, exemplified the best of what Ursinus has to offer.

"Dr. McLennan epitomized what a liberal arts education is all about," Dr. O'Neill said. "We want students to ask why, to become engaged, and to be passionate about their education and their lives, and that is exactly what Michele did. She was wholly passionate about her work and she inspired that passion in everyone she met."

From September 1999 through August 2004, Dr. McLennan held the position of Assistant Professor of Economics, advancing to Associate Professor of Economics in August 2004. She taught a variety of classes within the business and economics department, including economics of education, managerial economics, economics of the environment and econometrics; she also worked closely with students, mentoring summer fellows, independent studies, and honors colloquium projects.

In addition to her outstanding work in the classroom, Dr. McLennan collaborated successfully with Dr. Kneia DaCosta, assistant professor of psychology, to secure a Spencer Foundation Small Grant in fall 2003. The research examines the efficacy of single sex education in Philadelphia middle schools. The two year grant has been extended through next semester.

"We were a great team," said Dr. DaCosta. "I had done this type of research before so I was skeptical, but Dr. McLennan was very much an idealist and that created a great blend."



Dr. McLennan shared a special bond with close friend Cathy Bogusky, secretary in the business and economics, music, and politics departments, who fondly recalls her radiant personality and compassion for others, as well as her lively spirit and hilarious one-liners. "There was a glow about her," Bogusky said. "Whoever came into her life, she cared about that person, and about their family and friends. She was just very unique, one of a kind."

While profoundly influencing the Ursinus community, Dr. McLennan was also deeply devoted to her two girls, Kali and Madalyn, and her husband, Keith. She was involved with the children's sports, extracurricular activities, and volunteered at their schools.

"Her family was her life," said Bogusky. "She talked about them constantly, frequently using her daughters as examples in her teaching. There wasn't anything she wouldn't do for them."

While Ursinus will never be the same after the loss of Dr. McLennan, her influence and spirit will live on through the students and colleagues she so deeply touched.

"Dr. McLennan will continue to influence my life, even after I leave Ursinus, and I will always be grateful I had the chance to meet her," said Allison Guerin.

"Although Michele is no longer with us, she lives on through her children, and through her students," said colleague Victor Brown. "To each she gave part of herself, and her influence will remain with them, and be passed along to others."

The Meistersingers, a group especially cherished by Dr. McLennan, will perform at a campus memorial service in her honor planned for Monday, Nov. 21, at 4 p.m.

A brewery festival, "Taste for the Cure," will be held in memory of Dr. McLennan on Friday, Dec. 4, at the People's Light Theatre in Malvern, where ten local microbreweries will provide food and drink.

Students are invited to attend and transportation will be provided. All proceeds from the event will benefit the National Ovarian Cancer Coalition and the Michele C. McLennan Memorial Scholarship Fund at Ursinus College.

If you wish to make a donation to the scholarship fund, checks may be made payable to "Michele C. McLennan Scholarship," and dropped off in the Development Office, or mailed to:

Michele C. McLennan Scholarship Fund
Ursinus College
P.O. Box 1000
Collegeville, PA 19426-1000.

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Renowned writer speaks at Ursinus

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James Fallows, award-winning correspondent for the *Atlantic Monthly*, spoke in the Kaleidoscope's Lenfest Theater on Oct. 20. Board of trustee members, faculty and students filled three-quarters of the auditorium to hear the lecture by the author and reporter. Dressed in a suit and tie, Mr. Fallows took the stage within several hours of flying his own plane from Washington, D.C., to the Perkiomen Valley Airport.

Fallows took control of the podium by accepting an honorary degree for his father, James A. Fallows, M.D., of the Ursinus class of 1946. Dr. Fallows never received an Ursinus degree because he left college in his junior year to attend medical school and serve in World War II. Mr. Fallows read a prepared statement from his father. "I recall very fondly my time at Ursinus College," he read.

After reading his father's statement, Fallows began his four part lecture about the war in Iraq. Fallows, who won the National Magazine Award for his November 2002

article—*The Fifty-First State?*—about America's war on Iraq, explained that the war began because the administration believed in the theory that America's safety depends on the peace of Arab states. "Iraq was a doable challenge," stated Fallows. "A lynch pin for democratizing the world."

"[Matters] are getting better, but getting worse faster," said Fallows of current trends in Iraq. He also predicted that at least 10 years would be needed to rebuild Iraq.

"America is either going to be there for a long time or leave in an undignified fashion," said Fallows.

The second part of Fallows' lecture focused on the U.S. economy. He predicted that current standards of living won't last long. "Note this moment in history," he said.

Fallows then broached the subject of party politics. He cited numerous historical indicators of presidential election outcome. "Both candidates should have lost [in 2004]," he concluded. Fallows also expressed the dubious nature of future presidential elections. It's nobody's turn to run on the Republican side, while the Democrats have many potential candidates—but none with a good case for running, said Fallows.

The final part of Fallows' lecture centered on problems in the media. "Everyone thinks something is wrong with the media," stated Fallows. "But it's not what you think."

"The news business has gone from being a special activity to being just a business," said Fallows. The highest grossing news outlets are those which draw a large crowd by using spectacle, he said. He cited the hurricanes, "Aruba girl" and extreme political biases as examples. "The media is getting worse and worse—my magazine excepted," he joked.

"Nobody is telling us what we need to know," he said. "We can only hope the generation coming up will be able to serve the nation."

Fallows answered several audience questions after his speech. An audience member asked Mr. Fallows' opinion on blogs.

"People in real world areas telling about what their life is like [is important]," he commented. "[But] 85 percent [of blogs] are 'Let me tell you about my cat,'" he joked.

Fallows then utilized a query from Dr. Louise Woodstock to place the responsibility for the future on the students' shoulders.

"What can we do to preserve essential local news sources?" Dr. Woodstock asked. "Take advantage of your resources," Fallows responded, speaking to the students of Ursinus. "There's no excuse to be uninformed. Become a part of the community."

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Career Services is located in Bomberger 121. Email <career@ursinus.edu>.

Building plans for spring 2006 and beyond

DAN LAMSON
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At last week's meeting of the Ursinus Student Government Association, President Strassburger discussed the college's plans for the future and how those plans came about.

He began by talking about the Black Box in Ritter and how it was determined inadequate back in 1997. "One donor particularly, Mrs. Musser, said that the Black Box was really just a black box, why don't you think more ambitiously and think of a real proper arts center," the president said. Thus, the Kaleidoscope was born.

When an architect for the project was chosen, Wallace Robert Todd, who designed Richter North, a master plan was also developed. The plan's main focus was the construction of an arts center.

An idea to put the arts center near Berman was shelved because it would divide the campus too much, with arts on one side and science on the other. The arts center was designed to be in the flow of traffic between many different avenues of the campus.


After detailing how the Kaleidoscope became a reality, the president elaborated on the rest of the master plan, which includes an additional residence hall to be built somewhere near Richter North. This new dormitory will increase the student population by about 10 percent over the course of the next five years. The total Ursinus population would be around 1700 students.

In addition, there are several other campus construction plans, President Strassburger said. Starting later in the month, major renovations to Bomberger will begin.

"Bomberger is the oldest building on campus and it doesn't have air-conditioning and it doesn't have handicap access. So since we have to put those in there we thought we'd do it right and do the whole thing. So that does mean we'll be moving everybody out of Bomberger for the spring semester."

The other major construction project will be the renovation of Wismer. These renovations will include increasing Zack's size and eliminating the cumbersome circular hallways that go all around the basement of Wismer. Also on the docket in Wismer is a complete reconstruction of the main dining hall which will take place over two summers. It will allow more people to fit comfortably, while spreading out the food service stations in order to eliminate lines.

Students seemed to greet the master plan warmly and look forward to seeing the completed projects, even if much of the current student population will have already graduated before they are all finished.



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News

Ovarian Cancer Walk

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The Ovarian Cancer Awareness Walk, held in memory of Dr. Michele McLennan, took place on Saturday, Oct. 29, on the track.

The fundraiser was dedicated to Professor McLennan, who courageously battled ovarian cancer and promoted awareness of the condition until her death from the disease on Oct. 10 of this year. The walk, organized by seniors Shannon Myers and Kate Feighery, raised \$1701, \$1000 to be donated to the Michele McLennan Scholarship Fund and the remaining \$701 to the National Coalition for Ovarian Cancer.

Students, colleagues, friends and family of Dr. McLennan, an Associate Professor in the Business and Economics Department, attended the walk, including her husband Keith, her two daughters and her brother and his family.

Keith McLennan talked of his appreciation for the efforts the college has made in memory of his wife. "The Ursinus community has been fantastic in support of Michele, both when she was living and after her death, by sponsoring these events," McLennan said.

He said he and all his family appreciated these efforts so much more because of how much Michele loved Ursinus.

After all, he added, she spent most of her waking moments at Ursinus.

The mood was light on the brisk Saturday, with sounds of the rugby game in the background and children's laughter echoing off Ritter. Leapfrog races were organized for all the children present, and Keith McLennan videotaped the children as they laughed and leaped their way breathlessly down the track.

"We had a lot of fun, and we raised money!" said Megan Connell, 13, Dr. McLennan's niece.

Seniors Shannon Myers and Kate Feighery wanted to bring the issue of ovarian cancer to light on Ursinus College campus. "We got the idea," Myers said, "from Dr. McLennan. We were having dinner at her house this summer, and she told us how this summer she was participating in a walk for the same cause."

Myers and Feighery, psychology and sociology majors, respectively, worked with Dr. McLennan this summer while doing research about education in Philadelphia schools. They were inspired by her dedication to support fundraising for ovarian cancer and wanted Ursinus to be aware about ovarian cancer as well.

Keith McLennan and his family were truly touched by the gesture. "It's just great to see that her selfless commitment to others is being reciprocated by people being here," McLennan said.

EQ vs. IQ: Hirsh-Pasek on education

CINDY RITTER

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"The only thing that interferes with my learning is my education" - Albert Einstein

Dr. Kathy Hirsh-Pasek's talk about her new popular press book: *Einstein Never Used Flashcards: How Our Children Really Learn and Why They Need to Play More and Memorize Less* was met with an overwhelming amount of support and approbation from the audience last Friday, Oct. 28, at noon in Pfahler Auditorium.

Dr. Hirsh-Pasek gave her engaging power-point presentation in front of a packed house of about a hundred people Friday afternoon, and her speech kept the audience constantly laughing with the cartoon voices she used to talk like a child when telling anecdotal stories to make her points.

Dr. Hirsh-Pasek compared fact learning, where accountability in a child is emphasized through testing (which is the premise behind the Bush administration's No Child Left Behind program), to meaningful learning, where creativity in a child is stressed through playing. While learning facts is important to a child's education, she believes children should become life-long learners and creative problem solvers. In response to current practice, Dr. Hirsh-Pasek believes that well-meaning adults are misled by exaggerated science, social forces, and marketing ploys.

"Learning works best in meaningful contexts," according to Dr. Hirsh-Pasek, so she discussed the three main points that will help others to understand and overcome misconceived notions about the best ways children learn.

First, while early education is important, how you learn is as important as what you learn. Secondly, she thinks that a child's EQ (their emotional intelligence which they learn from adults and playing) is as important as their

IQ. Finally, each of us has to play a role in helping children become life-long learners, and what we need to do is make sure learning is at the children's level, is meaningful and playful, and is addressing their emotional concerns.

For Ursinus senior psychology major, Susan Buttigieg, this talk was a reality check. "Everyone is getting so caught up with buying their babies these computer games and fancy toys, when all they really need is to have human contact," she noted. "One example that really stuck out for me was a child playing with a ball - he was bouncing a ball on the computer screen rather than playing outside with a real ball."

In order to be better humans, Dr. Hirsh-Pasek believes there needs to be a movement to alter the way we teach children. This change will be slow and take time, but she noted that "it takes a village to raise a child," which is a call to both adults and college students to realize that changes should be made for the betterment of future children.

"Reading to your kids and playing with them will activate the same neural pathways the same amount if not more than when playing computer games," stated Buttigieg. "It will benefit their health, and will increase their language skills and verbal comprehension."

Dr. Hirsh-Pasek is currently a professor in the psychology department at Temple University where she also serves as the Director of the Infant Language Laboratory. She is an internationally respected scholar in the fields of human development, language development and infancy, and her ideas have appeared in *Parent's Magazine* and *Newsweek*. She has also appeared on national radio and television, including *NPR*, *Good Morning America* and *20/20* and is currently working with Cartoon Network to create a new television program for children called *Tickle You*. Professor Hirsh-Pasek has published five books, written over 80 professional articles, given over 60 lectures around the world, and has helped start groups that seek to improve the lives of children.

The National Coalition is a program that organizes walks to raise money and also accepts donations from other people and small programs to fund ovarian cancer research, Myers explained.

The American Cancer Society estimates that there will be about 22,220 new cases of ovarian cancer in this country in 2005. About 16,210 women will die of the disease. Ovarian cancer is the seventh most common cancer (other than skin cancer) in women and ranks fourth as the cause of cancer death in women. Visit the National Ovarian Cancer Coalition at <www.ovarian.org> for more information.

Chikara wrasslin'

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Wha-BAM! Gran Akuma's body smacked the canvas floor of the ring, his fake dreadlocks flying, as Eddie Kingston, an equally muscular man, delivered a devastating body slam. The Chikara wrestlers had arrived.

The wrestlers brought their brand of bawdy, over-the-top wrestling to Ursinus' Helferrich gymnasium on Sunday, Oct. 30. Worlds apart from the sportsmanlike and controlled grappling characteristic of Greco-Roman wrestling, the Mexican-style wrestler's show combined the WWE's hyper-masculine bravado and exaggerated moves with the Three Stooges' slapstick and wacky insults.

Of the event's four matches, the final match best encapsulated the spirit of the entire event. It pitted what appeared to be "the good guys," Chris Hero, Icarus, and Claudio Castagnoli, against the more villainous-looking team of Lance Steel, Shane Storm, and Mike Quackenbush. Team Hero (as they shall heretofore be called) looked like they had just walked out of a Kid Rock video - long, unkempt dirty-blonde hair and bulging muscles. And of course, they all wore spandex.

The villains were a more colorful sort. Lance Steel wore blue spandex from head to toe and variegated plastic armor that hid his face. Shane Storm appeared to be an odd amalgam of a clown and a road construction worker. Mike Quackenbush's costume was rather more orthodox (as orthodox as zany Mexican-style wrestlers' costumes can be, that is), made of yellow and black spandex. But his closely-cropped hair and hilarious name set him apart from the combed blonde boy vibe of Team Hero.

The match began with only Chris Hero and Lance Steel in the ring, but that situation didn't last long. Four, five, or even all six wrestlers were often battling it out in the ring at any given time, body-slaming, clotheslining, and flipping each other.

Not only the wrestlers participated in the match - the crowd joined in as well, providing plenty of *Ohhhhs!* and *Booooo!*, as well as comments like, "Kick him in the face!" and "You are corny!" The wrestlers often yelled right back. Their comments to the crowd were often joined by their physical presence, as they were thrown into the folding chairs around the ring at several points during the match.

Once Mike Quackenbush jumped into the ring in a frenzy and single-handedly clobbered Team Hero, the end was near for Chris, Icarus, and Claudio. Mike, Shane, and Lance triumphed, to the delight of the crowd. Judging by the excitement and satisfaction of the crowd as they left the gym, the Chikara wrestlers made their mark on Ursinus.

“The Many Faces of Muslim Women”

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On Tuesday, October 11, Ursinus’ Women’s Magazine “From the Belly” hosted Planned Parenthood’s San Deep for a presentation on women’s reproductive rights and health called “The Many Faces of Muslim Women.”

About 20 students, professors, and community members attended the lecture; about ¼ were men. From the Belly’s Dina Yarmus opened the evening introducing Planned Parenthood’s Southern New Jersey representative San Deep, and Ursinus senior IR major and speaker Nikkie Tamny. Deep spoke mostly about bettering conditions for women in African countries with large Muslim populations.

Deep works out of Camden to increase support, both financial and otherwise, for Planned Parenthood globally. In the West African nation of Mali, according to Deep, 75% of women are illiterate.

Not surprisingly, 50% of women do not know how to protect themselves from Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs). And, due to lack of funding and technology, in 630 of every 100,000 births, a mother dies – that’s compared to 15 per 100,000 in the U.S. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) provides primitive birthing kits to women in Mali and all across the globe which include a sterile plastic sheet, soap, string, etc. These kits drastically reduce the instance of maternal mortality.

Yet due to US funding cuts for the UNFPA, clinics in Mali lie dormant or provide bare-bones services, and have had to cut back on educational programs. Staff who once drove cars now must ride bicycles in order to provide out-reach services.

The average Malian woman lucky enough to have access to treatment at one of these clinics must bring her own sheets and leave two hours after giving birth due to the high demand for beds. Intravenous bags hang from sticks and neonatal units look scarily primitive by US standards. And those who do not receive care can fall victim to a debilitating and socially embarrassing disease, long gone in the US, called Obstetric Fistula.

So why has the US cut funding for the UNFPA? According to Planned Parenthood, the Bush regime will not allow for abortions to occur in US-funded clinics, regardless of the need for the procedure. As these clinics resist, the US makes its statement by cutting funding. Planned Parenthood urges supporters to voice their opinions and encourage the US to stop “[blocking] health providers from delivering services that are paramount to the health and wellness of the world’s most disenfranchised world populations.”

Tamny (who recently completed a study abroad program in Senegal) and Deep both talked about Muslim policy on reproductive issues. Tamny spoke about experience in the classroom with Senegalese women who spoke of the common practice of polygamy. She noted that in studying women’s rights in Africa, one must realize that African urban and rural life is vastly different. In her experience, urban life there is just like life here, “People are up-to-date on gender issues and have access to technology,” said Tamny. Rural people, on the other hand, know very little about birth control, AIDS, etc. Senegalese public policy is largely formed around Muslim doctrine; the Muslim priests who influence government encourage people to practice abstinence or use condoms, and to not have more children than they can provide for, commented Tamny.

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

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 WVU!

- 3-4: Christopher Matsagan
- 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 WVU!

- 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 Gagag 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

Take heed and use your keys

PERCELIA BLIDGE
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It is 3 a.m., and I have just departed from Olin Hall after finishing a paper that drained the life out of me. I inch closer and closer to my Main Street residence. I then take out my key and prepare to unlock the door and, to my surprise, the door is ajar! I think to myself, “Boy...this is kind of dangerous!”

Ladies and gentlemen of Ursinus College, I am not trying to take you back to the old days when parents were always telling you what to do and how to do it...(you are in college now and striving to become independent individuals 24-7.) I write to express a concern that many students have when they find themselves in the same situation that I have found myself in numerous times this time of morning.

We must keep in mind that Ursinus College is open to the entire community, so ensuring our safety is extremely important. The Director of Residence Life, Debbie Nolan, describes the habit of propping doors open as “very risky behavior and a potential safety threat.” She also reported that the Campus Security Act (also known as the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act) was established in 1990 as a way to ensure safety on campuses across the U.S., 4 years after the traumatic rape and murder of a Lehigh University freshman named Jeanne Clery by an intruder who had entered her residence hall through an opened door, gaining access to her quarters, which was also left unlocked for her roommate. This act requires schools to distribute reports to the government on crime both on and around campus for documentation, and also ensures the availability of emergency staff, campus safety officers, as well as safety procedures on campus grounds.

Residence Assistant Brittany Gilbert (class of 2008) reports: “When I go on my rounds, if I see a door open, I close it... you never know what can happen. It is something that we all need to take into consideration.”

My fellow Ursinians, we need to take locking our doors more seriously. Though the Campus Security Act helps to maintain a sense of order and reassurance of safety on campus, the protection of our *own* safety begins with us. This is a serious matter that needs to be handled properly.

Here are 2 easy tips for maintaining safety in your residence hall(s):

1. Instead of leaving the doors open, close them and make sure that your keys are on your person at all times.
2. Close any doors that you see propped open whether they are to your own place of residence or to another.

I hope that all of you have a very safe and productive school year. Work hard, be safe, and always remember one thing: Please take heed and use those keys!

Escape Velocity's *Just the Start* is a great success

ELSA BUDZOWSKI

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Student dance company Escape Velocity's *Just the Start* concert was an amazing thing. Over two nights—October 27 and 28—it featured seven dance numbers featuring Ursinus student dancers in genres from romantic duets to modern epics to odd postmodern pieces. Did I mention that all of these dances were also choreographed by Ursinus students? As if that's not impressive enough, the entire concert was run by students—not only choreography and dance, but also light, sound, and even post-performance clean-up.

"It was one of the hardest things I've done. It was the first time I've ever done something like this; none of us (students) had experience with producing a show before, so I had no clue what I was doing," says senior Fauve Young-Morrison, the president of Escape Velocity and the one charged with the impressive task of pulling it all together. "It was so time consuming and stressful at times, but it was completely worth it. When I saw everything coming together, it was truly exciting, and now that it's over, it feels amazing."

The finished project was, indeed, amazing. One by one, the artistic visions of students came to life on the Kaleidoscope Studio Theater stage: Kelly Lacey and Danielle Langdon's soulful duet, Nathan Dawley's long piece, which included an improvised section, Ramon Clark and Lindsay Rae Rodriguez's homage to the victims of Hurricane Katrina, Sara Campbell's violent post-modern piece, Meghan Maguire's traditional Scottish step dance, George Manalo's energetic hip-hop, and Wynton Rice's exploration of the different sides of women. After each performance, the black box filled with the sounds of the full audience's appreciation.

The appreciation is all the choreographers and dancers received: none of the students involved gained course credit for this performance. "If I'm lucky there was someone sitting out there who thought, 'You know, that piece was unlike anything I'm used to seeing but it was exciting and beautiful. I really liked it.' That would make my job worthwhile," says choreographer Campbell. That kind of enthusiasm is what keeps not only the dance department but all of the arts at Ursinus alive.

"I can't believe we actually did it and pulled it off," says Young-Morrison. "It's an awesome feeling to know that as students, we did this by ourselves, and we can do it again, and next semester, it'll be even better." Remember, this semester's show was *Just the Start*.

New Oktoberfest policies put into effect

KAREN GUARDIANI

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New policies and student cooperation made Oktoberfest a huge success this year, much to the delight and relief of the administration and the members of the USGA executive board.

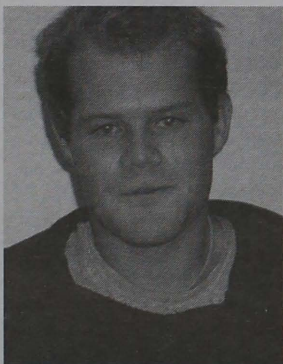
Traces of last year's debacle were nowhere to be found as students flowed into the Reimert Courtyard on the Friday of homecoming weekend. The staff of the event successfully enforced the no alcohol policy and students were compliant with the new rules that were set as a result of many problems that arose last year. The plastic fencing kept anything from being thrown from the balconies and the Resident Life Staff reported no problems.

A total of four bands performed about 30 minute long sets that included mostly original music. Between sets students were entertained with various presentations including a fashion show and the presentation of all the members of the homecoming court. The complaints students had, if any, were that the event was not long enough. Dean Deb Nolan had nothing but positive feedback for the students present at the USGA meeting last Wednesday.

"It was an awesome event," said Nolan. "There was no beer outside or bottles being thrown. You guys did a really phenomenal job."

The event set a precedent for future courtyard events and it ensured that the Oktoberfest tradition will be carried on in the following years, as long as the same policies apply. The members of the USGA executive board went to great lengths to ensure that the event would take place in Reimert Courtyard and they took full responsibility for anything that would happen. They are elated that their hard work has paid off and that there was complete student cooperation to allow everything to run smoothly.

The Collegeville Top Five



MATT DAVIS

MARK DAVIS (not pictured)
The Outside World

Collegeville Top Five Places To Go decided by us.

Collegeville is a good place to go to college; after all, the town is named after our presence. There are many places to go that are totally sweet:

1. Speck's chicken. This place is adjacent to Adult World, which is another great place to be, but it doesn't compare to Speck's chicken. We've been to chicken places all around the globe, including chubby fried chicken in Mongolia. This place is up there with the best. I ordered the crispiest gourmet chicken breasts that melted in my mouth, not in my hand like KFC.

2. The Highest landfill ever, called Moyer's Landfill. If you follow Arcola road and travel down about 2 miles, you will find yourself at the largest landfill you ever smelt. This place was an old chemical dump for laboratories. For forty years until 1981, East Coast industries decided to dump unknown chemicals right here in Collegeville. PCB's have been

found in surrounding streams, so don't eat the fish. It is a super fun site that is highly funded by the EPA in order to keep it clean. Who knows what could be buried in there? It smells good, though. We climbed Collegeville's Mount Everest to see a terrific view of Collegeville like we've never seen before. You can even see the Physical Plant's tower.

3. Wendy's. Did anyone see that ad on TV with the new burger with the mushrooms

and cheese smothered between those buns? It's such a good burger that you can hypnotize your parents by flashing one in front of their eyes. Can you say cheeseburger pleaseburger?

4. Cigar shop. This place is dope. Assorted blunt wraps that you can choose from. There are cigars on all walls. Each cigar has a distinct aroma, and the clerk is very knowledgeable. He got 100 on my cigar clerk certification quiz. He's so good he even ID'd me, even though I definitely look over eighteen.

5. Well, we kinda lied. We couldn't find 5 places.

Now, for the places that you shouldn't go.

1. Police station. I hear they do weird things at this place. Beware. The police drop you off in front of Wismer and Olin in the cruiser if you get arrested, and you don't want that to happen, do you? Students usually get caught while walking towards Wawa at night, and Main Street signs are the common denominator in all these crimes. **WHATEVER YOU DO, DO NOT MESS WITH THEIR SIGNS.**

2. Radio Shack. We walked in and they were talking down to us like we didn't know what a radio was.

3. ATMs. They are vampires sucking green blood from our veins.

4. McDonald's. It competes with Wendy's and Specks. Too bad they have a monopoly on the Monopoly game, because that game rocks.

Sorry for the lame article. We used the oldest trick in the article book. In the newspaper industry, top five lists are known as the "going through the motions article."

Popping the Pill



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

Sex causes plenty of anxiety. We worry about the time, place, setting, and whether or not our roommate will be busy that evening. On top of all these valid concerns, practicing safe sex reigns as the most important matter; however, what makes the concept difficult is that each individual has his or

her own way of protecting themselves and their partner. The birth control pill, a form of Hormonal contraception, is a popular form of reversible birth control that is available through prescription only and has a high rate of effectiveness. However, no form of contraception is right for everyone, and this article will help you and your partner decide whether or not the pill is for you.

Birth control pills, or oral contraceptives, combine hormones (estrogen and progestin) to prevent ovulation and thicken cervical mucus. Both methods prevent pregnancy by disallowing the sperm to reach the egg. In some cases, a progestin-only pill method may be prescribed to women unable to use combination methods. These "mini-pills" are also highly effective and work by thickening cervical mucus, but are less effective in preventing ovulation.

However, it is important to understand that the thickening of cervical mucus alone is an effective way of preventing pregnancy (Planned Parenthood).

Both forms of hormonal oral contraception are purchased in packs containing 28 pills. In combination pills, 21 pills contain hormones and are taken during the first three weeks, while seven pills are inactive placebos that serve as a reminder and are usually taken during a woman's menstruation. Some packs now contain only 21 pills, and the only difference is that women using that method simply wait eight days after the pack is completed to start another pack instead of taking reminder pills. In progestin-only packs, there are 28 pills, each active and containing a hormone. During the fourth week of use in progestin-only methods is also when a woman usually gets her period (Planned Parenthood).

One of the most important things to remember is that one pill has to be taken once a day every day for the pill to be effective. The pill should be taken at same time every day and missing pills significantly decreases effectiveness. If you're using oral contraception and you miss a pill, consult your informational packet to determine what you need to do next.

Certain medications also decrease the effectiveness of oral contraception. It is therefore important to be truthful with your medical professional about the medications you are taking to ensure that there is no conflict. Some anti-HIV protease inhibitors, anti-seizure medications, oral anti-fungals, and the antibiotic Rifampin are believed to decrease the pill's effectiveness (Planned Parenthood). St. John's Wort is also believed to interfere with the pill, and it is important to discuss all medications and supplements (including vitamins) with the professional who is prescribing the pill.

Not everyone can take the pill due to possible serious side effects. Blood clots and high blood pressure are rare side effects that are increased by age and SMOKING. In very rare cases, jaundice, gallstones, and liver tumors have also developed. If you have a history of any of these conditions or conditions associated with diabetes, history of stroke or heart attack, or have an abnormal growth, your medical professional may decide the pill is not for you.

Other conditions may also cause the professional to keep you off the pill; however, in its stead, progestin-only pills can sometimes be prescribed. More common and much less severe side effects include breast tenderness, nausea, headache, moodiness, bleeding between periods (or "spotting"), and in cases of combination pills, weight fluctuation (Planned Parenthood).

The pill is also associated with some positive side effects, such as less cramping, lighter and more regular periods, decrease in acne, a reduced risk of certain cancers and osteoporosis, less anemia, and less vaginal dryness (Planned Parenthood).

You can receive birth control counseling both at the Wellness Center and Planned Parenthood that will help you and your partner decide if "popping the pill" is right for you.

The Grizzly staff wishes to retract the headline for this column, which ran Oct. 13. The correct headline should have read, "Genital Warts: The Facts." The Grizzly regrets any confusion or discomfort the revised headline caused. Thank you.

RHA brings Halloween fun to Ursinus

SARAH KECK
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Halloween came early for almost 200 local children and families last Wednesday night as the Ursinus College Residence Hall Association (RHA) hosted its annual decorating contest and trick-or-treating.

Starting early last week, residents began decorating their halls and houses. Rains that had frequented the area at the beginning of the week held off as a panel of faculty judges, including Karin Sconzert, Gabrielle Principe, Steve Larson, Ed Gildea and Domenick Scudera, made rounds on Wednesday night from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

While the judging was going on, local children were able to test out their Halloween costumes a few days early, trick-or-treating through the decorated halls and houses. The RHA executive board and senators were stationed throughout campus, directing trick-or-treaters to ensure they visited everything.

"Over the past two years, the Halloween Decorating Contest has developed into an event not just for the campus community, but also the outside community," said RHA President, Kate Conner. "I think it's important that Ursinus can show their interest for the greater community, because we're all a part of it." The executive board estimated that between 150 and 200 children and families came through campus that night. By the end of the night, most residence halls were left with no candy remaining, but children were slowly leaving with smiles on their faces. "It's great that we can interact with the kids and families in this small town atmosphere," said Conner.

The participating residence halls were broken up into three areas—Main Street, BWC/North and BPS. Due to the number of participating Main Street Houses, first and second place prizes were awarded. Elliot took first place and Zwingli took second. Curtis Three took the victory for BWC/North and Paisley Three was the champion for BPS. Other participating halls included Hobson, Duryea, Musser, Olevian, Wicks, 777 Main (Wellness), Brodbeck/Wilkinson Three, Richter One, North Basement, Paisley/Stauffer One and Paisley Two.

"Altogether it was a great event with a great turnout," said Conner.

Stay tuned for RHA's next event, the annual Wing-Bowl, a wing-eating contest, which will take place on November 6th at 6 p.m. in Wismer Lower Lounge.

Greek Corner

The sisters of Sigma Sigma Sigma will be holding their Open House/Shiproom Rush in Wismer Lower Lounge at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 3 and SigmaWood in Reimert Lounge at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 9.

The right to write right

JULIET EMAS
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A couple weeks ago, professors gathered at a faculty meeting to vote on making English 100 no longer mandatory; as a replacement there will be an optional English 108 class for any incoming Ursinus College students. While the vote was asked to be tabled until a later date the request was voted down and a vote took place with not every faculty member voting. This is problematic since this proposal would affect all professors and majors because students may not be coming into classes with certain basic writing skills including knowledge of editing, grammar, and constructing a paper. Stranger still, Ursinus College prides itself on being a community based campus, yet I do not recall any notice that went out asking students how they felt about the proposal. It aggravates me that I was not included in a decision that I could directly relate to. The English department may be over loaded teaching this course, but eliminating the course as a requirement is not the solution.

Stop and think about your English 100

class. Maybe you had a great teacher who taught you about dangling participles and run on sentences, and you saw the writing world through new eyes. Maybe you learned how to better construct, strengthen, and develop an introduction, body, conclusion, thesis, and theme. Some of you may have sat there miserable because you could not write or because you felt you were taking your high school English class all over again. Had you taken advantage of this class, you would have practiced and perfected your writing skills. This class for me was about coming to terms with my spelling and grammatical problems, two things I continue to struggle with but am actively working on; two things that would be much worse today if I had not taken English 100. I enjoyed my class and professor, but I know not everyone can say they same. I have to wonder, however, with an optional basic English class how many of us would have taken the class, even if we knew our writing needed work? I find it hard to believe that many non-English majors would opt to take an introductory English class as an elective.

It can be argued that various majors require a different style of writing; one pro-

posal has been to have departmental writing classes. However, not all departments have professors who are qualified to teach writing classes. When you boil it down, the basic principles of writing are the same even though the styles are different. I am not saying that majors should not have a writing course that teaches style, but having a stylistic class is different from having a basic writing skills class.

Every student is coming from a different English background. Many students come out of high school without solid backgrounds in English. English 100 levels the playing field by giving students the chance to take a writing intensive class for college students. Maybe the solution is not making the class totally optional, but having students pass a placement test similar to the language placement test. If a student receives a certain score on the test the student would place out of the class. However, if the score was too low, the class would have to be taken. If students do not need to take the class, where is the incentive? As a reason to take this optional class, for most people, better writing just is not going to cut it.

Raising rates for Resident Assistants

LINDSAY GIVENS
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Call them party poopers or unsung heroes. The never-ending duties of an Ursinus Residence Assistant often go overlooked by peers and are underappreciated financially.

Ursinus RAs receive just over \$4,000 per year in compensation, a low figure compared to colleges in the Centennial Conference with similar size, tuition, and boarding fees. While most colleges offer their RAs free room and board as well as a small stipend, Ursinus RAs are not exempt from room and board fees. Instead, they receive paychecks of \$250 every two weeks.

"For all the work we do and frustration we put up with, we should at least get free room and board," said Tommy Herrmann, a junior RA.

Rival Gettysburg College offers their RAs free room and board as well as a \$200 stipend per semester totaling nearly \$6,600 in compensation. RAs at comparable Dickinson College are demanding a raise in their salary which closely resembles that of Ursinus at \$4,450.

Natalie Vadas, a junior and first year RA, expressed slight frustration concerning her salary.

"I feel we should be better compensated considering all the time we put in," said Vadas. "Being an R.A. is a 24/7 job. I might only be on duty for a few hours, but I must always be available should a problem arise."

In addition to dealing with inevitable roommate conflicts and the aftermath of drunks, RAs must attend seminars, organize house projects, and return early from both summer and Christmas breaks.

Ursinus Junior Blaine McEvoy, a second year RA, is not banking on a pay raise.

"Sure I would like room and board or a stipend that equals room and board, but I also realize that Ursinus is in the midst of major renovations and construction," stated McEvoy. "A raise just seems unlikely."

Despite questionable paychecks, both Vadas and Herrmann expressed the non-monetary rewards of being an RA.

"I value the bonds I've made through RAing above the paychecks," stated Herrmann.

Just remember, next time you are running amuck down Main Street, help pay your fellow RAs. Pay them a bit of respect.

Putting the P back in the GOP

What is up, home-persons? This week, we will detail *ad nauseam* a proposal we have been cooking up for quite some time; namely, how the Republican Party can appeal to today's urban, hip-hop youth. *Let it be a White House in name only!*

Let us "keep it real" – the administration's current plan is just not getting results. For those of you not in the know, the current plan entails enlisting the entire urban generation in the armed forces and shipping them to Iraq where (they hope) they will be left and never vote for the Democratic ticket ever again.

That was insensitive and we apologize. You may wish call us traitors now (Why not? Ann Coulter's doing it!) and comment on our apparent non-existent Support for Our Troops. Well, our 250 "Support Our Troops" bumper magnets beg to differ with you, good sir! Nothing shows our patriotism more clearly than our willingness to buy smarmy knickknacks in the hopes that this shallow capitalistic exercise will somehow allow for the killing of more Iraqi insurgents than American troops. Because, after all, if more of their guys are killed than ours, we win, right? That is the first rule of war! (Source: Sun Tzu). Once again, insensitive and we apologize.

I think we were talking about making the GOP more urban or something stupid like that.

Our first suggestion for Republicans is to start small. For example, start calling it the "War on Terrah." Dropping the *r*'s is very "in" right now.

Next, start thinking of titles that will reflect your newfound interest in urban culture. Get rid of boring labels like "Vice President," "Secretary of Defense," and "FEMA Director" and replace them with things like "Ma Top Dawgg," "MCD-Rum," and "DJ 'Disaster-control-for-the-entire-nation-was-in-the-hands-of-a-man-whose-only-qualification-was-training-expletive-deleted-horses-how-for-the-love-of-all-things-holy-

does-this-happen-in-a-civilized-country-have-we-elected-a-government-of-neanderthals?'"

Sorry, kids! The majah playahs at CJD seem to have a gotten a bit carried away. Let us give them a second to regain their composure, ok?

Right then. GOP. Hip-hop generation. We are focused now.

Bring back John Ashcroft for a remix session of his sweeping epic "Let The Eagle Soar." Add some *phat* beats, pump up the

base, and make sure that in the music video there is a plethora of ample-bosomed and scantily clad eagles soaring all over this great land. Be sure to mention that "J. Ash" Supports Our Troops somewhere in the liner notes.

Also, get X-hibit to pimp out Air Force One. Then again, that thing is pretty pimped out as it is. Maybe just add some nice rims on the landing gear.

I also suggest reverse-racial profiling on all Secret Service recruits. Only black men with goatees who weigh over 300 pounds should be allowed in. The one exception to this rule is slim, bikini-wearing women of all nationalities. Deck them out in an assortment of "bling" until they look like diamond-studded Christmas trees. Make sure they form a protective circle around the "Bossman" at all times, so as to both protect him from assassins and heighten his street cred.

Embracing hip-hop culture does not oblige you to hire any more minorities aside from these minor changes in security personnel. Hell, you have already got your token Secretary of State (Homegirl in Charge of Keepin' It Real Ovah Seas). The rest of your government is free to remain whiter than an Idaho County Fair.

We hope the government takes this proposal into serious consideration. If they have any questions, they can find us in the storm cellar, having stiff drinks. And crying.



MATT FLYNTZ
DAN SERGEANT
Communism for Dummies

The horrors of fame: Letters to a columnist

Dear Chris, (cleaned up for spelling and grammatical errors)

I really like your column. Really really really. You're such a good friend. I really liked the one about the undercover cop who had to become a surfer to arrest a gang of burglars dressed as dead presidents. How do you come up with that stuff? Whoa, I don't know why I'm writing this. Isn't it cool? I'm so wasted. Anyone ever tell you look like Gary Busey? No? What happened to your hat? I loved that hat. But not as much as I love you, man. Can I call you man? I hope I don't mail this.



CHRISTOPHER CURLEY
The 7 1/2 Floor

Sincerely,

Lonely Ursinus Student Housemate

Well, LUSH, I see your predicament. First, stop getting high and watching Point Break – that movie is bad enough sober. Then, learn moderation: stop at the 24th shot of cheap, half-grain alcohol, or at least when you hear the sirens, instead of trying to pound down one more “for the road.”

Next, follow these instructions: Carefully crack one whole raw egg into a glass (don't break the yolk!), add a dash of Worcestershire sauce, a table-spoon of tomato juice, a pinch of salt and pepper, and two fine dashes of vinegar. Consume (don't break the yolk!). You can thank me later.

Dear Chris,

How do you write such infamous swill? Such utter piffle? I've lost sleep trying to glean how you and your ego fit in the same bed at night.

My ego and I sleep head-to-toe, except when we row. Then it takes the living room couch.

Dear Chris,

I've heard that you write letters to yourself just to feel like somebody actually reads your column each week. No one ever uses that email address on the bottom of the page, you just make it up, don't you? Don't you? What little self-respect you must have. God you must be lonely.

Your Own Understudy

My self-respect is sleeping on the couch with my ego. And yes, I am lonely. Thanks a lot, YOU. It's probably why I talk to myself.

Dear Chris,

This is your hat, checking in. Glad to hear people are still inquiring after me. Your most popular column, I see. Ha! I was the magic, you know. Boo-yah.

Anyway, I appreciated the eulogy. You were a fine, if mediocre owner. After I was left on the street that day I was picked up by a west philly drug dealer, then given as a gift to the middle-man in a prominent Northeastern syndicate. After a careful hand-washing, I was perfumed and presented to Don Ameche (not his real name), and we flew to Prague to deal coke and make some small arms deals. It's been a blast, and amongst all the bodyguards, I feel more secure than ever before. Do you know they drink Crystal? And what polished skulls! Tomorrow we do Amsterdam.

Take Care,

Holland Air Travel

Come back!

Chris Curley is blind in one eye and can't see out of the other. Unread mail to: chcurley@ursinus.edu

The global gag rule and FGM

ASHLEY HIGGINS
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On President Bush's first day in office in January of 2001, he reinstated a Regan policy called “the global gag rule.” This legislature banned US aid from going to countries that practice abortion.

American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) Director Laura W. Murphy stated, “It is unfortunate that the House has allowed President Bush to export an undemocratic policy he would be prohibited from imposing within the borders of the United States.”

As Rep. Nita M. Lowey (D-NY) put it: “It's not about abortion. It's about us imposing on others laws we wouldn't impose on ourselves.”

The re-institution of the global gag rule has caused many clinics in African countries, Kenya as an example, to close down because of a lack of funding. These clinics, in addition to abortion counseling, provided women with HIV/AIDS testing, cervical cancer treatment, malaria testing, pap smears, and other gynecological services. In poor countries such as Kenya, these clinics were already few and far between, but at least five have closed due to the global gag rule. In some cases, this leads women, particularly in rural regions, to perform abortions upon themselves, leaving

Kenyan women dead in even greater numbers.

Though feminists and activists have already deemed the global gag rule a violation of human rights, there is an added consequence to the global gag rule. Typically, the countries now not receiving aid from the US due to certain family planning practices are also countries that practice female genital mutilation (FGM) as another form of family planning. This savage practice involves the barbaric (and non-anesthetized) cutting or removal of all of a portion of the female sex organs for cultural, non-medical, reasons.

There are four types of FGM: (1) clitoridectomy- the removal of part or all of the clitoris, (2) excision- the most common form of FGM which entails the removal of the clitoris and part or all of the labia minora, (3) infibulation- removal of the external genitalia and stitching of the vaginal opening, leaving a small opening the diameter of a pencil, and (4) any miscellaneous practice involving the pricking, piercing, stretching, burning, scraping, or cutting of the clitoris and/or labia.

Short-term complications with FGM include pain and hemorrhaging, with a severe likelihood for local and systemic infections. There are documented reports of abscesses,

ulcers, septicemia, tetanus, and gangrene. Long-term complications include urine retention and obstruction of menstrual flow, which can cause infertility. This practice is administered usually outside of a hospital on a young girl between the ages of 4 and 12. An estimated 130 million women have been subjected to FGM, with 2 million more each year.

Though President Bush has spoken out against FGM with typical incendiary War-on-Terror fervor, the global gag rule stands in the way of progress. FGM is a practice backed by hundreds of years of tradition in certain cultures. Stopping FGM in these countries seems unlikely without serious action. Bush's global gag rule propagates this barbarism in addition to depriving millions of poor women from basic medical services.

Harriet Miers: the aftermath

MATT FLYNTZ
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Many followers of Harriet Miers' Supreme Court nomination (including me) felt that it was cruel for Bush to keep her nomination alive. We felt that every day that passed was another blow to a successful lawyer's career. I think Ms. Miers realized this fact when she withdrew her nomination, even though she said that she thought the nomination process presented a burden for the White House, not for herself.

Let's face it; her image went from "great corporate lawyer" to "idiotic Bush crony" in just a few weeks. It is clear that when political nerds like me hear the name "Harriet Miers" five years from now, we will chuckle, but will anyone else remember her? Will her career actually be as scarred as I thought?

Probably not. I don't remember things that were in the news only a few months ago. The BTK killer? I forgot his name already. The general public will completely forget about Harriet Miers in a few months, but her legacy will live on in academia.

For instance, does the name Douglas Ginsburg mean anything to you? Ginsburg (no relation to current Associate Justice, Ruth Bader Ginsburg) was forced to withdraw his nomination to the Supreme Court because of controversy over his admission of past marijuana use. Granted, I'm sure the media hooplah back then ("then" being 1987) was nothing like it is now, but Ginsburg seems to have escaped unscathed. He

maintained his post as a Court of Appeals Judge for the Washington D.C. circuit, and was actually appointed Chief Judge of that circuit in 2001. If Ginsburg can be viewed as a precedent, Miers should be fine, career-wise.

However, the point still remains that Miers joins the very small club (35 members, total) of failed Supreme Court nominees. She can now claim that she is the first woman nominee to the Supreme Court to have failed. But despite these facts, I now think her career will be relatively untarnished, for nothing that came out in the pre-hearing media frenzy makes her seem like a bad lawyer. Other than accepting President Bush's nomination, she did nothing wrong throughout the process. She was herself, but unfortunately for her, she is not Supreme Court material. And for that embarrassment, I think the blame has to be placed on Bush. After all, it is his duty to pick the best "man, woman, or minority" for the job, as Sen. Trent Lott put it.

Bush knew that Miers was not the best person for the job. I, as a liberal, often criticize Bush's stupidity, but I have enough faith in him to believe that he realized Miers wasn't the best. I think he chose Miers as a "stealth candidate." Stealth candidates are nominees who are chosen because they will hopefully cause little controversy and thus get through Senate hearings easily. Clinton's nominees, Ruth Bader

Ginsburg and Stephen Breyer, could be considered stealth nominees, as could John Roberts. However, Bush miscalculated and did not realize that he would have to please his conservative base for the stealth tactic to work. The conservative Republicans wanted someone who could cause at least some controversy, or at least someone they could really get behind. Miers filled neither of these roles.

Although the Democrats are the minority in both houses of Congress, the American public has spoken in the form of polls which show that 47% of Americans would rather see a Democrat-controlled Congress as opposed to only 40% of Americans wanting to retain the Republican-controlled Congress. The Democrats have received what might be called a mandate from the American people; since there are no national elections on Nov. 8, Americans have no other way to show their priorities than through polls.

It's time for Democrats to listen to the people. Americans are unhappy with their Republican leadership, so the Democrats have to step up and show why they would be better. "We aren't them" is not a good enough strategy; we saw that in the 2004 election.

The Democrats have to excite the public while at the same time bashing the Republicans. Just doing the latter will only make people want to vote *against* Republicans, but will not make people want to vote *for* Democrats. In order to win, the Democrats need to do both successfully. We'll unfortunately have to wait until 2006 to see if they can manage.



You snooze, you lose

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When you are a student in college, you have to be responsible enough to get yourself up and ready for class. Those days in high school when our parents used to come into our rooms and make sure we got to classes are all over now.

Here at Ursinus College, attending classes is very important and the school expects every student to feel the same way. Ursinus is committed to the principle that class attendance is an important part of its academic program. To attend classes on a regular basis gives students the advantage of having a close student and professor relationship. At Ursinus, this relationship is the foundation of the educational process.

This year, a new attendance policy has been introduced to Ursinus. Before the change, the attendance policy stated that a student could miss double the amount of time a class met per week before possibly being dismissed from that class. For example, Spanish classes that meet four times a week allow students taking the class to miss up to a total of eight classes. To many, that policy gave the wrong impression about the school's expectations for students' attendance.

The new policy allows teachers to implement an attendance schedule which best fits the needs for their individual classroom curriculum. Dr. Goodman, assistant professor of Media and Communications Studies, stated, "Basically, my

understanding of the new policy is that it was created to allow individual faculty to design an attendance policy that suits the requirements of his/her particular class - specifically, allowing for stricter policies..." Dr. Goodman also feels that students should want to come to her classes because they want to, not because of the threat of policies.

Most professors had their own attendance policy, even when the old one was in effect. Even though the school allowed eight absences from Spanish, some teachers stressed that if you missed more than four, there would be a penalty.

Amber Howard, a student at Ursinus, thinks that the old attendance policy worked better for her. She said, "I don't know much about it, since most of my professors still have their own thing. But I like the old rule better about how ever many times a week you have the class times two just seems so much more reasonable than none, or two per class."

It is in the best interest of the students to attend classes as much as possible so that they will not be denied access to the full measure of a college education. If you are sick, and are not able to make to class, that is fine. For those of you who just skip classes because you had a late night partying on Main Street, you are the one losing out, not the professor.

Have an opinion? Have something to say about the opinions of others? Simply want to be heard? Then, WE WANT YOU! Please send your questions, comments, compliments, and complaints to the Opinions Editor at heturnbach@ursinus.edu.

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Title hopes still alive as Ursinus upsets #16 Johns Hopkins

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In order for the Bears football team to accomplish their season long goal of Centennial Conference Champions, they needed to win four games in four weeks. That's a lot to ask for a team that started the season 2-4. This is no ordinary 2-4 team, however. The football team was a play or two away in all four of their losses that could easily have made them 6-0. A team like that is one that is the most dangerous to play down the stretch; when a bear is backed into a corner, it becomes very hostile. That is what the Ursinus Bears have done in the past two weeks.

With an emotional Homecoming victory against Gettysburg that snapped their 20 game Centennial Conference losing streak, Ursinus improved their record to 3-4. Next on their list was a trip down to Baltimore, Maryland to face their toughest opponent of the season.

Johns Hopkins came into Saturday's game with an impressive 7-0 (4-0 Centennial Conference) record. All teams have weaknesses, though. With a chilly breeze in the air and a 16th ranked Blue Jays team that was celebrating Senior Day and possibly their 5th consecutive Centennial Conference Championship, the Bears had to play near-perfect football to take the "W" back home to Collegeville.

Johns Hopkins was the first to score as place kicker Ben Scott booted a 32-yard field goal with 10:26 left in the first quarter to give the Blue Jays an early 3-0 lead. That's all the scoring that would occur until a thrilling second quarter began.

Senior quarterback Vince Gallagher gave the Bears their first lead of the game when he hit Mike Weyrauch across the middle for a 7-3 lead, but that lead would soon be short lived.

On the ensuing kickoff, Johns Hopkins returned the ball 47 yards to the Bears' 32-yardline. The very next play saw quarterback Zack Dilonno hit Anthony Triplin in stride for a touchdown and a 10-7 Johns Hopkins lead.

Johns Hopkins was able to increase their

lead to 17-7 when running back T.J. Lyons scampered 19 yards for what would be Johns Hopkins final score of the game. Meanwhile, the Bears used an impressive 59-yard drive with 2:29 left in the half to cut Johns Hopkins lead to 17-14 when Gallagher hit Justin Zeigler in the back of the end zone for a 12-yard touchdown reception.

The second half saw a defensive battle take place and neither team was able to muster any real scoring threats until late in the third quarter. The Bears drove down the field and finished the Blue Jays off for good when Gallagher hit Josh Hannum for a 32-yard touchdown reception on the first play of the fourth quarter.

From then on the Bears' offense tried to play keep away as they ran as much clock out as possible, while their swarming defense prevented Johns Hopkins from putting any more points on the board.

The Blue Jays would see their final opportunity and any chance of winning the game come to an end when they roughed Bears'

kicker James Sproule, giving Ursinus an automatic first down.

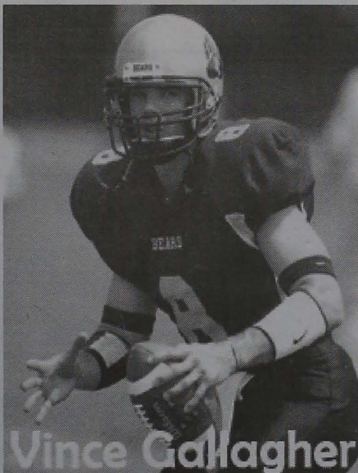
As the clock winded down to zero and the final score was announced, the Bears' team emerged from the sidelines and celebrated in grand fashion.

The best thing about this down-but-not-out football team is that they know the job is only half done. They know they need two more wins in the next two weeks to stake their claim as Centennial Conference Champions, with a little help from McDaniel.

Vince Gallagher finished the day with 247 yards passing and three touchdowns. His performance earned him Centennial Conference Player of the Week honors for the second straight week.

Freshmen DeVohn Butler led the way for the Bears' defense with a season and career high 11 tackles, including 2.5 sacks.

Ursinus continues its incredible run at the Centennial Conference Title this Saturday on Senior Day against Franklin & Marshall. Game time is at 1 p.m.



Bears beat Blue Jays, look to defend conference crown

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On Saturday morning, eighteen women rolled out of bed to realize that later that day they could be perfect in the Centennial Conference. The Ursinus field hockey team took a bus to Baltimore, Maryland to face Johns Hopkins in the final regular season game.

The Bears came into the game ranked second in the nation and have secured the #1 seed in the conference championship tournament. The tournament will be hosted by Ursinus College. While this game wouldn't change these standings, what would end a season better than going 10-0 in the conference and rolling that momentum into the tournament?

The Bears would take the Blue Jay field fresh after a huge football victory, and strive to finish the job killing two birds' teams in one day.

After a slow start, Ursinus lashed out late in the first half as Molly Stevens would stuff the ball right into the birds nest at 25:30. Ashley Ettinger would be credited with the assist tallying her 22nd point of the season (tied for third on team). Just two minutes later, the Blue Jays managed to flutter a shot in the net to tie the game at 1-1.

With the first half winding down, Ursinus got a little help from freshman Jenni Moore. Jenny would accept the penalty corner assist from Karen Wendler. This was Moore's seventh goal in her rookie year and the eventual game winner. The Bears took the lead at the half 2-1.

After the intermission, the Bears started to play defense, shutting down any possibility of a Hopkins comeback. The weather conditions started to become dark and damp as the winds whipped around the stadium.

The good news is that the Bears won the game after switching their insurance goal to Kait Sutherland. Sutherland would score the last goal of the regular season at 38:04. Ursinus won the game 3-1 and was perfect in the Centennial Conference winning all ten games.

This was the Bears' first test on the road to the Championship. Winning all ten games in the conference doesn't win you the championship just yet.

The Centennial Conference Championship Tournament will begin this Saturday here at Ursinus College. The final seedings are as followed: #1 Ursinus, #2 Gettysburg, #3 McDaniel, #4 Johns Hopkins, and #5 Franklin & Marshall.

To recap the season, the field hockey team

was simply outstanding. Posting a record of 16-2, they had two losses which were against Division I West Chester University, and the 11th ranked Middlebury (a game that took place in Vermont). Proving to be the cardiac-kids once again, the Bears' squad was 3-for-3 in overtime games.

Former conference player of the week this season, Karen Wendler describes the team's mood. She says, "We are confident going into the tournament and we have to make sure we play our game

to be successful. Any team can come in and win this weekend. Playing at home just helps us play our game and get the right bounces on the turf."

Come out and sneak a peak at the potential dynasty that is building here at Ursinus. The Bears will play either F&M (W, 2-1) or Johns Hopkins (W, 3-1) this Saturday afternoon. Game time is yet to be determined.



Field Hockey SEASON RESULTS

West Chester -L, 1-4
 Misericordia-W, 6-0
 Messiah-W, 3-2 (OT)
 Dickinson* -W, 10-0
 T.C. of New Jersey-W, 1-0
 Washington*-W, 6-1
 Franklin & Marshall*-W, 2-1
 McDaniel*- W, 4-3 (OT)
 Lebanon Valley- W, 3-1
 Haverford*-W, 7-1
 Swarthmore*- W, 4-1
 Middlebury- L, 1-2
 Rensselaer (RPI) -W, 2-1
 Muhlenberg*-W, 3-0
 Gettysburg*-W, 4-0
 Rowan- W, 5-4 (OT)
 Bryn Mawr*- W, 5-0
 Johns Hopkins*- W, 3-1
 * = Conference Games

Southside Sox end 88 years of suffering with sweep

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The Chicago White Sox offered up a victory that belonged to generations of dedicated fans. The four game series against the Houston Astros excited Chicago fans into a frenzy of celebration on Wednesday night. It all started when the White Sox defeated the Angels to win the American League Championship, while the Astros defeated the Cardinals winning the National League Championship. The Sox and Astros then faced each other in the best of 7 World Series Championship.

On October 21, 2005, the game was played in Chicago in the cold and rain. Roger Clemens pitched for the Astros, but was pulled out after the second inning because of a strained left hamstring. The Astros managed to tie it up in the third inning, however they weren't able to hold off the White Sox and ended up losing the franchise's first World Series game 5-3.

Joe Crede supplied the winning run with a homer, and made key defensive plays to assist in Chicago's Game one win. Considering the way the 2005 regular season went for the Houston Astros, they weren't exactly traumatized after their first loss to Chicago. After being shut out 17 times in 2005, this sort of lost opportunity is not shocking.

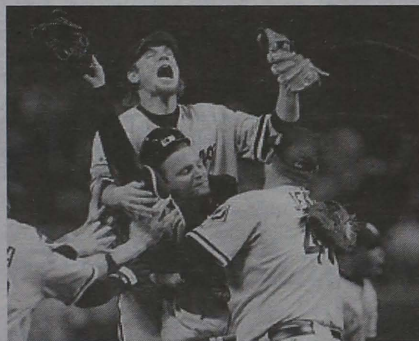
Sunday's game put the White Sox up two games to none. The Astros managed to hold the lead 4-2 for six innings. However, in the seventh inning Paul Konerko clubbed a grand slam to temporarily put the Sox in the lead 6-4. The Astros managed to tie it up in the top of the ninth with Jose Vizcaino's pinch-hit, two-run single. Subsequently, Scott Podsednik had his first homerun in the World Series giving the White Sox a walk-off victory with a final score of 7-6.

The teams headed to Houston on October 24, 2005, to play a three-game series. Houston's backs are now up against the wall to get hold of a victory. They have to sweep the Sox away, winning all three games in Houston in order to stay alive. Tuesday's game started out rough bring-

ing some controversy regarding the stadium set-up. The Astros played a majority of their regular series games with the roof on the stadium closed, so naturally the team insisted the same should apply to the World Series games. The MLB commissioner, however, announced four hours before Tuesday's game that the roof will stay open for the events.

This change seemed to have affected the Astros performance. The longest World Series game in the history of baseball ended after five hours and 41 minutes. After 14 innings the White Sox finally stepped ahead of the Astros winning the competition 7-5. This was the Sox seventh straight postseason victory and the seventh straight for the American League in the World Series; all over National League Central opponents.

Jason Lane of the Astros put forth a superb effort homering in the fourth and tying it up in the eighth with an RBI double. Geoff Blum, however, was the true hero for the White Sox Tuesday night. During his first World Series at bat he hammered a homerun off the



Astros' closer Ezequiel Astacio, finally breaking the 5-5 tie. After this victory, the Sox are starting at a shut-down championship leading the series three games to none.

The game on October 26, 2005, was a true delight for the Sox. The White Sox plated only one run, on Jermaine Dye's eighth-inning single, but that was good enough. Freddy Garcia hurled seven shutout innings as Chicago pulled off the 1-0 victory. Brandon Backe was remarkable in Game 4, keeping the Astros' spirits alive by throwing seven scoreless innings, but Houston couldn't supply anything offensively.

Repeating the Boston Red Sox sweep last year in the World Series, the White Sox defeated the Houston Astros four games to none. Only 18 other teams have ever swept during the baseball World Series. The last time the White Sox won this very competition was in 1917; the year John Kennedy was born and Woodrow Wilson was president, 88 years ago!

Bearly Reminder

Saturday November 5th

**Centennial Conference Playoffs
First Round**

Field Hockey vs. Johns Hopkins/F&M - TBA

**EST. 1869
Senior Day**

Football vs. Franklin & Marshall - 1 p.m.

Grizzly Sports Report

October 27th - 31st

Field Hockey at Johns Hopkins W - 3-1

Football at Johns Hopkins W - 21-17

Men's Soccer at Muhlenberg L - 1-3

Women's Soccer at Muhlenberg W 1-0 (2OT)

Volleyball at Johns Hopkins L - 0-3

**XC Centennial Conference Championships
at Johns Hopkins
Men - 9th Women - 9th**