



3-2-2006

The Grizzly, March 2, 2006

Ali Wagner

Bart Brooks

Dan Lamson

Sarah Keck

Allison Emery

See next page for additional authors

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.ursinus.edu/grizzlynews>



Part of the [Cultural History Commons](#), [Higher Education Commons](#), [Liberal Studies Commons](#), [Social History Commons](#), and the [United States History Commons](#)

[Click here to let us know how access to this document benefits you.](#)

Authors

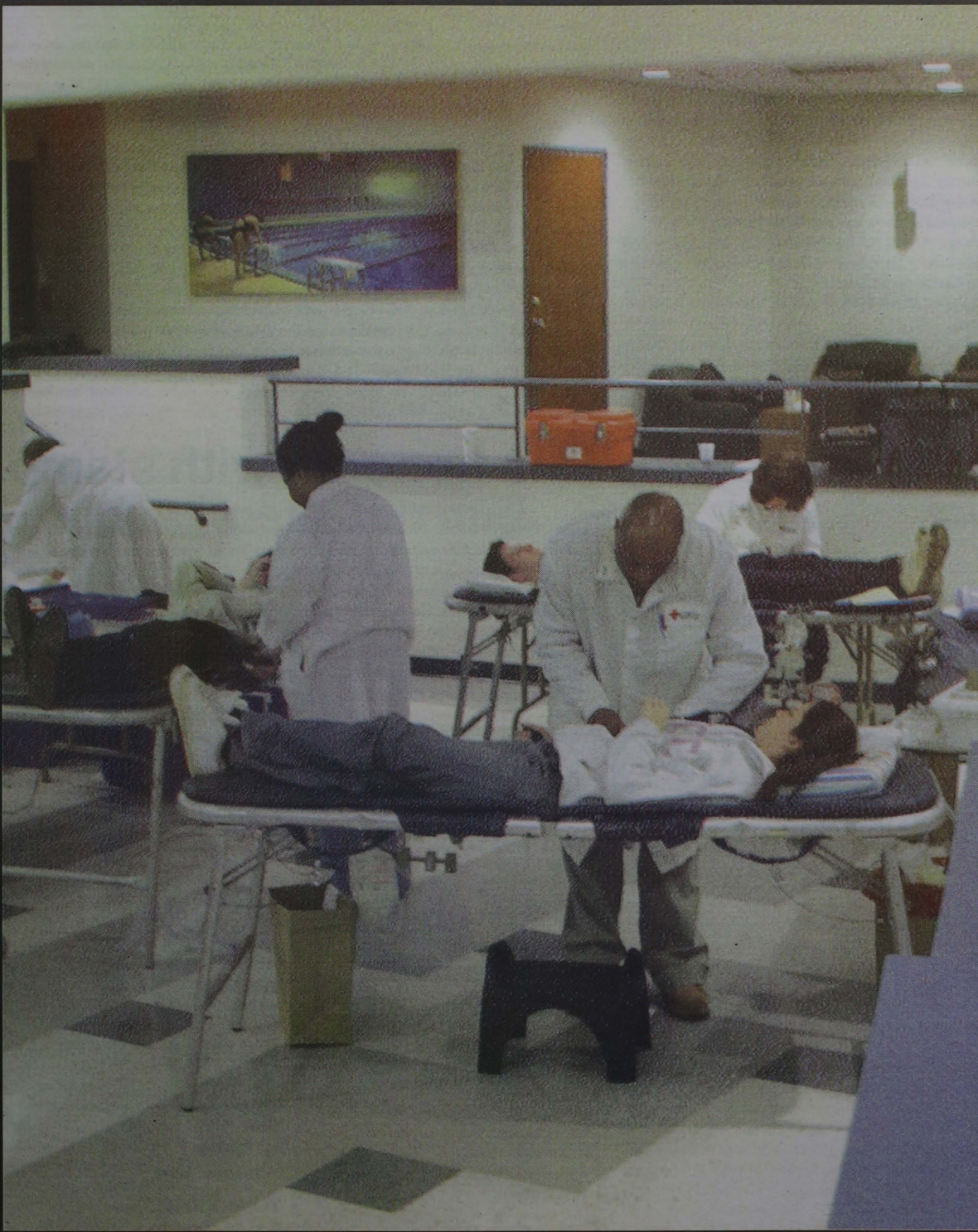
Ali Wagner, Bart Brooks, Dan Lamson, Sarah Keck, Allison Emery, Kirsten Schuck, Lane Taylor, Katie Perkins, Katy Diana, Marlena M. McMahon-Purk, Alex Ernst, Julia Black, Jay Repko, Danielle Langdon, and Michael Graham

the grizzly

thursday, march 2, 2006

the student newspaper of ursinus college

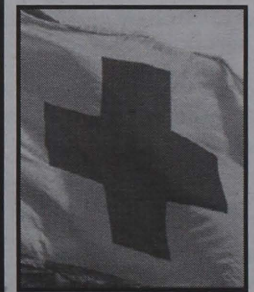
inside



Sigma Gamma Rho alumna honored **news, 2**



Katy Diana tackles stereotypes **features, 5**



Homophobia, AIDS, the Red Cross **opinions, 6**



Supplemental dependence **sports, 8**

Blood drive in Wismer Lower Lounge

collegeville, pa

volume 30 issue 19

Omega Chi hosts Red Cross blood drive

DAN LAMSON

dalamson@ursinus.edu

The biannual blood drive drained students across campus last week as the sisters of Omega Chi aided the American Red Cross in its ongoing efforts. For the last several years, Omega Chi has been working with the Red Cross to help curb the massive shortages of blood that seem to plague this area.

Kate Bradley headed this year's blood drive, and she is no stranger to community service, as she has served as Community Service Chair of her sorority for the last two years. The sisterhood is often involved in charitable works; in addition to the blood drive, a group of sisters is preparing to participate in the Relay for Life in March.

"I didn't realize until last semester, when I ran my first drive by myself, just how important these drives are," she said. "Our region suffers from serious shortages on a regular basis. Drives like this one are vital to our region."

Last semester's event happened to be Ursinus's best to date. According to the Bradley, more than 100 pints were collected.

"The response from the Ursinus community was so great that the Red Cross had to increase our goals and send out more staff to ensure that wait time would not be the factor that it has been in the past," she explained.

Though a good number of students turned out for last week's drive, attendance was

not as high as the previous event because of a number of factors. This semester, 87 pints were collected from 107 volunteers.

"This semester's drive was not as successful due to the fact that the drive was scheduled at an inconvenient time on campus," Bradley said. "It's the last week of pledging, so that has an impact on the number of eligible donors and volunteers. Many people chose not to donate on the first day of the drive because the Job Fair was held at the same time as our drive. Added to all of this, February drives are normally low-drawing drives. This is the time of year when people aren't in peak health."

According to the American Red Cross Web site, the organization provides nearly half of the nation's blood supply, collecting more than 6 million units a year from volunteer donors, and gives it to more than 3,000 hospitals across the country, aiding accident victims, cancer patients, and children with blood disorders.

"Without the Red Cross, many more people would die from blood loss, and the world would be a darker place," said one volunteer at the recent blood drive. The Red Cross has issued urgent national appeals for blood donations in the past. The country's blood inventory levels often drop well below what is considered to be a safe and adequate supply. To help meet the needs of hospitals across the nation, the organization strongly encourages anyone who is eligible to give blood to donate as often as they can.

As always, the Red Cross is in Ursinus' debt because of the generosity of its students. And if you missed this blood drive, Omega Chi will be there with another next semester.

Alumna of Sigma Gamma Rho honored with stamp

SARAH KECK

sakeck@ursinus.edu

The late Hattie McDaniel was recently honored by the Postal Service in their long-running Black Heritage stamp series. This stamp highlights the achievements of McDaniel, the first African-American to ever win an Oscar.

The stamp, revealed nationwide on Jan. 26, was released around the same time people all over the United States, including faculty, students and staff on the Ursinus College campus, were preparing to celebrate Black History Month. Black History Month, inspired by Harvard scholar Carter G. Woodson, has been celebrated throughout the month of February since 1926.

Hattie McDaniel was born in Wichita, Kan., to former slave and Baptist preacher Henry McDaniel. Her mother, Susan Holbert, was singer of religious music. Perhaps inspired by her mother's career of entertaining, McDaniel discovered a love for performing early in her life, and dropped out of school when she was young to tour with Vaudeville. McDaniel officially entered the industry in 1932, appearing in her first motion picture. Throughout her 22 year career, she was known for her consistent portrayal of maids, because there weren't many other roles available to African American women at the time. She didn't dwell on this, however: "Why should I complain about making \$7,000 a week playing a maid?" McDaniel was known for saying. "If I didn't, I'd be making \$7 a week being one."

In 1939, it was her role as a maid that won her an Academy Award; she was awarded Best Supporting Actress for her depiction of Mammy in *Gone with the Wind*. In the late 1940s, McDaniel became the first African-American radio star with her comedy series, *Beulah*. In 1951, this program became a television series. McDaniel eventually died at the age of 57. She now holds two stars on the Hollywood walk of fame.

McDaniel is also recognized as a prominent member of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc, a national organization which is represented on the Ursinus College campus. Founded in 1922, Sigma Gamma Rho follows the motto "greater service, greater progress." It is involved with the National Education Fund, Project Reassurance, Mqanamugimu Essay

Contest, Project Africare, Project Wee Savers, Operation Big Book Bag, Sigma Public Education and Research Foundation (SPEAR), Sigma Youth Symposium, National Marrow Donor Program and Cancer Awareness Program.

Ursinus junior DiAndra Thompson is president of the college's chapter, Pi Chi. She represents the Northeast Region of the organization. According to Thompson, her chapter has taken part in many events on campus that are representative of the ideals of the national organization including collecting donations for the Sickle Cell Anemia Walk, Operation Big Book Bag, Cancer Awareness programs and appreciation days for workers and women.

The release of this stamp marks the end of month, during which members of the Ursinus College community joined the country and celebrated Black History Month. Events took place all month that included movies, lectures and more.

For more information about Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc, please e-mail DiAndra Thompson, President of Pi Chi Chapter, at dithompson@ursinus.edu.



the grizzly

the student newspaper of ursinus college

volume 30 issue 19
grizzly@ursinus.edu

EDITORIAL BOARD		COPY
<p>Ali Wagner Bart Brooks</p> <p>Marlena McMahon-Purk Cecily Macconchie Heather Turnbach Dave Marcheskie Matt Pastor</p> <p>PHOTOGRAPHY Ivy McDaniels</p>	<p>Editors-in-Chief</p> <p>News Editor Features Editor Opinions Editor Sports Editors</p> <p>Photo Editor</p>	<p>Matt Krowlikowski Kerri Landis Cindy Ritter Klaus Yoder</p> <p>ADVISOR Dr. Rebecca Jaroff</p> <p>TO ADVERTISE: Jan Cohen, Business Manager E-mail: grizzly@ursinus.edu Phone: 610-409-2488 Ursinus College-The Grizzly P.O. Box 8000 Collegeville, PA 19426</p>

Georgetown professor speaks about abortion

ALLISON EMERY

alemery@ursinus.edu

A senior research scholar from the Kennedy Institute of Ethics shared her views on the abortion debate last Wednesday, Feb. 22, in Olin Auditorium, in a free lecture entitled "Intimate Duties: Re-Thinking Abortion." It was open to members of the campus and community.

"If we orient to the center of our theorizing the idea that gestation is a profound intimacy, in which one life, whatever its status, is living in and through another life, then it looks like we've got something complex and nuanced, which in my opinion deserves to be reevaluated," said Margaret Little, Associate Professor of philosophy at Georgetown University.

Little opened her discussion by presenting the two polarized sides of the abortion debate. The legal status of the fetus in the womb is generally the basis of each side. On the conservative side, early human life, from the moment of conception, is regarded as having the same status and equal rights as any human being, Little explained. Conversely, she describes the liberal side which removes emotion from the decision, regarding early human life as tissue and an abortion as no different than getting a haircut.

Little proposed a reexamination into these two choices offered to Americans by politicians and the media. Foremost, she suggests the two choices for the status of the fetus are limiting and that most Americans really believe something in between the restrictive labels of "Pro-Choice" and "Pro-Life."

"Those who struggle with it personally are marked by ambivalence, questions, and tension, wondering what an adequate framework would really look like that does justice to the nuance and difficulty of abortion," Little said.

If politicians and the media moved away from the status of the fetus as a central

issue, Little believes most people would fall somewhere in the middle of the two extremes, enabling a more productive abortion debate in America.

Using the idea of gradual increase in value and varying degrees of respect for early human life, Little proposed several other factors to consider in reevaluating the abortion debate. She described the way early human life develops inside a woman's body, using a woman's resources as its only means of survival.

"When a woman is pregnant, the fetus, through the placenta, is changing every single body function she has. It's not just localized in the womb," Little explained. She went on to clarify that while this use of resources can be an amazing and intimate experience when desired, it can be equally oppressive and intrusive when it is unwanted, similar to a consensual sexual experience versus a rape.

Considering that the responsibility of creation has two key elements according to Little, which are often used on opposing sides of the debate. Conservatively, the responsibility of creation involves a woman taking the accountability to carry and care for the life created by a sexual relationship. On the other side, responsibility of creation can mean a woman consciously choosing not to bring a child into the world because she feels unable to accept motherhood or because of environmental factors, such as poverty or abuse, which may negatively affect a child.

Finally, Little explained that emotion is too often removed from the abortion debate, as it should be considered in deciding personal opinions. While the emotions of guilt and regret often associated with abortion are used on the conservative side to argue the moral wrong of abortion, Little explained her view that these emotions may be present even when a wrong has not necessarily occurred, particularly due to the taboo abortion has accrued in American society.

An especially active question-and-answer session following Little's lecture was cut short before all the audience's questions and comments were offered. While Little admitted her own bias was evident in her lecture, she hoped that people would take the time to reevaluate their own opinions on abortion rather than simply looking to one singular factor or political affiliation.

Little, who has done graduate work in philosophy at Oxford, Princeton, and Berkeley, is currently finishing her book, along with Brad Hooker, titled "Intimate Duties: Re-Thinking Abortion, the Law and Morality."

Ursinus hosts Job and Internship Fair

KIRSTEN SCHUCK

kischuck@ursinus.edu

On Wednesday, Feb. 22, 2006, from 12:30-3:00 p.m., Helfferich Gymnasium was transformed into the home of the 2006 Ursinus College Job and Internship Fair. The Job and Internship Fair was sponsored by Career Services and offered an opportunity for Ursinus students to meet with employers from companies both large and small. It also featured many third party employers—companies who hire employees for employment in larger companies. Many students attended the fair with hopes of finding a job after graduation or an internship to supplement their college education.

This year, the fair hosted 57 eager employers, including well-known names such as Merck Research Laboratories, Nationwide Insurance, Comcast, and Six Flags Great Adventure. The employers were personable and had helpful tips and insight to share with UC students. If you attended the fair, you may have noticed the red, black, and gold tassels hanging from the name tags of some of the employers. These tassels were given to employers who were Ursinus alumni. This year there were about 15-20 employers who returned as UC alumni, coming from as far as a camp for girls in Northeastern PA and as close as companies such as Vanguard and Merck. Donna Faulker, Scientific Recruiting manager from Joule Scientific shared this sentiment, saying, "Ursinus students are well-prepared and eager to establish themselves in industry."

The enthusiasm of the students was shown very clearly as resumes were handed out, business cards were exchanged, and lots of free goodies collected in the bags students were given upon entering the gym. The positive feedback came in from the students' end as well. Junior biology major Rami Farag said, "Since I'm a bio major, I talked to most of the scientific research companies. Good companies, very friendly and open to lots of questions, that's for sure!" The Job and Internship Fair is a great way for students to make amazing job connections and hand out their finely-tuned resumes without ever having to leave campus. It is also a great way for companies to recruit plenty of excited and interested students all in one place. Some employers were so eager to hire that interviews were set up during the fair.

Jen Huber's final comment on the fair was that, "Overall, employers and students were happy. Meaningful connections were made. The Job Fair gives opportunities to make an impression in person... and to stand out in the crowd with the employer." If you didn't get a chance to check this fair out, there are a few more opportunities to meet some employers. Ursinus Career Services has worked in collaboration with a few other schools to put together a non-profit job fair for local students at St. Joseph's University on April 2, 2006. All Ursinus students are encouraged to attend.

career corner What are you doing this summer?

Summer may seem like the distant future, but the semester ends in just 10 weeks. As you know, during summer break, many Ursinus students participate in an internship that will earn them college credit, introduce them to experienced professionals in their chosen career fields, and give them the experience they need to be competitive in today's job market. What you may not know is that many students who participate in outstanding internships submit their applications a significant amount of time before the end of the semester.

If you're determined to be one who impresses your classmates next fall with stories of the people you met, the exciting experiences you had and the interesting career options you've learned about, then keep reading.

If you would like to broaden your horizons through an internship this summer, here are some recommendations for success:

1. Utilize the Career Services Web site and meet with Jen Huber, Internship Coordinator, for resources to help you find and obtain an internship.
2. Prepare a résumé.
3. Identify internships of interest.
4. Apply to more than one internship.
5. Pay close attention to application requirements.
6. After you have sent your application, always follow up.
7. Prepare for interviews by knowing yourself and researching the employer thoroughly.
8. Send thank-you notes to those who helped you in your search.
9. Carefully choose an internship from those offered to you.
10. Finally, remove yourself from consideration with other organizations to which you have applied once you accept an offer.

The Career Services Web site (www.ursinus.edu/career) includes all of the information that you need to navigate the internship process from start to finish. Begin your search today by exploring the hundreds of opportunities listed on UC CareerNet, or any of the many resources listed on our Web site.

Introducing the IUD



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

Not many people know about all the possibilities regarding birth control. We are bombarded with ads for condoms and birth-control pills on a daily basis, but that is hardly the whole story. Women and men have other contraceptive options that they can consider when deciding to become sexually active, but are rarely taught about these choices. How can we gain this knowledge? Let us take comfort in a cliché – “Seek and ye shall find.” Or rather on this particular occasion, I have both sought and found for my fellow curious college students, which brings me to the topic of this week’s article – the IUD.

According to Planned Parenthood, the IUD, or Intrauterine device, is a small apparatus that is t-shaped and composed of plastic. The IUD is a method of prescription birth control that is inserted into the uterus by a medical practitioner. Currently, two forms of the IUD are available: one containing copper and another

containing the hormone progestin (found in most birth-control pills).

Like birth-control pills, the copper IUD prevents fertilization; however, in this method fertilization is prevented by altering the motility of sperm. The IUD containing progestin also affects sperm motility, but also prevents fertilization through thickening the cervical mucus that prevents the sperm from entering the uterus, and in some women, it also prevents ovulation.

The IUD is highly effective. With perfect use of this device, less than one out of 100 women will become pregnant. In regards to normal use, less than one or one out of 100 women will become pregnant. These efficiency rates are higher than those of oral contraceptives are, and make the IUD one of the most effective forms of birth control available. Because of this paramount effectiveness, the IUD is also occasionally used as emergency contraception, and is 99.9 percent effective in preventing pregnancy if it is placed in the uterus up to five days after unprotected sex (Planned Parenthood).

The copper IUD, or ParaGard, can remain in the uterus as a means of contraception for twelve years, and the progestin IUD, or Mirena, can remain effective for up to five years in the uterus. However, the IUD can be removed at anytime by a medical practitioner at the will of the woman, or if any complications occur.

One complication that can occur during IUD use is expulsion, which is non-life-threatening and occurs when the IUD partially or completely slips out of the uterus. This happens more frequently in young women who have never given birth. To determine if the IUD is in place, women are able to insert a clean finger into the vagina to reach the cervix where the end of the string should be protruding. If the string is longer or shorter than usual or absent, this may mean it is out of place.

Another potential complication is perforation, which is extremely rare and describes what occurs if the IUD penetrates the uterine wall. This is often surprisingly painless and discovered quickly because this most often occurs during insertion. If the problem is not immediately discovered it can cause the IUD to move around the pelvic region and possibly damage internal organs.

Another rare complication is pelvic infection, which can occur when bacteria is introduced into the uterus during insertion. It most often occurs when a woman is exposed to an STI such as Chlamydia or gonorrhea, and usually develops three weeks after the IUD is inserted (Planned Parenthood).

Temporary side effects associated with the IUD are spotting between periods, menstrual flow changes, and in the copper I.U.D., a significantly heavier menstrual flow that could possibly cause anemia. If you or your partner develop any abnormal symptoms aside from those listed here, contact a medical professional as soon as possible.

However, there are also benefits to using the IUD, such as decreased cramping and menstrual flow that is associated with Mirena. A lack of harmful side effects or health risks that are normally associated with hormonal birth control is a benefit of using Paragard. Women who are unable to use oral contraceptives are often able to use the copper IUD (Planned Parenthood).

To decide if the IUD is right for you or your partner, our Wellness Center offers birth control counseling and gynecological exams. The local Planned Parenthood also offers these services and operates on a sliding payment scale. Planned Parenthood considers the IUD to be “the most inexpensive long-term reversible method of contraception available in the world,” in spite of its \$175-500 cost (including insertion and examination), because of its effectiveness for five to twelve-years.

After an extensive afternoon of research and writing, it is my pleasure to introduce the IUD to Ursinus College as a potential alternative, a possibility, and an option.

Centre Pompidou: Modern Art

KATIE PERKINS
kaperkins@ursinus.edu

There is so much classical art in the Louvre, Musée d’Orsay, and basically every other museum and cathedral in Paris that everything starts to look the same after a while. However, for a breath of fresh air, there is the Centre Pompidou with modern art expositions. But from the outside, the Centre Pompidou doesn’t seem like the kind of museum you would see in Paris: what should be inside the building is on the outside. Huh?

The pipes, the escalators, the elevators, everything that would normally be tucked away and hidden from the public inside are out in the open at Pompidou. It’s the first thing you see, and it’s the only thing you see when approaching the structure. And the colors. The colors are the most surprising of all. The stairs are bright silver with accents of deep red and high-lighter yellow. But they colors don’t stop there.

When you get inside, bright neon lights and signs with colors of reds, greens, blues, yellows, and pinks direct visitors in the direction of the expositions. The biggest and most popular at the moment is Big Bang. It came to Pompidou mid-June 2005 and ends the beginning of March of this year.

For the first time ever, Pompidou is showing their art collections not chronologically, but rather thematically: Destruction, Construction/Deconstruction, Archaism, Sex, War, Subversion, Melancholy, and Re-enchantment. All of the art, which includes paintings, sculptures, photography, film, literature, architecture, and design, are from the begin-

ning of the 20th century to the present.

It would be impossible to tell you about every single room that I saw, but I will try and highlight some of the pieces that I found particularly exciting. Also, forgive me if I do not remember the names of the pieces, I’ll try my hardest to describe the pieces so that you could Google them and see what I’m talking about.

One of the first rooms had a statue of the torso of a young man dressed in a velour suit with a tan turtle neck underneath. He has no legs, but he is “seated” on a platform. His face is made of metal and on his forehead there is a small dent. Two inches from this dent in his forehead is a silver bell. Every five minutes, this torso will lunge forward and the forehead hits the bell. I was not fortunate enough to see this; both times I heard the bell I was looking at something else. But from the laughter I heard, others were enjoying this spectacle.

Some of the side rooms that could be better described as dead-end hallways had parts of literature blown up and placed on the wall. The literature was in French, and lucky for me I’ve been taking French since I was 11 years old so I could understand what the phrases were saying, but for my friends who had never taken French before, they didn’t get as much out of it as I had. The books from which the literature was taken were below the phrases and open to the page where it could be found. Unfortunately I don’t remember the titles of the books, but the phrases in French were almost poetic.

The most controversial and interesting art were from the Sex theme. For example, there were two statues, a man and a woman, completely nude and lifelike. They were the

same size as some of the people in the museum, so at first glance I was somewhat frightened that two visitors had just removed their clothing for fun. I was happy to find that that was not the case. The woman was up against the wall looking away from the man, while the man looked as though he was trying to pressure the woman into doing something she was apprehensive about. In the pamphlet of the exposition, it is noted that the statues (called *Le Couple* by John De Andrea, 1971) were said to be the “first Biblical couple, a pathetic incarnation of Adam and Eve who have never known Paradise.”

An example of one of the films that was being shown was called *The Horse Impersonator*. In this short film, a woman with short hair is standing in a field, dressed in a tunic down to her ankles and is prancing around neighing and making galloping movements with her hands and feet. This woman at times seemed a somewhat possessed by a greater force that was making her neigh and act like a horse. The entire film was blue and grey so it had a kind of *The Ring* feeling to it. It was so bizarre that I took a video of the video so that I would always remember it.

Clearly I can’t fully describe everything that I saw because it would take an entire Grizzly paper describing everything it all. If anyone was moved by the few items that I could describe and would like to see more of what I saw, the pictures that I took will be on the web address: <http://community.webshots.com/user/blondeswimmer104>.

Although I wouldn’t say that I love modern art, I have definitely found some interesting pieces that I really like and I have a better appreciation for them.

Until next time!

grizzly@ursinus.edu

Breaking Stereotypes



KATY DIANA

kadiana@ursinus.edu

have little effect on my actions and I do not take them seriously.

But, I am sometimes called another stereotype that is somewhat debilitating – a “tree hugger” or environmentalist, or the latest word used to describe environmentalists, crunchy.” As an article in University of Connecticut’s *The Daily Campus* described, “Think granola-eating tree huggers.” As ridiculous as it sounds, people actually say this, and some environmentalists embrace it. To me, the meaning is so far removed from what actual environmentalists believe in, that I find it ridiculous.

When most people think of tree huggers they probably think of hippies, who were also marginally known for their production of whole foods in co-ops including granola (hence “crunchy”). Some people – now this is strange – view tree hugging literally, and associate it with arborphilia (you do not want to know). But how many people have heard of the Chipko Movement in India that actually inspired this term? According to Pojman’s *Environmental Ethics*, in the mid-1970s, villagers in India formed a chain around trees meant for sports equipment to keep them from being cut down. The movement was created and enacted mostly by women, and was also tied to religious beliefs that trees contained spirits that protected their families. Under-

Stereotypes are nasty little buggers. The worst kind are hateful, racist, or sexist, but the majority of them are less nasty and very much a part of our everyday lives. Throughout my life I have been a “nerd” (in both the science-smart and Sci-Fi/RPG sense), a “blonde” (I do have some ditzy tendencies), and a “goody two shoes” (though some good friends here have cured me of that one). Though I am aware of these stereotypes placed on me, they

standing the real story behind “tree hugging” helps steer us away from negative aspects of the stereotype and its connection to drug use, promiscuity, dirtiness, and laziness that are sometimes associated with the American “hippy” stereotype.

So, what other reasons make being called a tree hugger sting a little more than a blonde joke? Melanie Murphy says it best in her article in *The Daily Campus*, “Stereotyping corrodes credibility and, in the case of the environmental movement, undermines the intelligence and ability of its members.”

Environmentalists have a tough enough job as it is without being associated with the hippy stereotype and thus considered radical and perhaps even unreliable. Because let’s face it, hardly anyone reading this knows about the Chipko movement. Murphy quotes a Shell Chemical CEO as saying “you can’t have a bunch of hippies running a plant full of explosive hydrocarbons.” Stanford psychologist, Claude Steel, would say this kind of comment is dangerous because stereotypes and the “threat of a negative reaction to social identity” can “impair a person’s ability to flourish.”

This image of having a radical nature and unreliability that are associated with being called a “tree hugger” can be especially harmful when environmentalists try to work with farmers and fishers. Environmentalists often face suspicion and uncooperativeness from these people because our suggestions challenge methods they have been using for centuries. In addition, economic benefit is not always apparent or possible when trying to make an operation such as a farm more sustainable. The best approach here, according to Gerald Haslam’s article in Sierra Club, is to be empathetic with them, listen to them, and fully understand their “financial challenges.”

However, stereotypes are not the only thing that makes an environmental social identity difficult. I have found that by being an environmentalist I can inadvertently make people feel guilty for their anti-environmental actions (i.e. not recycling). Because I am perceived as someone who approves of recycling (and I do), some people may keep themselves in check and go out of their way to recycle just because I am there. Basically, I’m not sure that this is a good thing. Of course, it is ideal that everyone recycle, but doing something out of guilt is not as great as doing something because it empowers you or makes you feel good.

The other thing that happens to environmentalists is that people try to justify their (anti-environmental) choices to you. For example, it has become apparent that many environmental causes, like organic agriculture for instance, make sense for long-term sustainability. People try to combat this common sense, by justifying their less sensible position, often in annoying monologues about which I pretend to care. Sometimes I hear these speeches more than once from the same person!

While I do wish that everyone would support wind power, or organic food, or conserving energy, I do not wish to hear reasons why people don’t – even though they know they should. I suppose this part of the environmentalist social identity is unavoidable. Why? Because we are associated with a set of ethics and you can argue about ethics forever. (At least that’s what I experienced in Environmental Ethics class last semester. Forever.) I am not sure why people perceive us as judges, or why they think we need to hear about individual vendettas against global warming science or whatever else, but it is something worth looking into.

Rumor has it that the best way to fight a stereotype is to embrace it and reclaim the word, which has happened for gays with “queer,” women with “c_t,” etc. But once embraced, “tree hugger” still has to be perceived in society as a concept revisited or somehow changed, and we do not seem to be doing that well. The reality is that each person devoted to environmental causes holds different beliefs and acts in different ways. The stereotypes only act to sort us further into a special interest group, when the environment is connected to everything. (And as Barry Commoner would say “Everything is connected to everything else.”)

Perhaps the problem is not necessarily with stereotypes, but with this lack of a social ecology (for lack of a better term). It seems obvious that we need to start thinking differently about environmental problems and finding new ways to relate to people, before categorizing and stereotyping effects our ability to progress and communicate.

To be continued...

Katy Diana apologizes for the slightly depressing and long column this week. Comments to kadiana@ursinus.edu.

WVOU spotlight: Bloc Party

WVOU

wvou@ursinus.edu

Bloc Party, the band behind the recent release of *Silent Alarm*, was originally called Angel Range or Union. Bloc Party consists of singer/guitarist Kele Okereke, guitarist Russel Lissack, bassist/singer Gordon Moakes, and drummer Matt Tong. Okereke and Lissack organized the band (at the time called Union) after meeting through mutual friends and finding mutual musical tastes as well. After Tong and Moakes joined the group, the band released a demo in 2003 as Union, though later that year they switched their moniker to Bloc Party. Bloc Party drew inspiration from Sonic Youth, Joy Division, Gang of Four and the Cure. While generating buzz from critics and concert-goers, Okereke made the brilliant move of sending their demo to fellow Brit-rockers Franz Ferdinand, who invited them to a gig. Bloc Party released a few tracks on Trash Aesthetics, then Moshi Moshi. Bloc Party switched to Wichita and released a full-length album in the UK. For US distribution, Bloc Party worked with Dim Mak. After a year of recording and touring, Bloc Party

arrived to screaming crowds in the US with the early 2005 release of *Silent Alarm* by Vice Records.

Bloc Party initially followed on the coattails of other popular post-punk acts such as Gang of Four and Joy Division, which can be seen in earlier tracks like “She’s Hearing Voices.” However by the later singles of “Like Eating Glass” and “Price of Gas,” Bloc Party celebrates a freshly-minted template of musical adventurism. That being said, Bloc Party is no party band; they obviously approach their medium quite seriously. Some critics have even claimed the group has reinvented the genre of Rock n’ Roll music. Okereke’s vocals imbue the political with the personal; pensive at times and ecstatically angry elsewhere, all on the far-out soundscape of staccato rhythms.

WVOU, the friendly neighborhood radio station, featured Bloc Party’s *Silent Alarm* in the Album of the Week feature. There is more information about Bloc Party and all the previously featured albums on www.wvouradio.com. Check out the Album of the Week feature, only on WVOU from 4-6 pm on Sundays.

Red Cross guidelines demonstrate questionable requirements

MARLENA MCMAHON-PURK
mamcmahonpurk@ursinus.edu

Homophobia encroaches upon our society in a variety of ways. As Ursinus has just hosted its annual blood drive, it has become apparent that an already existing issue needs to be discussed. An astounding injustice continues to permeate blood drives, due to some questionable rules mandated by the American Red Cross. While there may not be a great amount that the Ursinus community can do to counteract the Red Cross' laws, it is important that the student body, as well as the faculty, is made aware of the situation.

As it stands, the requirements for giving blood to the American Red Cross mandate that "You should not give blood if you have AIDS or have ever had a positive HIV test, or if you have done something that puts you at risk for becoming infected with HIV." This statement makes a great deal of sense, as it puts the safety of the future recipients of blood first, and for just cause. However, the requirements beneath the HIV bullet go on to say that any man who has had any sexual contact whatsoever with another man, "even once," since 1977, is unable to donate blood to the American Red Cross. In the year 2006, can this rule still be justified?

Unfortunately, this is a rule that does not serve its purpose—that is, to protect the general public from disease—as it should. Instead, it is discriminatory against gay men (or men who have sex with men) and actually prevents several healthy, able, possible donors from giving blood to those in need. The assertion that these men should not give blood is obviously a very broad statement, and an unreasonable one at that, for several reasons. First, we must look to the phrase "sexual contact." This phrase en-

compasses numerous means of contact, some of which leave absolutely no way for HIV to be transmitted.

Secondly, this rule reinforces the idea that AIDS is the "gay man's disease" and perpetuates the already existing stigma against them. It implies that being gay puts you at risk for contracting HIV. On the contrary, statistics have shifted a great deal and it has been shown that a much larger percentage of women are afflicted with AIDS. Shall we prevent women from giving blood? In addition, recent statistics show that a disproportionate number of African Americans are threatened by the rates of AIDS. Shall we prevent black people from giving blood? Essentially, this is an outdated law that does not execute what it intends to enforce. It is common knowledge that anyone can contract HIV, regardless of sex, race, or sexual orientation. Furthermore, the resources to detect HIV are so readily available and easy to use that it seems ludicrous that the Red Cross would not accept blood

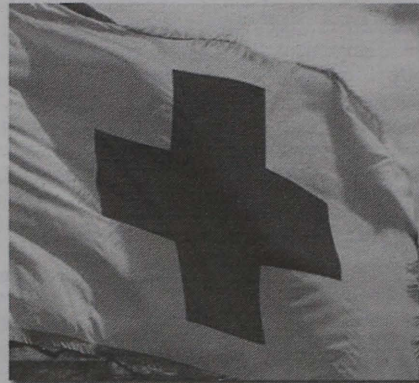
from this group of men.

Apparently, however, these laws are mandated by the FDA and have not been reevaluated since 2000, when there was a 7-6 vote in favor of the laws. Now, although it may seem as if the FDA is solely to blame, the American Red Cross has supported these guidelines and requests their staying in the blood donor guidelines. This is unfortunate, as the Red Cross essentially has a monopoly on blood drives.

Other colleges have raised concern regarding these guidelines as well. For instance, there was a significant controversy regarding the Red Cross coming to the University of Vermont this past year. The University of Maine and the University of New Hampshire are also considering whether or not to allow the Red Cross to host blood drives on their campuses because of this discrimination.

Am I suggesting that Ursinus not allow the Red Cross on campus? No. However, there is no place for discrimination of any kind on a liberal arts campus. If you care

to contribute to the ending of this prejudice, you can write directly to the Red Cross and express your opinion against their eligibility requirements, or to see the eligibility requirements for yourself, you may visit: http://www.redcross.org/services/biomed/0,1082,0_557_00.html. When it comes to serving the public's needs it is clear that the American Red Cross should promote blood donations, rather than creating barricades.



Ted Kennedy makes a new friend

Last Wednesday, the Senate was treated to quite a unique sight. In a classic tale of ugly beast befriends tiny adorable animal of another species, Senator Ted Kennedy, D-MA, brought a fluffy, white kitten with him to deliver his speech to the Senate on the controversial sale of port security to a United Arab Emirates company. "This," he said, pointing to the kitten, "is why we need good security at our ports. This is the American dream, right hee-ah." The kitten then started patting at Senator Kennedy's neck fat and the entire Senate erupted in a resounding "Aww."

"You see, this hee-ah kitten was wandering the streets of Washington's Red Light district when I woke up from a, uhh, nap. This little guy was licking the vomit off my American flag lapel pin: a true patriot!" Another "aww" and a round of applause followed.

"So I picked up this little kitty and said to him 'Ya know what? America needs someone like you.' So, I now propose that we name this kitten Official Mascot of the Senate." Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-TN, called for an immediate vote on the matter and it passed 99-1, with

Senator Rick Santorum, R-PA, who is widely viewed as having no soul providing the only "nay." Senator Frist announced that debate would then open for a name for the new mascot.

"How about George?" suggested Senator George Allen, R-VA. "You know," he said with hesitation, "like George Washington..."

"No way," shouted Senator Barack Obama, D-IL, "the American people might think we're talking about George W. Bush, or you!"

"Well, then, what about Washington?" suggested the ever-pragmatic Senator John McCain, R-AZ.

"That is simply too cliché," replied Senator John Kerry, D-MA.

"What about Dick Clahhk?" belted Senator Kennedy.

"Yes! A true American!" said

Senator Frist. He then called for a vote on the matter, and it passed 99-0, with Senator Santorum having temporarily left to feast on the flesh of children of registered Democrats. Senator Frist then called for a round of applause for this bipartisan effort. "I hope the American people see this and realize that when it comes down to it, we Senators can put

aside our petty differences and come together for the good of the country."

Senator Kennedy called for three cheers for the kitten, Dick Clark, throwing him into the air with each "hip hip hooray." On the third however, Senator Kennedy passed out and the kitten landed on his stomach. He curled up as if on a pillow and went to sleep. The Senate, once again, gave a bipartisan, "Aww."

Senator Santorum returned ten minutes later, still wiping the blood of the innocent from his chin with his tie, to find an empty Senate chamber except for a passed out Ted Kennedy with a kitten high atop his bulbous gut. Upon closer inspection, Santorum realized that Kennedy had the word "PENIS" written on his forehead. To celebrate this apparent victory for conservatives everywhere, Santorum ate Dick Clark whole.

Matt Flyntz and Dan Sergeant are by no means endorsing Democrat Bob Casey, Jr. in his noble battle against the ruthless baby-eater Rick Santorum. We certainly do not want you to register to vote in Pennsylvania and tell your friends to vote for Casey in November. No, we don't roll with the liberal bias. We'll leave that crap to the New York Times. In the meantime, send stuff to us: maflyntz@ursinus.edu and dasergeant@ursinus.edu.



MATT FLYNTZ
DAN SERGEANT
Communism for Dummies

UC's guide to sloppy satire

Note: this article addresses certain published works of Communism for Dummies and the Discontented Collegian. Your regularly scheduled programming will return next week.

"Hey, we need a topic for our column this week. Any ideas?"

"Let's do something topical and hard-hitting. We are a satire spread, after all."

"How about the Bush Administration?"

"No, not again. Too passé."

"Well, how about something to do with campus life that everyone can relate to?"

"Too parochial."

"Hmm."

"I know."

"—What?"

"Hipster kids. You know, the ones who listen to all that 'indie' music, with their blue jeans and long, tousled hair."

"Hippies?"

"And eyeglass and saddle bags."

"Ohh. Hipsters."

"Right."

"So what bands do we pick? Indie means 'independent,' right? Small labels watched by a group of dedicated music-lovers who commune via IM, SoulSeek, and college radio."

"I guess."

"So to make fun of indie kids and their music, we

should pick stuff that these kids listen to. Stuff totally outside of the mainstream."

"How about Modest Mouse and Death Cab for Cutie?"
"Perfect."

"Man, I listened to half of this first track. Should I do more?"

"Nah, you're qualified. What's it like?"

"I dunno, lots of yelps and wild vocals. It's all poppy and outlandish. Not at all like Peter Gabriel."

"Ha ha. That's so right. I miss the conservative sound of *Shock the Monkey*."

"And also, you could definitely make a superficial comparison to the Talking Heads while disregarding any of the album's other possible merits. That's funny, right?"

"Shallow and uninformed is *always* funny."

"You know, we should start our own

newspaper to bring our razor-sharp satire to the world."

"Yeah, we can call it Bolshevik Revolutionaries Exciting a State of Turmoil."

"That doesn't make any sense."

"But it's clever. It spells 'breast,' get it?"



CHRISTOPHER CURLEY
The 7 1/2 Floor

Chris Curley is a firm believer that those who dish it out should be able to take it, too. Mailto: chcurley@ursinus.edu

The Back Row: Swing Kids

ALEX ERNST
alernst@ursinus.edu

Well loyal readers, you are about to witness a *Back Row* first: a movie I *hated*. I know it seems a little radical, but it had to happen eventually. What happens when you take *Newsies*, replace newspaper selling with swing dancing and evil publishers with Nazis? You would probably get something like *Swing Kids* (On a side note, as much as I hate *Newsies*, it comes off as *Citizen Kane* compared to this garbage).

Peter (Robert Sean Miller) and Thomas (Christian Bale) are two swing-dancing obsessed youths rebelling in Nazi Germany where the government has banned said music. After stealing a radio, they are forced to join the Hitler Youths, where they find unexpected acceptance and friendship. But just how far are they willing to go to give up their passion and their friendship?

Normally I would talk about the performances here, but they are all passable for a movie like this and I have bigger fish to fry. As odd as it is to see a very young pre-American *Psychol/Batman Begins* Christian Bale, it is even stranger to see Noah Wyle before his star making turn on "ER" playing the model Hitler Youth soldier.

If Disney ever created a Nazi Germany section of Epcot, it would have to look something like this: clean streets, very few soldiers and an almost complete lack of ethnic cleansing. Ironically enough, Steven Spielberg visited the set while shooting his much more realistic and let's be honest, higher quality Holocaust film *Schindler's List*. One can only wonder what went through his head when he saw the travesty this film makes of one of the worst periods in human history through their efforts to make it heartwarming and family-friendly.

I wish this movie had some redeeming qualities, but I really can't come up with any. The story is cookie-cutter and the metaphors are ham-handed and are beaten over your head. The most egregious example of this is a character that slits his wrists with one of his swing records after he is banned from playing his music in the clubs by the Gestapo. If I ruined the movie for you with this spoiler I am sorry, but you should be thanking me for saving two hours of your life that would have been otherwise lost watching this garbage.

I almost forgot the most ridiculous part of this movie and the final straw that forced me to write this article. If by any chance you still want to see this seething pile of cinematic manure, you may want to skip this last paragraph. Having lost all of his friends (and his dignity for appearing in this flick), Peter desperately rebels against the Gestapo at the local dance club before being arrested and loaded into the back of a truck bound for a work camp. His younger brother witnesses the arrest and runs after the truck, triumphantly shouting out the German swing kids' rallying cry of, get ready for it: *SWING HIEL!* I feel ridiculous just writing that, much less being forced to watch it in what is supposed to be the emotional climax of the movie while trying to maintain a straight face.

If you haven't figured it out by now, I hated this movie. If you plan on avoiding this movie, steer clear of Christian Bale's other big family-movie-in-a-vain-attempt-to-further-his-career *Newsies*. Because everyone loves singing, dancing newspaper boys so much that Hollywood is constantly making movies about them. Oh wait, I mean the exact opposite of that sentence. My bad.

Letter to the Editor:

JULIA BLACK
jublack@ursinus.edu

I read Darron's articles fairly regularly, but I am always a bit frustrated after I read them. I finally decided to voice my opinion after reading last week's article. I feel his articles are extremely one-sided and he victimizes black people. It is my understanding that no one person wants to feel like the victim; and week after week Darron's articles attack (in my opinion) white people and put the blame on them for whatever the topic of his article may be. I understand that racism is still a problem today. Though I myself am not black, I have still felt discriminated for my gender and my religion.

In his recent article, Darron said he had a dream that students will join S.U.N. regardless of their race and not think of it as "that black organization." Earlier this year I invited a black friend of mine to come to a club meeting with me. His response was, "I'm not going to that white person's club." That hurt me. Since when do we pick and choose what we do based on the racial makeup of the group? Darron seems to think that white people want nothing to do with "black people's" clubs and organizations—but it clearly goes both ways. On that same note, I am one of three white people in the gospel choir here. I love gospel choir for the music and the atmosphere, but I have not been accepted yet. Why? If I look at it from Darron's point of view, it *must* be because I'm white. But I continue to go because I enjoy

it so much. Even Darron himself is part of gospel choir; if he cannot see that racism goes both ways, then he is writing his articles in vain.

Don't get me wrong, I admire Darron for his boldness in writing about controversial topics and putting himself out there week after week. He is a good person and I respect him. But I am so frustrated because I feel that when he says "the black people" and "the white people," he is segregating us with his words—he is creating a rift between us that doesn't need to be there. He has the opportunity to unite us through his writing and he is not taking advantage of that. I feel he is creating hostility instead. When black people read his articles they feel white people are unconcerned and ignorant, and when white people read his articles they feel that black people are looking to blame them for issues that are often beyond their control.

I hope I was able to give you a little insight into how many of us who read *The Grizzly* feel.

Thank you,
Julia Black

Sports

Spring swingin'

DANIELLE LANGDON
dalangdon@ursinus.edu

Baseball season is just around the corner and things are already starting to heat up! There has been much discussion regarding the Red Sox left fielder Manny Ramirez. He has yet to arrive for Spring Training camp which has already conducted their first full-squad workout last Thursday. The team has stated that Ramirez is to arrive on Wednesday, the day before the Dominican Republic is due to submit its final 30-man roster for the World Baseball Classic. Rumors have been circulating that Ramirez has opted not to play in this year's Classic. Gene Orza, the chief operating officer of the Major League Baseball Players Association and a key participant in the Classic, did not sound optimistic that Ramirez would be playing left field; he did however, confirm that Ramirez has not *officially* withdrawn from playing for the Dominican Republic. Orza does plan to speak with Ramirez before the Dominican submits its final roster in order to get his final answer.

More gossip in the MLB is circulating around the Mets pitcher Pedro Martinez, who conceded Thursday that he is likely to miss at least the first round of the World Baseball Classic. He has been suffering from an injured right big toe, and so far this spring, has yet to step foot on a mound. March 7, the starting date for the Dominican Republic in Orlando Florida is rapidly approaching, and Martinez just does not feel he'll be at his best for the competition. He does feel like his strength will be regained

by the second round in the Classics. "I would love to be out there," Martinez said. "My people know and understand my heart is with my team and with them. They're not going to want me to be hurt and look bad." The ironic part about this story is most of 34-year old Martinez's second spring with the Mets has revolved around his Nike cleats, which are supposedly built to protect cartilage damage in the toe area. With his unique pitching motion, these cleats were necessary to protect his price-less feet.

Another player in the spotlight is the Washington National's, Alfonso Soriano. No decisions have been made as to whether he is planning to play the outfield rather than left base. He has stated that his mind is open to playing the left field, but other sources have indicated that he has no intention of switching positions. Practices started on Friday and Soriano started working on left base and eventually ventured out into left field to run some drills. Soriano has hinted that playing second base is extremely important to him, but the problem remains that the position ultimately belongs to Jose Vidro. Once Soriano comes back from playing in Orlando with the Dominican on March 3, the team will determine a final decision. Everyone is anxious to see whether the National's will trade Soriano if he does not help the team by making the position switch.

As one can see, there is much to do in the world of Major League Baseball. All we spectators can do is sit back and enjoy the entertainment. Everyone is getting back into the swing of things preparing for the first spring training game, which is only 216 days away!

Houston, we have lift off

MICHAEL GRAHAM
migraham@ursinus.edu

The 2006 All-Star weekend was full of exciting action, as well as historic controversy.

The weekend started off with the T-mobile rookie challenge. In this game, you have the best rookies of the NBA playing against the best second year players of the league. The star watch was on Philadelphia's Andre Iguodala as he put up 24 of his game-high 30 points in the second half. The Sophomores beat the Rookies 106-96. Iguodala earned the game's Most Valuable Player due to his 13 of 17 shooting from the field as well as his six rebounds, four steals, and three assists. For the Sophomores, this is their fourth consecutive year of winning this game. Toronto's Charlie Villanueva and Houston's Luther Head led the Rookies squad with 18 points apiece, while New Orleans/Oklahoma City's and the rookie of the year favorite, Chris

Paul collected eight points, 11 assists, and five steals.

The Radio Shack Shooting Stars challenge was dominated by this year's winner, Team San Antonio. Featuring 2006 All-Star Tony Parker, "Spurs legend" Steve Kerr, and WNBA star Kendra Wecker of the Silver Stars. They finished the course in record time; 25.1 seconds. The highlight for this competition was Parker draining a half court shot on his first attempt to finalize his team's victory. Team San Antonio finished more than 15 seconds ahead of Team Los Angeles.

Miami's Dwyane Wade not only won the 2006 PlayStation Skills Challenge by defeating Cleveland's LeBron James in the final round, but he also completed the obstacle course in 26.1 seconds. This is a new record for the course. 2005 champion Steve Nash of Phoenix and New Orleans/Oklahoma City rookie Chris Paul were eliminated in the first round with times of 52.8 seconds and 42.6.

This year's Dunk contest showed the

Is the juice worth the squeeze?

JAYSON REPKO
jarepko@ursinus.edu

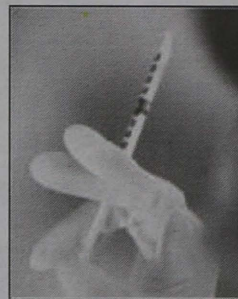
Walk into any GNC or Vitamin World and you are going to see shelves literally overflowing with hundreds of supplements, many of them marketed toward athletes. Many of these supplements are guaranteed to do everything from boost endurance to enhance recovery times. For college athletes across the country, a slight boost in their own athletic performance can be the difference between starting and never stepping foot in the game. Can supplementation with certain products really boost athletic performance?

Many athletes swear by performance enhancers, truly believing that the supplements they put into their body will take them to the next level, a level they believe they would never reach without the help of supplements. Could the benefits of supplement use be psychological? Possibly, but nevertheless the athlete's performance is enhanced.

One of the main drawbacks to supplement use among athletes is the cost of many of the supplements on the market today. For example, GAKIC, a new supplement from Muscle-Tech, designed to increase your strength and endurance in the weight-room or during competition, is 79.99 dollars a bottle for one month's supply. That is the price of only one supplement. Any athlete who would also supplement with creatine and vitamins could be looking at spending

upwards of 200 dollars a month in performance enhancing supplements.

Many nutritionists argue that sports supplements are at best a waste of time and at worst dangerous to the health of athletes. Nutritionist Nancy Clark, M.S., R.D., believes an athlete's time would be better invested in their diet. She commented, "If athletes are eating properly, chances are they'll get everything they need through a varied diet."



With the stress that college student athletes are under there is not always time to eat a perfect meal 4-5 times a day. Supplements such as protein shakes, when used properly, can be a great substitute for meals. Many protein supplements are fortified with extra vitamins and nutrients allowing athletes who are pressed for time a healthy alternative to simply skipping a meal due

to lack of time.

One issue with supplements may be an athlete's inability to draw the line of where to stop with supplements. An athlete who sees significant increase in performance may only look for more products believing that they will increase their performance further with the next big supplement.

What it comes down to is that every athlete is responsible for what they choose to put into their own body. With proper research and trial and error sessions, an athlete will be able to decide whether sports supplements are useful for them.

world that there is more favoritism for the little man. New York's rookie Nate Robinson "out dunked" Philadelphia's Andre Iguodala in a dunk off by a score of 47 to 46 to become the Sprite Rising Stars Slam Dunk champion. Iguodala had a 50 point slam in each round, while the 5-9 Robinson's only 50 point dunk was on a bounce pass from Spud Webb, the 1986 champion and the only other sub-6-foot winner in Slam Dunk history. Iguodala should be this year's champion. He was the most creative and no way do you give the title to a man who needs 14 attempts to complete one dunk.

Dirk Nowitzki's has one of the smoothest outside strokes in the NBA and he took it with him to Houston to win the 2006 Foot Locker Three Point Shootout. The Dallas 7-footer defeated Washington's Gilbert Arenas and Seattle's Ray Allen to take home the victory. Nowitzki finished the final round of play with 18 points, while Arenas amassed 16 and Allen collected 15.

Last years defending champion, Quentin Richardson failed to make it out of the first round.

If you listened to Mr. Charles Barkley at half time, you would have turned the game off because the West were blowing out the East by 21, but who really listens to Sir Charles? Not the East. Riding the hot shooting of LeBron James to a 122-120 victory over the West in the 2006 NBA All-Star Game at the Toyota Center in Houston, the East proved to the world that an All-Star game is never over. The 21 year old LeBron James, who scored 29 points and six rebounds, became the youngest player to win MVP. Dwyane Wade, hit the game winning lay up with 16 seconds left. Tracy McGrady led the West with a game high 36 points and was the game's true MVP to me. Unfortunately for the hometown superstar, the refs did not call the foul on King James and the West took home L for the second year in a row.