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The Grizzly, February 23, 2006

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the grizzly

thursday, february 23, 2006

the student newspaper of ursinus college



A student takes the time to reflect near the fountains

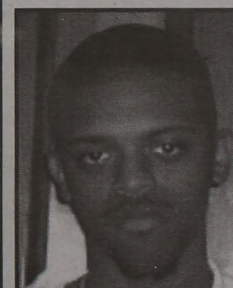
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Possibility of honor code comes under review again at Ursinus

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The debate continues on campus over the possible implementation of an academic honor code, the subject of a recent common hour open to both students and faculty. With the final decision estimated to be about a year away, there is still time for students to voice opinions on this polarized issue.

"The consensus regarding Ursinus was that it is an institution where social relationships are highly valued, and a system where a student would be required to rat out his buddy would be resisted," explains Professor Stephen Bowers, member of the faculty honor code committee. Despite this belief, the committee persists in its proposals, arguing that such a requirement is already part of the college statement on academic honesty.

The honor code committee presented its suggestions for review and comment at the common hour on Feb. 8. Foremost, the committee proposed the current policy on academic integrity to serve as the basis for the honor code. The current policy states: "Students have an obligation to act ethically concerning academic matters and faculty has a responsibility to require academic honesty from students and to be vigilant in order to discourage dishonesty... The student body, the faculty, and the administration of Ursinus College therefore unanimously condemn academic dishonesty in all its forms and affirm that it is the responsibility of all members of the college community to prevent such activity." A full description of the current "Statement on Academic Honesty" is found on pages 42-43 of the 2005-2006 Course Catalog.

The committee also proposed the honor code to be administered by an honor board composed of an equal number of students and faculty, with a student chair. Additionally, all students at Ursinus would be compelled to pledge acceptance of the honor code, and professors would be encouraged, but not required, to explore different ways of testing,

such as allowing students to take a test anywhere as long as they remain in plain view.

Violations of the proposed honor code would first be addressed between student and professor. If unresolved, the matter would then come before the honor board to determine innocence or guilt, and to administer penalties in accordance with the current policy. Appeals could be made to the Dean's Office.

Some students question the efficacy and practical application of an honor code at Ursinus. "There doesn't seem to be any need for it," said senior Russell Krause. "If it can be shown that we would benefit in any way by it, I would be more open to it."

"It's hard to implement an honor code system at any school, especially here at Ursinus, where books have been stolen directly from our own library," commented another student. "As a biology major, I can remember back to freshman year when most of the students in my BIO-111 class dropped. If they were given the opportunity to cheat, I believe that some people would. Ultimately, in a society where grades are more important than the acquired knowledge, some people may do whatever necessary to succeed."

Currently there is an honor code site available on Blackboard, and Professor Bowers indicated willingness to have a discussion board added to the site if enough students expressed interest.

Implementation of an honor code has been discussed on and off at Ursinus for roughly 10 years. The faculty honor code committee, a self-elected group interested in the prospect of an honor code, formed about 18 months ago to research the subject. Its research examined other schools with honor codes to find out what has been successful and what has not, in order to speculate on what might work at Ursinus.

"The goal of the enterprise is to have students accept and internalize the notion that integrity is an essential component of character, to take the responsibility of acting honorably and expecting others to do the same," Bowers said.

While the honor code debate continues, a final decision dependent on the entire faculty is expected next year.

Date Auction raises money for Airband charity

PERCELIA BLIDGE
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Last Thursday night, students, faculty, and guests alike brought the best of their bucks to Wismer Lower Lounge for the annual Dating Auction. This fun-filled event marked the first of the two annual fundraising events to take place here at Ursinus, in which the proceeds benefit the Airband Charity. Airband, a lip-synching concert to be held April 7, 2006, features Ursinus' own talent and is the second of many more upcoming charitable events.

The fun and energetic auctioneers, James Texeira and Lilly Rosen, worked the crowd and set the mood by presenting the "beauties and stallions" to be bid on by the eager awaiting audience. The blazing stars to take the auction block included a number of students and faculty members, including Dean Deborah Nolan and Facilities Data Coordinator James C. Tiggins III.

The audience laughed, whistled, and cheered on the brave souls who dared to step up to the plate to try to tantalize and bedazzle the onlookers by way of their flashy smiles, charm, and talent, all to help raise money for



the annual fundraiser.

There was music, dancing, and screams of bids being placed by the stimulated crowd, ranging from \$10 up to \$80. In total, the Date Auction brought almost \$1000 to the Airband charity.

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WVOU: a preview of the semester's events

DAN LAMSON

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WVOU, Ursinus College's radio station, kicked it up a notch on Friday, Feb. 10 with a concert by Bethany Spiers of The Feverfew.

"It was awesome!" one junior in attendance exclaimed, "The acoustics and melodic sound were so captivating that I was disappointed when the concert was over."

The Feverfew visiting the campus is just the beginning of a long list of events that WVOU is planning for this semester. On March 4, there will be another Indie Rock Concert, featuring Odds Are and a few more as of yet unconfirmed bands, including the Feverfew.

"They are an incredibly talented act. We at WVOU are so excited for the possible return of The Feverfew!" Ashley Higgins, Ursinus student and WVOU Manager said.

On March 31, WVOU will be DJing for the Relay for Life. Relay for Life is an 24-hour event intended to celebrate cancer survivorship and raise money for research for the American Cancer Society. During the event, teams of students take turns walking or running laps. Each team will try to keep at least one member on the track at all times for twenty-four hours.

"WVOU has not done the Relay for Life before, but we have done charitable events, such as the ovarian cancer walk after the passing of Dr. McLennan," Ashley Higgins said. "We here at WVOU are very excited about Relay for Life and hope for a big turnout!"

On April 7, WVOU is planning another volunteer activity at a local middle school. This one isn't for college students, but the adolescents need to have some fun too. "We will be playing all the Billboard Top 40 hits, begrudgingly, to a somewhat adoring preteen audience," Higgins said.

Just recently added to the schedule for this semester is the band The Doppelgang.

They will be playing here on April 8. WVOU is eager to showcase them to the campus because of the nature of their sound and music. The Doppelgang is a group of musicians who trade off their instruments and perform folk songs, punk rock, avant-garde jazz, ribald Irish folk songs, and covers. The Doppelgang features Dean Gardner and members of A Troop of Echoes.



In mid-April, the Folk Song Society and Recording Club will be releasing a CD sampler of some of the campus' acts. On top of that, the Folk Song Society and Recording Club will also be presenting live some of the songs that they put on their CD.

Much work from the WVOU staff goes into each and every one of these events. They are working constantly to bring new and exciting events to campus. But, as always, WVOU will continue to provide the same level of radio entertainment twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

The countdown to Relay continues

SARAH KECK

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Imagine walking toward a hill covered in illuminated candles spelling out the word "hope." You hear music playing, talking, and laughing, so you look down from the hill. You now see hundreds of people walking around a track.

These people are those who have survived and are surviving cancer. These people are those who support, advocate, research, and honor those who lost the battle by continuing to fight the war. They are joining hands and walking forward toward a cure for a disease that every year accounts for 22.8% of all U.S. deaths.

In 1985, Gordy Klatt, a surgeon from Tacoma, Washington, decided to raise money for his local American Cancer Society (ACS) office. He linked this with his love for running marathons and, in May of that year, spent 24 hours circling the track at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma; he traveled more than 83 miles and raised \$27,000. The following year, and in the years to come, this event was recreated with an increasing number of participants, and became known as "Relay for Life." Today, over 20 years later, more than three million Americans participate in Relay nationwide every year. Most Relays follow the traditional 24-hour time frame, symbolizing the fact that those who fight cancer fight it 24 hours a day.

Klatt's story is a true testament to the fact that one person *can* make a difference. In fact, all over the country, individuals have the capacity to make that same difference by bringing a Relay to their school or town. At Ursinus, sophomores Joe Joyce and Aileen Dalton have taken that step and formed a committee that is actively working on the college's first ever Relay, which will take place from March 31 to April 1.

Committee members plan events so participants can stay energized throughout the night. While events vary from Relay to Relay, there are certain traditions that are carried out time after time.

Relay is always kicked off with its traditional "survivor lap." This is the one lap where all cancer victims walk as one. Together, they circle the track once as a sign of their individual courage and their collective strength. Seeing the survivors walk is what gives others the conviction to keep fighting.

Another tradition is the luminaria ceremony. Luminarias are bags you can purchase, either in honor or in memory of a cancer victim, that, come dusk, are illuminated by candles. Once the sun is down, the crowd is silenced as the lighting ceremony begins. Luminaria ceremonies may include anything from music to poetry readings to a survivor speech. Luminarias forming the word "hope" are usually lit first to indicate the beginning of the ceremony. All luminarias burn throughout the night.

These traditions are only two of the many events that are currently being planned for Ursinus College's first ever Relay for Life.

If you are interested in learning more about Relay or starting a team of your own, contact either Joe Joyce at jojyoyce@ursinus.edu or Aileen Dalton at aidalton@ursinus.edu.

corner

How to choose a major: tapping into campus resources

What is the best college major for you? The answers are everywhere. However, it takes time to evaluate all of your options, so start today by utilizing the resources Ursinus has to offer.

Career Services Office: Career Services has resources to help you learn about yourself and the world of work. Start by checking out the Web site, www.ursinus.edu/career, for online resources, including FOCUS, an online self-assessment and career exploration tool. And remember, nothing beats speaking face-to-face with a career counselor.

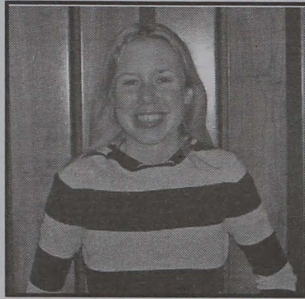
The Course Catalog: Browse through all the classes and requirements within each major. What courses do you need to complete a major? If the course listings interest you, you may be on to something.

Upperclassmen: Ask your advisor to hook you up with an upperclassman in a major that interests you. Then, buy that person a cup of coffee and pick their brain. It could be the best 45 minutes you'll ever spend.

Alumni: UC CareerNet has a mentoring section which allows students to search the Grizzl*E Network, a network of alumni who have volunteered to talk to students about their careers and how they got there. The best way to figure out how you can reach your goals is to ask those who have gone before you.

Discover your path on March 1, at 4:30 p.m. in Myrin Library, Room 030, by attending a Career Services program designed to give you tips on how to choose a major.

Batteries Included



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

In spite of the multitude of differences between humans, we all share one common characteristic – we like having sex. If this were not true, I would be out of a job. Sex is a constant in our lives that we participate in by actually being involved in a sexual relationship, fantasizing and thinking about sex, or masturbating. Even those who have chosen abstinence as their personal path have the ability to engage in the latter two activities. Yet just because sex is a constant, that does not mean that we are constantly having sex, which often leads us to utilize our other options.

Masturbation is a technique that most humans use at some point in their lives as a form of sexual release, and many use it on a regular basis. And despite the amazing sexual ability contained within our right or left hand, there are mass amounts of toys and devices that can take masturbation and sexual pleasure to new heights.

According to *The Everything Great Sex Book*, there are several categories of devices that are used for sexual stimulation. The first are vibrators, which are battery-powered devices that vibrate in order to induce orgasm. In women, vibrators are designed to stimulate the clitoris or G-spot, depending on the vibrator. G-spot stimulation usually involves a vibrator or device curved upwards in order to reach the G-spot. Some vibrators facilitate both activities.

Originally, vibrators were created in the late nineteenth century as a treatment for women suffering from sexual frustration or hysteria. While vibrator use is completely safe, there are several downsides. Some women find vibrators to be addictive while others experience desensitization. Some women have trouble climaxing during sexual activity without a vibrator after significant vibrator use, but this is not a permanent side effect. Many women find great success in achieving orgasm through this method, while others prefer unassisted self-stimulation.

Men are also able to attain pleasure with a vibrator. Using a small, clitoral stimulator on the perineum can initiate pleasure, and vibrators can provide exercise and stimulation that is healthy for the prostate gland (*The Everything Great Sex Book*).

Another category of devices is dildos. Dildos typically involve insertion into the vaginal or anal cavity, and though there are vibrating dildos, typically dildos do not move or require batteries. Depending on the form and shape of the dildo, it can stimulate the clitoris and G-spot in women. Anal plugs are a form of dildo that can facilitate stimulation of the anus and prostate gland (*The Everything Great Sex Book*). However, if you and

your partner share sex toys, make sure to clean the vibrator or dildo between uses to prevent disease transmission.

If you are feeling in a particularly adventurous or exploratory mood and wish to venture out to purchase an item or two, this can be accomplished at several venues. These items are found in most sexually themed stores, including our local Adult World and at Condom Kingdom located on South Street in Philadelphia. If you are uncomfortable shopping in these locations, going with a group of friends often helps. In addition, Adult World often holds “Ladies Nights” when only women are allowed in the store and there are only female employees working in order to increase their female customer base.

Of course, shopping for these somewhat private items can be a little embarrassing, which gives us the other option of shopping online. There are multitudes of websites selling sex toys, including sites created by Adult World and Party Gals. When searching for a site, make sure the language used is anatomically correct (no sex organ slang), and that it does not have suggestions on how to make your own sex toys, because homemade sex toys are often unsafe.

Sex toys are extremely effective in spicing up a current relationship, masturbation techniques, and your daily routine. They are able to provide pleasure, excitement, and adventure, regardless of whether or not batteries are included.

Airband begins a successful year

MEGAN HELZNER
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Twenty-nine contestants stepped on-stage in Wismer Lower Lounge last week to strut their stuff in an auction for Airband's 2006 charity: Montgomery County Victim's Services. The auction featured sorority and fraternity members, members of the student body, and faculty and staff members, including Dean Nolan, Lindy Cartrite, Professor Ruttledge, Michelle Vande Berg, and James Tiggett. The people being auctioned off came out in costumes, danced on stage, and even stated their net worth, while audience members raised their hands to place bids. An impressive profit of \$962 was raised from this event according to Assistant Resident Director, and senior Lilly Rosen.

Every year Airband is a much-anticipated Ursinus tradition that students, faculty, and staff often take part in. The April event, run by the Resident Advisors and Residence Life Staff, is perhaps one of the best-attended social events on campus in any given year. Aside from giving the Ursinus community a chance to showcase its singing, dancing, and comedic talents, Airband raises thousands of dollars each year for worthy local causes. “Although Airband takes a great deal of time to plan and organize, its goals and benefits seem to be two-fold. We get to put on this great show for the community while all of the profits go to the charity,” comments RA and sophomore, Brooke Haines.

Airband, which takes place in a transformed Wismer dining hall, raised over \$10,000 for the Lea F. Sullivan charity last year. This fund provides scholarship money for women medical students at Thomas Jefferson University. Each year, the ten-plus acts are rated by a panel of judges and awarded prizes for their technical competency, artistic merit, and laugh-factor. Last April, Beta Sigma Lambda won first overall prize and Kappa Delta Kappa won for choreography.

Watch for more updates as Airband approaches. Other opportunities to contribute or help raise money for this fun and worthwhile event are still to come. “The entire Residence Life staff is looking forward to such upcoming Airband events as the Drag Show, the Silent Auction, and a black tie formal that is still being worked on,” says Airband Chair and junior Blaine McEvoy.



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A vitamin a day keeps the doctor away



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

Well, it's that time of year again. You know what I'm talking about – it's the time when we're close enough to Spring Break to smell the coconut oil (or the home-cooked meal, depending on your plans), yet it seems like all the professors on campus got together and decided that this would be a great time to give a big assignment.

And to top it all off, you're sick. Many of us are. I thought it was bad when I got a cold right at the beginning of my new job as a lifeguard. Then I woke up this morning with what appears to be pink-eye.

Yes, it's the time of year when the Ursinus student body is beginning to get run-down. While there is not much we can do about the work load, there are some ways we can make ourselves feel better and strengthen our immune systems, to help us get through the next few seemingly endless weeks.

Remember when your parents told you to take your vitamins every morning? Well, that was good advice, and should not have been forgotten when we felt we were too old for Flintstone's Chewables. But let's face it, many of us haven't taken vitamins in years. I know I am a big baby when it comes to swallowing those huge, chalky things.

The good news is that the vitamins we need can be found in fruits and vegetables, so we don't need to deal with having to force a monstrous pill down our throats every morning.

If a cold or the flu is the problem, you need to strengthen your immune system. Vitamin C is one of the best vitamins for the job. Found in citrus fruits, such as oranges and grapefruits, and vegetables like broccoli and red pepper, Vitamin C helps your body fight off disease and can shorten the duration of an illness or even heal wounds more quickly. Also, many drinks are now fortified with Vitamin C, so take a look at the labels of your drinks for their health benefits.

Vitamin E also protects the immune system, in addition to maintaining heart health and function and protecting the body against cataracts. It can be found in spinach, avocado, almonds, and peanuts (like we need another reason to get the peanut butter and jelly sandwiches from Zacks).

And for those of you who are lucky enough to not be coughing and sniffing all the time, don't think you are off the hook. We need vitamins just to help our bodies function properly. Vitamin A, found in carrots, mangos, milk and some vitamin fortified cereals, helps the body to resist infection as well as maintaining vision and keeping skin healthy. And who doesn't want clear skin?

These are just a few of the vitamins we need everyday to maintain our health. For a complete guide to what vitamins you should be consuming in what quantities and how to get them, visit <http://www.vitamins-nutrition.org/>. Until next time, take care of yourself and stay healthy.

Kwan Bows out of Olympics

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Figure skater Michelle Kwan is forced to quit from the 2006 Olympics after her decade-long battle for the gold. The 25 year old cut her first practice short after straining a groin muscle, and the injury growing worse as the day wore on.

She withdrew after Dr. Jim Moeller evaluated her early Sunday morning (Feb.12th) and recommended she not continue to skate any time soon. Her eyes were puffy and moist as she desolately announced "I wish I was here in better circumstances. When I first put in my petition, I said I believed I'd be 100 percent by time the Olympics came around. But yesterday, after going on ice and feeling stiff ... I don't think that I can be 100 percent. I respect the Olympics too much to compete, and I don't feel I can be at my best." Her demeanor during this withdraw speech was very unlike the sparkling Kwan America everyone is so used to seeing.

Her departure is a loss for everyone involved in this year's figure skating Olympic Games. She has been the face of figure skating for an entire decade, winning five world titles, nine U.S. titles, silver in the 1998 Olympics, and bronze in the 2002 Olympics. She was planning to make 2006 her golden year.

She missed the Grand Prix season with a hip injury, and then missed the nationals with the groin injury. She started to look better during a monitoring session on Jan.27th. This ensured her spot on the U.S. team, doing back-to-back run-throughs of her long and short programs. But she said the long plane ride to Italy, followed by marching in the opening ceremony, took a toll on her body. By the time she returned to the athletes' village, she was starting to hurt.

"It's physical pain that's keeping me from performing and skating," Kwan said. "But it's also emotional pain as well because I had to make this tough decision." She added

later on, "I have no regrets, I tried my hardest. And if I don't win the gold, it's okay. I've had a great career. I've been very lucky. This is a sport, and it's beautiful."

Emily Hughes was chosen by the U.S. Olympic Committee to replace Kwan on the U.S. Olympic figure skating team. She is skating alongside Sasha Cohen and Kimmie Meissner. The 17-year-old, younger sister of 2002 Olympic champion Sarah Hughes, was third at last month's national championships.

Cohen has always taken second to Kwan; however with Kwan's departure, the doors are open for Cohen to finally take the spotlight. Kwan has always been Cohen's greatest foil; ever since a practice at the 2002 Olympics in Salt Lake City when Cohen was suspected to have intentionally bumped her rival while the two worked on their routines.

Cohen seems to have matured since then, putting the grudge behind her, and expressing her sympathy on Sunday toward her injured teammate. "I want to enjoy the process," Cohen said. "I don't just want to win a medal, enjoy 20 minutes of a ceremony and two or three days of publicity and then hang the medal on the wall and not be happy until I win again. I'm really starting to enjoy the journey and not so much the destination. Of course I want to skate great, skate amazing and the best way is to take the pressure off and enjoy it."



www.torino2006.org

Mr. Cheney's War

When *The Grizzly* sent me on assignment to out-of-the-way Armstrong, Texas, I thought it was a punishment for an article I submitted implying that the *Grizzly* editors were not properly toilet-trained. However, it instead proved to be an exciting and emotionally moving time in my life, much like that time I saw *A Walk to Remember*.

On this particular outing, I was embedded with the 53rd Battalion of the Armstrong Ranch Hunting Club, stationed in the Kency section of the Armstrong Ranch. At first the duties of the 53rd were menial at best; they were assigned to guard the bar area of the hunting lodge, which while resulting in extremely high morale among the troops, also resulted in extremely high levels of drunken revelry and idleness. (In one incident, I suggested that maybe some of the group should be posted on sentry detail to watch for terrorists as opposed to just sitting around and getting wasted all day. The 53rd did not take kindly to my innocent suggestion, and in the morning, I found myself on the floor of the latrine, trying to clean the blood and vomit stains out of my clothes with a toothbrush and anti-bacterial hand soap. Worse I do not even know if it was my own blood/vomit. Or toothbrush for that matter.)

Nevertheless things began to get a little more interesting for the 53rd when they were assigned to combat duty. Apparently HQ had received word that al-Qaeda might be trying to recruit local coveys of quail as suicide-bombers. Can you imagine the devastation if a legion of small, ground-

dwelling birds waltzed into an urban center and detonated themselves wily-nily in government buildings and financial institutions? Why, the damage to infrastructure alone could cost upwards of \$500, not to mention the inevitable human toll.

As the 53rd was deployed into the field, word got out that a new commanding officer had arrived to personally lead the battalion into battle – and that person was none other than the Vice-President of the United States, Dick Cheney. Sure enough, on the very first patrol, Mr. Cheney was there addressing the assembled troops in a raspy murmur.

"Let's kick some quail ass," he said simply, cocking his shotgun menacingly.

It was a rare sight to behold; one of the leaders of a modern nation leading his soldiers in battle. It hearkened back to the medieval times, with a noble king at the front with his knights. I was even about to compose a minstrel ballad about Mr. Cheney's bravery when the incident

happened.

One of the soldiers went ahead to scout out an enemy position. Mr. Cheney, reacting to sudden movement in the distance, opened fire, striking the man in the chest and face. When he realized what he had done, Mr. Cheney reacted with a long string of expletives. He turned to address the shocked onlookers.

"That man out there died for a noble cause; to free the quails from the tyranny of terrorist rule. His death makes the beacon of liberty burn ever brighter. Let's have a moment of silence in his memory."



**MATT FLYNTZ
DAN SERGEANT**
Communism for Dummies

How did you celebrate Black History Month?

I am so glad that all of you are so involved with Ursinus' black history celebration (satire at its finest).

There is a constant debate if the United States should have an appointed month in which we are to celebrate black history. The thought is, separating a month to celebrate black history discounts it as American history. But upon serious consideration, I have to conclude that most people would not even acknowledge black people as a part of history if not for this month.

While some of my fellow students are learning about minorities and opening up lines of communication, it really baffles me how ignorant others are about African-American contributions to the United States. For many, it begins and ends with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his famous "I Have a Dream speech." Well, Ursinus College, I have a dream as well.

I have a dream that one day black history will be taught in every high school for more than a week.

I have a dream that one day white students will raise their hands at Ursinus College and talk about W.E.B. Dubois "problem of the color line" and Sojourner Truth's "Aint I a Woman" speech as commentary on racial and feminist discussions.

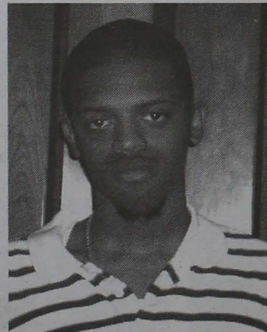
I have a dream that one day Garret Morgan will be as celebrated as Thomas Edison. A man who invented the traffic light and gas masks, amongst other things should be as heralded as any other inventor in the world.

I have a dream that Ursinus College students will join Sankofa Umoja Nia (S.U.N.) and not think of it as 'that black organization.' They will come to events open to the campus and not be scared that they are only for black people.

My dream is achievable I think. Do you? How are you celebrating black history?

College students are lazy, I am one of them, I know. But in terms of historical achievement we must take time to acknowledge the achievement of people who have been oppressed since their horrid beginnings in the United States.

Black people are inventive, innovative and miracle workers. To use a cliché often used in the black church "We make a way out of no way." Thus I feel that my Caucasian peers should have the same vigor I have about black history that they would have about American History. Black history is American history. Of course, some of them do not care about either one, but that is another story.



DARRON HARLEY
The Left Side of the Highway

As we nervously bowed our heads, I heard the man in the distance moan in pain. I immediately started to run to his aid. I got about three steps in when Mr. Cheney wrestled me to the ground.

"Well, Mr. Liberal Media shows his true colors, eh? How dare you interrupt our ceremony!"

I explained that the man out there was not only alive but suffering tremendously and in need of medical assistance.

"That's so like you!" he sneered. "Always reporting the bad stuff! It's always 'Today Dick Cheney Busted a Cap in Some Guy's Ass' and never 'Today Iraqi Schoolchildren And US Marines Played Soccer Together On A Rainbow Made Of Cotton Candy!' I'm sick of you and your liberal bias! Where's your Support for Our Troops^{800TMQ!}!"

While I lay pinned to the ground a helicopter bearing the Halliburton logo dropped from out of the sky, loaded the wounded man onboard and took off again. I muttered something to the effect that I was supporting the troops by trying to save their lives. I heard Mr. Cheney scream something about "treason" and something about wiretapping "everything [I] own" at which point I was knocked unconscious by Mr. Cheney's steel-toed work boot.

So ended my time in Texas. By now you know the rest of the story. The 53rd was put back on bar detail and Mr. Cheney's future remains uncertain. But I will forever remember the immortal if slightly slurred words of one unnamed soldier as I left the hunting lodge for the last time:

"Of all of us who were out there that day," he pondered, "who would've thought Cheney would be the one who DIDN'T have a heart attack?"

This month and beyond I think we should all make an effort to make ourselves historians of black history. You will find that African-American culture goes beyond rap music, baggy clothes and "ice." We come from a proud heritage of some of the greatest inventors, writers, dancers, musicians, preachers, politicians and athletes...ever.

As always, I invite comments and reactions to my intentionally provocative assumptions and generalizations. I would love to be proven wrong!

Have an opinion? Have something to say about the opinions of others? Simply want to be heard? Please send your questions, comments, complements, and complaints to the Opinions Editor at hreturnbach@ursinus.edu

Bayou days

Unlike most writers, I am unashamed to admit I had a happy childhood. Growing up in the swamps and bayous of southern Rhode Island, I would often take walks among the vines and brambles, conversing with derelicts and preparing myself for a life of vagrant crime.

Yes, it was a pleasant time: a time of innocence and illiteracy. Wearing a pair of quahog moccasins, I would stroll along in spring looking for excitement, often following a small, burbling stream to its ends. It led to a pond and a ramshackle house kept by an old man who used to catch crocodiles for a living and keep them as pets. One croc, a particularly fierce green and grey with a scar over its right eye and a heavy-handed disposition, he called Charlie.

"Like the tuna?" I once asked with a grin.

The old man said nothing, although I noticed he loosened the grip ever-so-slightly on Charlie's chain. I forced another smile and quickly left the bank. The old man cackled loudly (as old men do) and I realized he had gotten the better of me.

I spent the rest of season imagining what I could do to get back at him. One-upmanship was an ages-old tradition among New England wetland folk. So I bought a wild

python and brought him back to the pond for a confrontation.

"His name's Peter," I said, facing off against the old man.

"Like the wolf?" the old man asked.

"No, like the python," I replied letting his body slough ever-so-slightly off my shoulders.

"Yes," he drawled, "Like the python."

He narrowed his eyes "— Charlie go!" he yelled. The croc opened his fearsome maw and lumbered forward,

"Pete; kill!" I replied. Pete hissed and uncoiled himself.

Charlie emitted a low roar and plopped himself into the water; Pete retreated into a shrub.

The old man and I looked at each other in silence.

"So," I said. The shame was palpable.

"Yes?"

"Nevermind." I went home and stayed there the rest of the summer, raising a grow-a-frog and vowing never to deal with larger animals again. Useless snakes.

Chris Curley was turned into a newt, but he got better. General Grumblings to chcurley@ursinus.edu, General Grumblings to chcurley@ursinus.edu! Oh, where has he gotten off to now?



CHRISTOPHER CURLEY
The 7 ½ Floor

The Back Row: BASEketball

ALEX ERNST

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What happens when the Zucker brothers, who brought us such classics as *The Naked Gun* and *Airplane!* ("Surely, you can't be serious. I am serious...and don't call me Shirley"), took a game they created in their driveway, teamed up with the guys from *South Park* and made a movie about it? You get *BASEketball*: one of the funniest sports movies ever, especially considering it's a made-up sport.

Losers Coop (Trey Parker) and Remer (Matt Stone) create a game in their driveway combining basketball and baseball (thus the name). After meeting eccentric billionaire Ted Denslow, basketball becomes a professional sport. When Denslow dies he leaves his team, The Beers, to Coop under the condition that the Beers win the championship. If he fails, the team ownership will revert to Denslow's evil trophy wife. Needless to say, hilarity ensues.

Here's a quick rundown of the rules of basketball to make this review a lot less confusing. Players shoot baskets from different distances, each worth a different amount of bases, from a single to a home run. If you miss, it counts as an out. Otherwise the rules pretty much match up with baseball, with one big exception — the "psyche out," but more about that later.

Even though it does not matter in a movie like this, Parker and Stone deliver solid performances, really letting their natural chemistry shine through on-screen. The supporting cast comes through as well. Jenny McCarthy gamely enacts the various sexual innuendos she is asked to perform (literally laying carpet and waxing the lobby) and Ernest Borgnine gives quite possibly the most disturbing rendition of Right Said Fred's "I'm Too Sexy" I have ever seen. There is also a multitude of cameos including Kareem Abdul-Jabar, Reggie Jackson, Bob Costas, and Al Michaels. How-

ever the icing on the cake is *Unsolved Mysteries* host Robert Stack, who gets emotionally wrapped up in describing Coop's qualities that someone has to throw a cup of cold water in his face to bring him back.

Plot takes a backseat to any opportunity to throw a gag up on the screen instead, as you should expect with a Zucker comedy. *Baseketball* has a built-in vehicle specially designed for just this purpose: as part of the game, opponents can try to "psyche out" the person attempting to shoot. These tend to be extremely funny, gross, or more commonly both. David Zucker also throws a ton of back-ground gags in. My personal favorite has to do with the cleanup after "Free-Range Chicken Night" at Beers Stadium. While the two characters converse in the foreground, workers are seen in the background chasing chickens, sweeping them up and finally employing a "chicken chipper" that sucks chickens up before spitting out a cloud of feathers out of the exhaust. My description does not nearly do it justice.

It does come off a bit dated at times while remaining a very funny movie (Chelsea Clinton joke, anyone?). I really recommend this movie for anyone looking to sit back and give their brain rest for a couple hours. Be warned though, that this is one of those love-it or hate-it movies. If you love it, check out *Airplane!*, one of the most ridiculous movies ever created. I could not help quoting it at the beginning of this article, if for no other reason than anyone who has seen it will appreciate the humor. Bottom line: see *BASEketball* then go outside with your less athletically inclined friends and give the game a shot.

Alex Ernst loves movies and wants you to love them too. If you have a movie you want Alex to love, send your suggestions and comments to alernst@ursinus.edu.

Apple twists unexpected in *Extraordinary Machine*

WVOU

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Most female singers sound younger than they really are. At the opposite end of the spectrum is Fiona Apple. Fully mature and mad as hell by age 19, her debut album *Tidal* was released. Even during the massive mid-'90s influx of female artists, she stood apart.

Fiona Apple is the daughter of singer Diana McAfee and actor Brandon Maggart. She was born in 1977 in New York. At the tender age of eight she began playing the piano and later composed her own songs with lyrics infused by her parents' separation and her own rape. She dropped out of high school at sixteen and traveled to Los Angeles, where she was



signed by Sony Music after a few months of promoting her demo. Apple toured while MTV and VH1 lauded her with constant play of the singles "Shadowboxer" and "Criminal."

In 1999 Apple released her follow-up album *When the Pawn Hits the Conflicts He Thinks Like a King What He Knows Throws the Blows When He Goes to the Fight and He'll Win the Whole Thing 'Fore He Enters the Ring There's No Body to Batter When Your Mind Is Your Might So When You Go Solo, You Hold Your Own Hand and Remember That Depth Is the Greatest of Heights and if You Know Where You Stand, Then You Know Where to Land and if You Fall It Won't Matter, 'Cuz You'll Know That You're Right* or the abbreviated *When the Pawn...*

Extraordinary Machine followed six years later, after release delays marred with controversy and disgruntled fans. *Extraordinary Machine* left little to be desired and the innervating feeling that the critically acclaimed *When the Pawn...* was frivolous. The album is as smart and sexy as her previous releases. Standout tracks on *Extraordinary Machine* include the searing "Not about love" and the plaintive "O' Sailor." All the choruses are haunting and fulfilling, no coda is misplaced, and Apple never falters in her smoky vibrato. More than worth waiting for, *Extraordinary Machine* is entirely unexpected and exactly what her fans did not know they wanted so badly.

WVOU has featured *Extraordinary Machine* in the ever-popular Album of the Week feature on Sundays between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m.! Next week WVOU will play Bloc Party's *Silent Alarm!*

Crown hopes for Royal Family

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80 minutes. That is all the time that remains for the Bears to play to regain the Centennial Conference Crown for the second straight year. Ursinus pulled out one clutch performance after another to seal home court advantage along with the top seed in the championship tournament.

After a near perfect January, the Bears started February the same way Punksutawney Phil did, running back into a hole. A tough loss in overtime against Washington proved to be the pivotal point in the Bears season. The Bears were now tied with championship contender, Johns Hopkins, for the top seed in the conference tournament. Adversity was now in their face. Ursinus came back strong to win the next four games to earn the top seed and home court advantage in the tournament.

If you were to talk to a Bears basketball player and ask him a question about the team, he would reply, "What team?" Seniors Mike McGarvey and Brian McEvily do not call the Bears a team, rather a family. A cliché? Not when this squad has a nucleus of veteran leadership not to mention a barrel of talent. Five seniors (Mike McGarvey, Brian McEvily, Bret Jenkins, Joe Scholz, and Luke Marlow) in the family combined for 954 points out of the 1977 team total this regular season.

Continuing his sixth season as the Bears head coach is Kevin Small. Coach Small has raised this family the past four years into a mature power house and with the top seed, looks to gain its third Centennial Conference Championship in four years. After an emotional senior day victory against Johns Hopkins he described those emotions by saying,

"I am so proud of our five seniors. They deserve a ton of credit for the success we've enjoyed as a basketball family these past four years. Obviously they are very talented basketball players but, more importantly, they are amazing young men. They have redefined what being a part of Ursinus basketball means. They are men of incredible conviction and character. They carry themselves with class and dignity in the face of both success and failure. And at their core they are all very unselfish - they have consistently put our hoops family first".

The count down for the tournament is little over 48 hours away. Helfrich Hooli-

gans are beginning to prepare for the home tournament by resting their voices and purchasing spirits has a whole new meaning. Unofficial voice of the student faithful and senior, Dan Scafidì explains his pre-game rituals, "Right before the game I look at the roster and get ready to make fun of the other team. I also cheer our team with fan chants".

This paper gets printed early Wednesday so the announcement of the Bears opponent on Saturday has already been announced. For this article, the Bears will play Muhlenberg or Washington Saturday afternoon at 1 p.m. Either match-up has positives and negatives. Both Washington and Muhlenberg gave Ursinus their only two losses in February. Most recently, the Bears fell to Muhlenberg this past Saturday 74-70. The good news for the Bears is that both losses were on the road. Ursinus is a perfect 8-0 at home against conference opponents. Having the tournament at home with the Hooligans on their side will be a huge advantage for the Bears come Saturday.

Coach Small believes that the Bears are prepared to face either team with "confidence". On a final speculation note, the 1:00 start gives the Bears an advantage if advancing to the championship game. This will give Ursinus more rest and more time to scout and prepare for their Sunday opponent. First things first, kick the Mules or sink the Shoremen. Your friendly Sports Journalist, Dave the Rave, will be there Saturday to announce the games and I am personally asking the campus to come out and cheer for the Bears. I have followed this team all season and I am proud to see this team earn all the success they deserve, so I thank Coach Small and the players for giving me great stories to write about.

The top-seeded Bears (19-6, 15-3 CC) will face the winner of No. 4 Washington and fifth seed Muhlenberg in the first of two semifinals on Saturday, beginning at 1 p.m. No. 2 Johns Hopkins (17-7, 13-5 CC) will battle No. 3 (16-9, 12-6 CC) in the other semifinal at 3 p.m.

The winners will meet in the championship match, slated for Sunday at 2 p.m. The tournament's champion will earn the CC's automatic bid to the 2006 NCAA Division III tournament, with the first round scheduled for March 2. The field will be announced late Sunday. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for students (13-18 without ID) and free for youth 12 and under. Also, students from the participating teams are admitted free upon presentation of a school ID.



History made as Bears win 4th CC title

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How do you define the term champion? Look no further than Coach Racich and the senior class of the Ursinus College Wrestling program because the word champion followed them around campus, perspired off them during matches, and raised in celebratory fashion every time they left the wrestling mat for the past four years.

Ursinus became the only school in Centennial Conference history to win four consecutive Centennial Conference Championships Saturday afternoon as nine of the 10 wrestlers that participated in the match placed. Meanwhile, four of them won individual titles; amongst them are Centennial Conference Player of the Year, Eddie Murray, fellow senior Michael Troutman, along with newcomer Steve Kingsland and Brian Bowland.

Kyle Capella and Matt Williams each

placed second in their weight classes while Harry Keyser, Mark Barber, and Chris Springer all placed fourth in their weight classes. Ursinus practically dominated the entire day as they finished with 98.5 overall points, while McDaniel was a distant second with 68 points. The word dynasty comes to mind when thinking about this special group of seniors, this special team, and one great coach that made it all possible.

The Bears aren't finished yet as they travel to The College of New Jersey to compete in the NCAA tournament on March 4 and 5.

As for Centennial Conference Player of the Year, Eddie Murray, it was no contest as to who should win the honor. Murray posted a 23-0 record this season, along with a 7-0 mark in conference action. Murray is currently ranked seventh in the Brute/Adidas national poll and has posted a career record of 134-17, including 22 straight Centennial Conference wins since the 2002-2003 season.



Daytona 500, Great for number 48

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The biggest event of this sport is over and your winner for the 2006 Daytona 500 is Jimmy Johnson. Since finishing 15th in his first Daytona 500 in 2002, Johnson has finished third place once and fifth place twice. In 2006, Johnson grabbed his first Daytona victory without his crew chief and chief strategist Chad Knaus to run his pit crew. Knaus's was ejected from Daytona last week as a result of NASCAR officials discovering a raised rear window on the No. 48

Chevy car driven by Johnson in this year's qualifying run.

While cynics may attach the label "cheater" to his win, one must not forget to remember the championship caliber racing. Johnson won a two lap shootout on Sunday to claim the victory. Despite the fact that his car was the first to cross the finish line, many will wonder if this is truly a legitimate win for Johnson. Jimmy Johnson posted the fifth fastest time trial before winning the 500. Johnson won by having a controlled and smooth race and avoided the reckless and wild racing of Tony Stewart, who eliminated Jeff Gordon

and Matt Kenseth, as well as himself. After the collision between these cars, Johnson was able to work his way to the front of the pack and eventually take the lead. With 14 laps to go, Johnson pressed past teammate Brian Vickers to take hold of the lead just as the caution flag came out. Johnson was at the front of the field on the re-start of the race.

On the fifth year anniversary of the death of Dale Earnhardt, his son, Dale Earnhardt Jr. made an attempt to win the track that took the life of his father. Towards the end of the race, Earnhardt Jr. sliced his way through the field in hopes of catching Johnson. With seven laps to

go within the race, Jamie McMurray crashed and brought out another caution flag. Johnson grabbed the overtime finish easily despite Earnhardt's final push to challenge for position. Earnhardt and the rest of the drivers could only helplessly look on. A final accident brought out the final caution and allowed Johnson to cross the finish line under a yellow flag. Casey Mears came in second and Ryan Newman finished third. Tony Stewart was fifth, rookie Clint Bowyer was sixth, and Vickers earned seventh place. Dale Earnhardt wound up eighth after leading 32 laps into the race. Ken Schrader and Dale Jarrett rounded out the top ten.

