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The Grizzly, April 20, 2006

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the grizzly

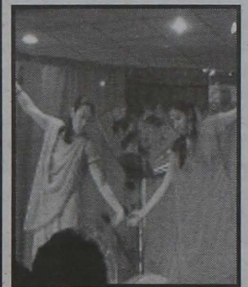
thursday, april 20, 2006

the student newspaper of ursinus college

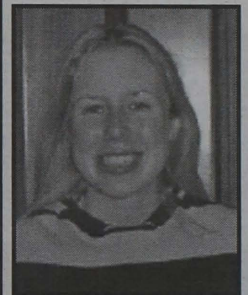
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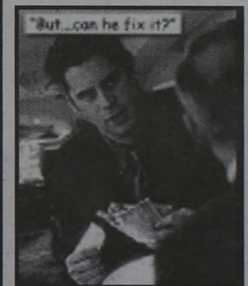
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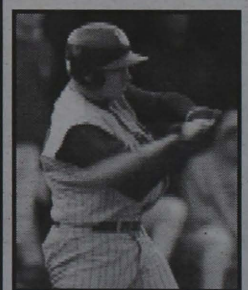
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collegeville, pa

volume 30 issue 24

Tour of Asia adds spice to Diversity Week

ALEXIS WITT

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Do you know which country banned the chewing of bubble gum? Do you know what three forms of mathematics were created in India? On Thursday, April 13, 2006, Wismer Lower Lounge was transformed with red curtains, fans and lanterns into a festive Asian setting. Tour of Asia began with food, moved into a display of cultural feats, and ended with a fashion show during which authentic Asian clothing was modeled.

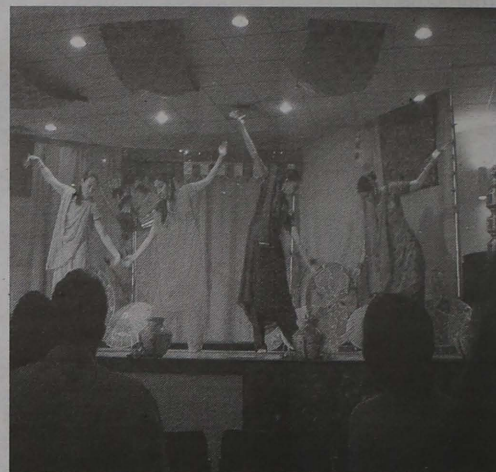
Guests enjoyed dining that included appetizers, entrees, and desserts. The appetizers were Edamamer (Japanese peas) and Kim Chi (Korean cabbage relish); entrees included Thai vegetarian noodles, naan and chicken tikka masala (Indian bread accompanied with curry), Chinese shrimp fried rice, pork adobo (Filipino traditional dish) and falafels (Middle Eastern vegetarian dumplings); and dessert consisted of Chinese toffee apples, mango lassi and baklava. Murmurs could be heard at every table saying that the "food was good" and that everyone was "stuffed."

After the fabulous dining experience, which was sponsored by Wismer Dining Services, the crowd was greeted by Moshin Ali and Tina Shah. The two were official emcees of the evening and presented all events to come. Jonathon Bronson played "Day After Rain" on the piano. His introduction to the show eased people into the festivities to come.

Next came a dance performance by Anjali Barve, Ashley Higgins, Jessica Rhodes and Elizabeth Marion. The four danced to an Indian song called "Bumbaroo," or "Bumblebee" in English. They danced in authentic Indian garb. After the upbeat dancing came a performance called "East Meets West." This was a martial arts performance executed by Jeff Monk and Jonathon Bronson. The two men are part of the Ninjutsu club on campus, which was recently trained by a 15th degree black belt.

The audience was then introduced to a number of dance performances. The first was a performance called "Middle Eastern Beats." In this performance Rami Farag played rhythmic

beats on the bongo as Defne Sarsilmaz belly danced through the audience. The next dance performance was called "Indian Masala." This performance contained a medley of songs; each new song was accompanied by Mandeep Grewal, Tina Shah, Liz Luk and Krithika Krishnarao with a new dance. The last dance of the evening was a solo performance by Anjali Barve. Barve told a story through dance about a young and beautiful girl who rejected her suitors.



After the dance performances, Felicia Chou, Paola Correa and Laura Cruz played their instruments (Chou and Correa on guitar, and Cruz on bongo) as Felicia sang a Chinese pop song in Chinese called "Lidia."

The last performance of the evening was a short play starring Moshin Ali, Liz Luk, Aseem Balhara, Jonathon Zhou, Menaka Gopalan, Felicia Chou, Mark Dennis, Issei Suzuki, Mohammed Contractor, Kenji Tabuchi and Ashwin Rangavajjula. The play was a love story about two people from different cultures who fell in love despite their parents' dismay. It was only after the mothers of each family had a cook-off that the families learned to like one another and the two lovers were allowed to be together.

When all performances were finished, the grand finale took place. A runway snaked through the audience from one side of the room to the other. The audience was entertained by members of the SASA and friends strutting their stuff in authentic Asian attire.

The Tour of Asia was a true hit this year. The food was amazing, the performances were educational and entertaining and the fashion show was beautiful: a wonderful evening for all. If you're interested in learning more about Southeast Asian culture or joining SASA, email the organization at SASA@ursinus.edu.

corner

career

Is grad school in your future? Look for changes to the GRE General Test in Fall 2007.

The GRE Program will introduce a revised GRE General Test in the fall of 2007. Each of the GRE General Test's three sections—Verbal Reasoning, Quantitative Reasoning, and Analytical Writing—will feature different types of questions presented in new formats. The new test is designed to better measure the complex reasoning skills required of graduate students and provide graduate schools with better data about applicants' performance on the test. The changes were initiated to increase the test's validity, address security issues, increase worldwide access, and make better use of recent advances in technology and psychometric design.

Changing the questions and the format will mean other changes in test administration. The revised General Test will be slightly more than four hours long, an increase of about 90 minutes over the current two-and-a-half hour exam. It also will be offered on approximately 30 fixed administration dates in a linear format, in which every examinee taking the test will take the same exam on the same date.

A new score scale will accompany the revised GRE General Test. The Analytical Writing section of the General Test will continue to be scored using the six-point holistic scale in half-point increments that is in use on the current GRE General Test. The range for the new score scale for the Verbal and Quantitative sections is expected to be 110 to 150, in one-point increments. The new score scale replaces the traditional scale of 200 to 800 in 10 point increments.

An overview of the changes to the General Test and other information about the GRE Program are available on the GRE Web site at www.ets.org/gre.

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volume 30 issue 24

grizzly@ursinus.edu

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USGA meeting tackles hate crimes at Ursinus

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Several students and faculty members were outraged and embarrassed at the NCAA basketball game hosted by Ursinus. At a liberal arts campus that alleges to be tolerant and accepting, how could it be that students were shouting socioeconomic slurs at an opposing team? As an increasing number of complaints were made, it was evident that Ursinus needed an outlet to discuss this disheartening outburst. Thankfully, on Wednesday, April 12, the Ursinus student body was given an important chance to voice its opinion at the USGA meeting. Although the meeting was originally intended to focus on the slurs shouted at the NCAA basketball game, it quickly expanded to an overall discussion regarding hate crimes in general that occur on a campus where there is no place for them.

Fortunately, the meeting was a success. Over 100 students attended, proving that prejudice is a matter of great concern for Ursinus students, and that these students want a solution to this serious manifestation of hate. As race is clearly a sensitive topic for dialogue, those in attendance at first seemed hesitant to participate in the discussion. However, as USGA executive board expounded upon the occurrences at the basketball game, an astounding number of other incidents of hate crimes were related. These included direct racial confrontation, the drawing of a swastika in one of the freshman dorms, anti-gay chalkings, and others.

As students continued to relay these incidents and state their distaste for prejudicial sentiments, the tone of the meeting changed; it became obvious that further steps need to be taken to prevent such occurrences in the future. Some students blamed the administration for not taking action when these issues occur, while others blamed the general enmity of the Ursinus student body. Several students were outraged that two months had passed from the date of the basketball game to the commencement of the meeting to discuss the incident. Many wondered why the basketball game, for instance, was not stopped when these atrocious insults were being uttered. The USGA members explained that the game was not

stopped because it was the seniors' last game, and while this was important, one USGA member admitted, "The school sent a wrong message to the students [by not stopping the game]." Therefore, the students in attendance agreed that a formal apology from Ursinus was necessary as the first step of atonement.

From there, those at the meeting agreed that a larger meeting with more students and including more faculty members was crucial to obtaining results to the problem of hate crimes at Ursinus. Administration members Austin Duckett and Lindy Cartrite were also in attendance, and Duckett made it more than clear that he would accept suggestions from the student body. "Write an idea and leave it with me," he advised. While the USGA executive board stressed repeatedly, "We are your voice," Duckett also recognized that it is important to have members from the school's administration to serve as a medium by which students can express their opinions. He demonstrated a definite support for the students and encouraged them to become active in the community. "You can sit there or make a change." He disclosed that while in many instances, the administration can't discover who the "cowards" are who perpetrate the hate crimes, it is more than willing to fight such reprehensible acts.

More students put forward ideas as to how to combat bigotry at Ursinus, but the ultimate decision made was to hold a diversity forum. This diversity forum was to be a continuation of the USGA meeting that once again addressed prejudice at Ursinus and devised specific action which students and administration can take when these incidents occur.

Positive change on the Ursinus campus is palpable, greatly in part to this past USGA meeting. If you have an opinion regarding the matter that was not addressed at the meeting or which you feel requires further discussion, the USGA executive board members encourage people to email them at usga@ursinus.edu. Overall, the students at the USGA meeting made it clear that Ursinus is a school in which students who discriminate on the basis of gender, sexual orientation, race, gender, or religion will not be tolerated.

Dr. Mel King discusses the "power of love"

SARAH KECK

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"I'm a firm believer that if we struggle, we can make it happen."

Mel King, a beloved activist in Massachusetts and around the world, spoke to an overcrowded room in the Unity House on the Ursinus College campus last Wednesday, April 12, at noon. His lecture was titled "The Power of Love in Building a Community Where all Tribes are Welcomed."

King opened his talk by nodding, as he observed a moment of silence. He took a deep breath and said to the crowd, "What that means is: I'm trying to figure out why you're here."

King began by talking about diversity. "I do think that it's time—that when we talk about things of diversity—to bring all folks together." King urged the Ursinus community to start talking about diversity *inclusively*. There is discrimination, he explained to the crowd, and it can be described using the "Four 'I's' of Oppression."

The "Four 'I's' of Oppression" include ideology; institutional, which is used to perpetuate ideology; interpersonal, which is how people treat those who they think are inferior (this leads to internalization, which is when the oppressed start to believe they are inferior);

and isolation. King explained that oppression leads to indifference. "Indifference [is] in people who turn their backs on something that they know is wrong," he said. "One must ask [him or her]self, 'Have I been indifferent?'"

King was the first African American candidate to run on the final election ballot for Mayor of Boston in 1983. He served as the Director of the Community Fellows Program at MIT for 25 years, was the Executive Director of the New Urban League and a State Representative for 10 years and founded the Rainbow Coalition in Boston. He is a published author and composer and has traveled around the world advocating technology awareness and use.

Every year, on July 4, King believes that we celebrate a myth. "We're still subjects," he said. "Independence is a myth." He believes, however, that a better world is possible. "Imagining that it can happen; that we can have it," is one of the often overlooked keys to having a better community, he explained. And we have made progress. "We have to talk about the positive things that we have done," he told the crowd.

Despite the progress we've made, King says we still have a long way to go. "We're not there yet," he said. "You have to understand that we're not there yet."

"It's a struggle—to work for a change," he admitted. "So struggle."

News in brief

DAN LAMSON

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A computer flash drive, one of many available, sold openly at a bazaar near the U.S. air base in Bagrim, Afghanistan, holds what seems to be a plethora of possibly sensitive U.S. intelligence information, including the names, photographs and telephone numbers of Afghan spies informing on the Taliban and Al Qaeda. The one-gigabyte flash memory drive, which a sixteen-year-old sold for \$40, holds slews of military documents marked "secret," describing intelligence-gathering methods and information—including escape routes into Pakistan and the location of a suspected safe house there. The documents appear to be authentic, but the accuracy of the information they contain could not be independently verified. Military commanders in Afghanistan said an investigation was under way into the activity. (LA Times)

The U.S. has warned Iran that it must face the consequences of its defiance through

its nuclear program. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said the UN Security Council would have to look at options to compel Iran to "obey the international system." Iran announced last week that it had succeeded in enriching uranium and has vowed not to stop its work. (BBC)

The State Department has issued new guidelines for providing aid to Palestinians to avoid any backing or contact with the new Hamas-led government. The United States will be canceling or suspending more than \$400 million in projects in the Palestinian territories and shifting some of that money to help meet basic humanitarian needs. The change was made to help ensure that U.S. money doesn't help the new government run by Hamas, which the United States considers a terrorist organization. (CNN)

On April 12, Italian police arrested the country's most wanted man, the head of the Sicilian Mafia. Bernardo Provenzano, who took over the Sicilian mafia in 1993, was found at a farm near Corleone in Sicily. For 43 years, Provenzano eluded police, having been sentenced in absentia to life in prison. Provenzano, 73, is called the "Boss of Bosses" in the Sicilian crime syndicate. (MSNBC)

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The Pornography Pastime



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

As Americans, we have a fascination with visual media. The dazzling, moving, colors and lights draw our eyes into our televisions and computers, hypnotizing us for hours at a time. When one adds sex to this mix, we're easily hooked. Pornography has been a staple of American culture for a significant period of time, though for most of that time period it was rarely spoken of or recognized as such. Because of its obvious controversial nature, pornography has been a topic of debate since its inception, and the debate has grown more heated as more and more individuals have accepted pornography into American society. This article discusses the controversy, and provides insight into one of America's favorite pastimes.

According to Wikipedia.org, the anti-pornography movement had been fuelled primarily by religious, feminist, and legal organizations. Some religious groups often protest the distribution of pornography because they find pornography to be immoral and inappropriate. Some feminist organizations condemn pornography as a form of female humiliation and objectification. Many feminists feel that certain pornography romanticizes the abuse and domination of women, which they fear may encourage this behavior in couples. Legal groups often debate the obscenity of pornography, which is significant because in the United States it is a federal crime to distribute obscenity. Laws regarding what is obscene differ from state to state, and these decisions are often made on a case-by-case basis.

In spite of these aforementioned complaints, pornography is still an enormous industry. What began in drawings and magazines, continued into television and movie

productions. When the internet was launched, the pornography industry was able to expand beyond epic proportions and jam the hard-drives of thousands of downloading individuals. One may pose the question, at whose peril was this development?

Protesting groups often claim to be defenders of children, or minors, from what they believe to be obscene or dangerous to the easily influenced. However, most states have approved legislature that prevents minors from obtaining pornography; for example, one has to be at least 19 to enter an "Adult World" in Pennsylvania. This legislature, however, has not served much purpose regarding the pornography on the internet, giving their argument some significance (Wikipedia.org). In contrast, many groups argue that the responsibility of protection of minors lies in the hands of the parents, not the government, and it is up to them to govern over their own families. This is also an argument of significance because many argue that communicating with one's children about what not to do and why is a much more effective tactic than a simple denial, or worse, saying nothing and all.

"How does pornography affect consenting adults and couples?" is another pertinent question. Again, many groups feel that pornography holds only negative consequences for both couples and individuals, but many others have challenged that accusation. Some believe that legal pornography can help enhance a relationship by allowing a couple to explore their sexualities and each other in new and unique ways. Others feel that an individual can use pornography as an outlet to safely explore fantasies that he or she would not be comfortable exploring with another person. Still others argue that pornography can serve as a means to fight sexual repression by allowing individuals to celebrate their sexuality instead of ignoring it.

It appears that whether or not an individual or couple experiences positive or negative effects is based on their personal feelings toward pornography. If one feels shame, guilt, or other negativity towards pornography, he or she may not be able to experience anything positive. However, if one has an open mind and was raised to enjoy his or her sexuality, he or she may be able to achieve something unique and affirming.

Thus, if you are exploratory in nature and open-minded, whether you're up for something totally new or you're a seasoned visual veteran, pornography is plentiful, and if you feel that is appropriate for you, feel free to take a peek.

2006 Senior Giving Campaign

Submitted by the Senior Class

It's been four years of good times, great memories, friends who have changed our lives, and professors who have provided us with a foundation of tools and knowledge that will remain with us as the next steps of life begin. Ursinus has given us an experience we will never forget. Wouldn't you like the opportunity to give back to the college that has given you so much?

That opportunity is here! Through the Senior Giving Campaign, members of the Class of 2006 have the chance to give back to Ursinus. The Senior Giving Campaign will take place from April 17 to April 28. Members of our class will be around with pledge cards and also in front of Wismer.

Every senior who makes at least a \$20.06 pledge will be entered into a drawing to win prizes donated by local businesses. Community sponsors include: *Acme, Applebees, Body Transit, Chick-Fil-A, Clemens Market, Great American Pub, Great Wall, Gypsy Rose, Hess, Justin's Carriage House, Limerick Bowl, Limerick Diner, Lou's Too, Lowes, Panera Bread, Philadelphia Rock Gym, Salad Works, Trappe Beer & Soda, Trappe Tavern, Wal-Mart, Whitby Jewelers.*

Last year, the Class of 2005 raised \$15,914.90 and they had a 63% participation rate. This year we are hoping to raise \$17,000 and have a 75% participation rate. Participation matters more than the amount that is given. Gifts to the Ursinus Fund increase the value and reputation of the Ursinus diplomas we will soon have on our walls. Every gift also counts toward *Taking Our Place: The Campaign for Ursinus.*

Gifts from alumni before us helped to make our Ursinus experience what it was. This year, each student's tuition was \$8,492 lower because of the Ursinus Fund. Gifts to the Ursinus Fund may also be specified to a specific group. For example you can make your pledge to: Bruins Club for sports, Friends of Music, Scholarship funds, ex: the Joey deLaurentis Memorial Fund, Friends of the Berman Museum, Friends of Myrin Library.

If you would prefer, you can make your pledge to the area of *greatest need*, which is the Ursinus Fund. It is important to remember that you do not have to complete your pledge until **June 30th, 2007**. More than the amount you give, it is the participation of our class that really matters!

The Alumni and Development Offices will be co-hosting a Senior Welcome at the Berman Museum of Art to celebrate the end of the Senior Giving Campaign. The Senior Welcome will be held on Sunday, April 30, from 5:30-7:00p.m. This is where the drawing will take place for the prizes listed above. You must be present to win the raffle, so be sure to mark your calendar! Also, at the Senior Welcome, the Class of 2006 will present President

Strassburger with a check for the amount raised during the Senior Giving Campaign.

Class of 2006, let's take this opportunity to make our mark on Ursinus before saying goodbye. This is a way we can thank Ursinus for all of our memories. Please consider showing your appreciation through a pledge to the 2006 Senior Giving Campaign.

If you have any questions, contact the Development office at x3588 or e-mail Carolyn Kratz (x2424) at ckratz@ursinus.edu and Lisa Shafer (x2751) at lshafer@ursinus.edu. You can also talk to the members of the Steering Committee, which include: Kristin Blaser, Katy Diana, Jess Fean, Stacey Garcia, Allie Hunter, Lisa Inajaian, Jenn McCann, Matt Meeker, Vince Rossomando, Defne Sarsilmaz, Brian Schultz, Sarah Smethie, Marci Stehman, Sarah Tax, Julia Tramontana, and Maedea Watson-Bey.

Events, April 21 - 27

Friday, April 21

Ursinus Dance Company Concert
 7:30 p.m., Kaleidoscope Lenfest Theater
 Spring Fling Casino Night
 8 p.m., Wismer Lower Lounge

Saturday, April 22

Spring Fling Fair
 4 p.m., Lawn between Wismer and Field House
 Collegeville Live Aid Concert
 7 p.m., Helfferich Gym
 Ursinus Dance Company Concert
 7:30 p.m., Kaleidoscope Lenfest Theater

Monday, April 24

Earth Day Keynote
 7:30 p.m., Kaleidoscope Lenfest Theater

Wednesday, April 26

Annual Student Exhibition 2006
 6 - 8 p.m., Ritter Art Studio

Diversity issues at Ursinus College: a cry for change

AUSTIN L. DUCKETT
aduckett@ursinus.edu

di-ver-si-ty (n): The fact or quality of being different; a point or respect in which things differ; a diversity of possibilities; the condition or result of being changed.

All definitions of this word point to one common theme: an appreciation for the manner in which things differ. However, incident after incident at this college is indicative of the exact opposite: a lack of respect. As an involved administrator at Ursinus College, I often ask myself, "What could we be doing better as an institution of higher learning to allow our community to fully comprehend the issue of diversity?"

On Wednesday, April 12, at an Ursinus Student Government Association town hall meeting, the students finally had an opportunity to voice their opinions about this topic. Many were angry, many were hurt, and many were disgusted at the actions of their classmates. Most importantly, there was a deep concern felt throughout the room. The behavior at the basketball game, the vandalism in the residence halls and academic buildings, and the racial slurs blurted out in passing are all examples of instances that have recently occurred, but have not been effectively dealt with by the administration in the eyes of the students.

Throughout the discussion, students most often asked, "But, what can we do? We are just students." To that statement, I say, students are not just students, but agents of change at any institution of higher education. We often forget that all colleges and universities exist because students fill the classroom. Many of the ideas proposed (by students) during the discussion were some of

the best I have heard in reference to addressing violations of diversity.

Below, I will share a few written thoughts given to me directly by student leaders in attendance:

The Diversity Committee should be a functioning and more powerful committee at Ursinus College. This includes the power to educate, punish, and enforce.

Encourage students to become active agents in bringing about the end of racism on campus and in life. It must be a student-oriented initiative.

Consider strengthening the alcohol policy and providing alcohol awareness programs, since most racial incidents at Ursinus College occur when individuals are intoxicated.

USGA should present amendments to the Student Handbook that would require offenders to be suspended and sentenced to community service with the organizations representing the victims of discriminatory acts.

Provide diversity training to faculty, administration, and Resident Assistants.

Faculty (professors) should be held responsible for addressing issues of diversity in the classroom. Many students are disappointed with the manner in which faculty members ignore or don't confront issues that occur in their own classrooms.

Overall, students would like to know that they have a college administration and faculty body that cares not only about their academic needs, but their social and civil needs as well. It is true that Ursinus College has some valuable work to do in the way of addressing the needs of a diverse population. However, I want to reassure the students of

Ursinus College that we, as educators and administrators, are dedicated to providing an atmosphere where students can become independent, responsible, and thoughtful individuals. However, we cannot do this alone. I challenge all students to take the responsibility of educating themselves and others about what diversity is. This responsibility means that we sit with different people in the dining hall. It means that we confront our friends if they are making inappropriate racial jokes. It means that we attend forums, programs and other activities aimed at bringing diversity to Ursinus College. It means that we take advantage of the college resources we already have in place including the Dean of Students, Residence Directors, College Counselors, and other administrators. It means that we take a positive stand on social justice and spread the word.

In all honesty, it felt like we were "preaching to the choir," so to speak. The individuals responsible for most of the diversity-related violations were not in attendance at the meeting. This fact may be true, but I believe this specific call for action should happen one student at a time. Students often do not realize they are more influential than they take themselves to be. In life, I feel everyone has an important choice to make. You can be a thermometer or you can be a thermostat. Thermometers constantly record the temperature all day and all night. Thermostats regulate the temperature from hot to cold. In the same light, people have to figure out whether they are going to be a thermometer and watch things happen, or if they will be a thermostat and regulate the change to make things happen. I encourage everyone at Ursinus College, students, faculty, or staff, to be that thermostat that will regulate the change at Ursinus.

Drawing the line: the moral predicament of abortion, part III

ASHLEY HIGGINS
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The following does not intend to stereotype conservatives or pro-life individuals as religious, but it does seem that a good number of conservatives (or at least a decent number of the more vocal conservatives) have religious motivations for being pro-life. The recently deceased Pope John Paul II was lauded as one of the most vocal Catholic and Christian figureheads of all time. In the late pope's 1995 decree, *Evangelium Vitae*, Pope John Paul II takes a resolute stand against abortion, contraception, and artificial reproductive techniques such as in-vitro fertilization. He addressed the polarization of these weighty issues (and contributed to that polarization) by asserting the way of the church as the "culture of life" and everything else as the "culture of death."

He says: "This situation, with its lights and shadows, ought to make us all fully aware that we are facing an enormous and dramatic clash between good and evil, death and life, the 'culture of death' and the 'culture of life.' We find ourselves not only 'faced with' this conflict, but necessarily 'in the midst of' this conflict: we are all involved and we all share in it, with the inescapable responsibility of choosing to be unconditionally pro-life" (*Evangelium Vitae*).

However, even the pope conceded that victims of sexual assault (and *only* victims of sexual assault) could be given emergency contraception. As mentioned previously, Plan B was not part of federal hospital protocol for victims of sexual assault in 2005. How has our nation found itself further to the right than the papacy?

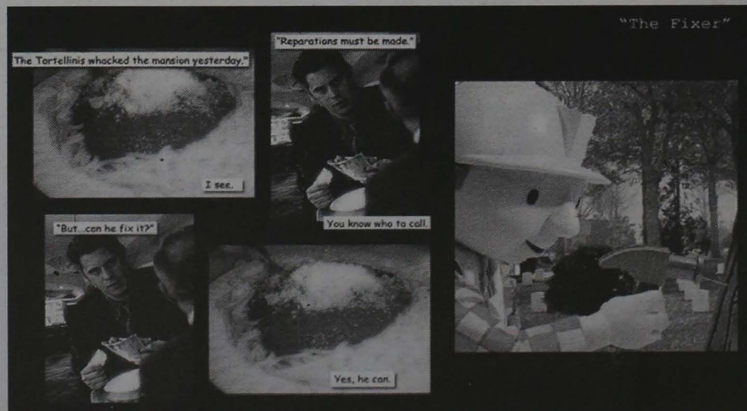
While Plan B was denied access to the desperately needed middle ground, other issues are completely ignored. John Paul II has condemned artificial reproduction as "morally unacceptable, since they separate procreation from the

fully human context of the conjugal act" (*Evangelium Vitae*). However, 90,000 IVF (in-vitro fertilization) cycles occurred in the US in 2002 alone, seemingly unquestioned, especially relative to the constant public outcry regarding abortion. Essentially, abortion and IVF are fruits of the same tree, meaning that to condemn one and ignore the other simply do not make sense. IVF usually involves the aspiration of eggs from a woman's ovary and adding sperm into a Petri dish, which results in conception. However, (and here's where the conservative gripe should come in) in many cases, several eggs are fertilized. Doctors then choose the healthi-

est-looking embryo and implant the mother. The other embryos are discarded. If abortion does constitute murder, shouldn't IVF as well? Why are we so focused on abortion? IVF is not the only ignored issue. Consider this: in late 2004, scientists developed a vaccine for nicotine addiction (American Chemical Society). Others will soon follow for cocaine, alcohol, and other substances. Soon, our generation may have the option of vaccinating our children against nicotine and cocaine addiction, smallpox, and chickenpox simultaneously. Is this moral? Does this impede our free will? Where is the public outcry about *this*?

Unpretentious

CHRIS CURLEY & TREVOR STRUNK
unpretentiouscomic.blogspot.com



The Back Row: "Slap Shot"

ALEX ERNST
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I have reviewed several types of movies here at the Back Row: adventure, horror, comedy, and some that were just outright crappy (Alright, just one. You know who you are). So in an effort to keep it fresh, I am bringing you my favorite sports movie of all time, dealing with my favorite sport, hockey. And not just any hockey, but the smash mouth, throw down brand of the '70s, when you had teams like the Broad Street Bullies, a.k.a. the 1974-75 Flyers. Led by Dave "The Hammer" Schultz, who set the NHL penalty record by spending the equivalent of six games in the sin bin, the Bullies epitomized the roughneck tactics played out to a "T" in "Slap Shot."

Reggie Dunlop is the player/coach of the struggling Chiefs, as they try to attract a new owner for the team, or at the very least, win a game. However, with the addition of the Hanson brothers, three complete idiots who put blood on the ice every chance they get, the team picks up their brutal style and has a "fighting" chance at winning the championship and selling the team.

Paul Newman almost seems like he is too good of an actor to be in this movie. This may be due to the fact that the majority of the team was portrayed by players from the now defunct AHL, or it could be that Paul Newman is just a really, really good actor (My favorite is "The Sting"). Based on my "extensive" research on "IMDB," I cannot tell if the Hanson brothers were as mental as they were in the movie, but they were definitely that brutal. It is hard to watch the checking and fighting without wondering how many extras really got hit. But let's be honest—if you're watching this movie, it is not to see nuanced performances with depth. It is to see guys beat the living hell out of each other on the ice. Needless to say, "Slap Shot" does not disappoint.

As I said in my introduction, I miss the roughneck days of NHL old, of fights and bald-faced penalties. Thanks to the Hansons, we are treated to brutal checks into the glass, fights on the ice, and even bringing fights into the stands after unruly fans. My absolute favorite fight happens during warm up, as the two teams skate laps around the rink. One of the Hanson brothers thinks an opposing team member is giving him a dirty look, hooks his skate, and starts a huge fight with both teams with no referees to stop them. The movie immediately cuts to the ref chewing them out as they stand listening to the national anthem, blood streaming down their faces. Finally, the instigator of the fight turns to the ref and shouts, "I'm trying to listen to the 'freaking' song!" My description may not do it justice, but this moment is priceless.

Again, I love this movie. It is funny, has heart, and some sweet fights to boot. Since I am very much on a hockey tangent this week, my recommendation is "Miracle." I have seen the climatic final game of USA vs. Russia in the Olympics on ESPN Classic, and it gives me goosebumps every time. "Miracle" does a very good job recreating the events leading up to the game, the passion behind the players, and the exhilaration of taking on the best in the world. So go see it already. I can wait.

Diversity week: a tradition continues

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Diversity Week is one of my favorite times during the school year. I am normally not one to try new things or pay attention a lot of activities going on around campus. However, when Diversity Week comes around, my interest is aroused. I enjoy going into Wismer Lower Lounge and seeing it transformed with decorations for all of the special occasions. This year I attended two of the events, Caribbean Carnival and Tour of Asia.

I had a great time at both events and I often wonder why more people are not interested. These events allow you to eat a delicious catered dinner. It is an opportunity to experience new flavors without it being an out-of-pocket expense. Aside from the great food, there is plenty of live entertainment, which includes beautiful and energetic dance performances, listening to live music from the native culture and watching skits that entertain and raise awareness about stereotypes.

The Caribbean Carnival was lively and rhythmic. The number of people who attended was not crowded and allowed for a comfortable locale for people to become more

engaged. It was a very interactive setting, with the audience repeating new phrases native to different Caribbean countries, participating in learning new dances, playing trivia, and even doing the limbo. There was also a live song and a skit on stereotypes to peak our interest. All in all, I was impressed with the hands-on element of this event.

Tour of Asia had a bit of a more formal feel with a defined line between the audience and the acts. Part of that can be accounted for by the sheer number of people attending and participating in this event. Tour of Asia had more acts, including four separate dances, a skit, a martial arts demonstration, a live song played, as well as the concluding fashion show. There was some trivia, but it was difficult to hear audience responses. The decorations were phenomenal. A favorite aspect was the paper pouches on the tables which contained candies direct from Asia. One act that I was glad I had the opportunity to watch was a traditional belly dance by Ursinus senior Defne Sarsilmaz. It was her last performance.

I had a great time at the events that I attended during Diversity Week. I truly hope that this tradition continues and that even more choose to become involved next year.

Silly Iran, Trix® are for kids

In an exclusive interview with *Communism for Dummies*, Iranian Defense Minister Abul ibn-Haaljara claimed yesterday that Iran has finally gotten its hands on a delicious bowl of Trix® cereal.

"The United States has taunted us for years by withholding these fruits of paradise from our righteous grasp," Haaljara said. "But now, I am pleased to announce that Iran has joined the ranks of the superpowers with its acquisition of a fully enriched bowl of weapon-grade Trix® cereal."

Haaljara went on to declare that Iran's intentions for the bowl of fructose goodness were "entirely civilian and peaceful," but many in the international community expressed doubt that Iran's goals were benign.

"The last thing the Middle East needs is an Iran with full cereal capabilities," said the U.S. Deputy Ambassador to the U.N. John Porterelli, adding "If Iran can get its hands on Trix, it's only a matter of time before they get their hands on 2% milk."

The U.N. Security Council is meeting with Iranian officials over the weekend to discuss the matter, but Haaljara scoffed at the possibility of Iran surrendering its right to a hearty and balanced breakfast.

"If God wills it, Iran will grow healthy and strong thanks to the vitamins and nutrients in every spoonful of delicious Trix® cereal. To those who would try and stop us, I say, may God curse you and your homes."

It is well known throughout the international community that Iran has been pursuing Trix® cereal for several years now. However, until now, Iran's efforts have all been unsuccessful — usually thwarted at the last minute by the United Nations.

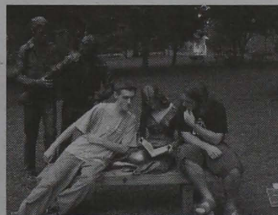
"This one time, we were having breakfast in the U.N. cafeteria, and when the waiter came out with our order, we realized that, instead of delicious bits of lemony lemon and wildberry blue, the cereal was actually just shredded falafel in milk," said Porterelli. "Turns out our 'waiter' was none other than [Iranian Defense Minister] Haaljara in disguise. He had stuffed our fifteen orders of Trix® cereal in his pants and had planned to smuggle them out later that day. I won't even tell you where he hid the spoon."

Haaljara vehemently denied the charges made by Porterelli. "He is a liar. None of that happened. He is trying to defame the great Islamic Republic, and God will smite him for it."

"And there was this other time at a Bob Evans when he hid under our table and used a miniature saw to cut through our table, right under our cereal bowls," said Porterelli, adding, "That didn't last long."

It isn't known where Iran acquired its alleged bowl of cereal, or even how credible their claim is. Representatives from General Mills would not offer an official comment, but one high-placed executive spoke to us on condition of anonymity.

"Good Lord, do you know what this means?" he said. "How long before they come after me lucky charms?"



MATT FLYNTZ
DAN SERGEANT
Communism for Dummies

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

Sports

Bears lose to Washington

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When a 2-run rally in the bottom half of the seventh inning came to an end for the Bears in a 5-4 loss to Washington, it was only a sign of things to come. Ursinus kept the bats hot and played near perfect baseball in a 21-3 destruction of the Shoremen as the Bears were able to split the Saturday double header 1-1.

In the opening game, Washington used the bat of Doug Lutz and the pitching of Matt Swanson to get their third victory in the Centennial Conference by taking an early 3-0 lead and grabbing some insurance runs before the Bears rally came up short in the 7th. Lutz went 2-3 with three RBIs including a triple, while Swanson pitched a complete game giving up two earned runs on eight hits while striking out four.

Ben Fisher got the Bears on the board in the bottom of the 2nd inning to close the gap to 3-2 when hit tripled to left field bringing around Mike Ziemak. A sacrifice ground out by Jon Sheppard to the 2nd basemen on the next at-bat brought Fisher in and left the score at 3-2 going into the 3rd inning.

It became a pitcher's duel until the 6th inning when Washington (8-19, 3-9 Centennial Conference) was able to pick up two insurance runs thanks to Lutz's double to right center field that brought in both runs. Ursinus got nothing in the bottom half of the 6th and the final inning they went into the bottom of the 7th with a 3-run deficit.

Rob Caruso's two out single brought home Eric Wickersham and Tommy Herrmann whom both got on with singles earlier in the inning closed the gap to 5-4,

but that's as close as the Bears (14-3, 8-4 Centennial Conference) would get before the final out was recorded.

In the night cap, freshmen Zeb Engle pitched a gem going six solid innings while giving up two runs on three hits and striking out six Shoremen. That, along with the Bears' bats would be the ultimate reason they won this game.

Washington was able to get two of their



three runs in the first inning, but Engle settled down after a rough start to pitch flawlessly. The Bears grabbed three runs of their own in the bottom half of the first thanks to Bret Jenkins' RBI single and Mike Ziemak's 2-run double giving them the lead for good.

Ursinus then put up one run each in their half of the 2nd and 3rd innings before the hitting show really got started. The Bears got

four runs in the 4th inning thanks to Bret Jenkins' 2-run blast over the left center field wall, followed by a 2-run double from Jon Sheppard that brought home Fisher and Ziemak. The best was yet to come.

In the 5th innings, the Bears had 14 batters take swings at the plate. With a combination of solid hitting and poor fielding by the visiting Shoremen, the Bears put up nine runs and blew the game wide open. Jenkins' 2-run double got the scoring off to a fast start, while Brendan Evans' double and Ben Fisher and J.C. Colon's singles each brought in a run. Herrmann, the ninth batter of the inning, was the first out recorded in the inning as Colon was forced out at 2nd base, but not before Fisher came home. The Bears were able to grab three more runs before the shellacking ended and the Bears took an 18-2 lead going into the 6th inning.

Washington picked up a late run down the stretch and Ursinus put up three more runs to finish the scoring at 21-3. The Bears loss to Washington ended a 6-game Centennial Conference winning streak, but the win in the night cap has made Ursinus 8-2 in their last 10 games. The Bears are better than a lot of people think and come playoff time if they play like they did in the night cap of Saturday's game, they'll definitely be making some noise in the post season.

Jon Sheppard was named Centennial Conference Player of the Week after batting .796 on 10-13 batting with seven RBIs and four runs scored. The Bears return to action this Friday against Haverford, game time is 3:30pm.

Easter massacre

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Over the holy weekend of Easter and Passover the sun started to sizzle the turf as the Bears were set to battle a civil war of holy proportions against Gettysburg College last Saturday. The Bullets coming into the game were ranked third in the country and undefeated in the Centennial Conference and unfortunately for Ursinus, it showed.

The heat radiated off the new turf giving the game an ambience of an old battle on the fields of Adams County. The first quarter was jam packed with action keeping the game air tight through the first 15 minutes. The first two goals of the game came off Gettysburg great Kevin Freehill, who scored twice within the first nine minutes. With 28 ticks left on the clock an amazing surge from Anthony Tori stormed the net and nipped the nylon in the back of the net to make it 2-1 at the end of the first quarter.

The second quarter finished like the first. Anthony Tori set up a flamethrower to torch the turf inside the crease to make it a close 2-2. Somehow the next events that followed changed from a classic battle to a domestic dispute as the referees decided to turn the game into laundry day.

Ursinus' green turf turned yellow as 13 penalties for a combined 10 minutes compared to Gettysburg's three staggered penalties for three minutes left the Bears high and dry. The Bullets scored six unanswered goals from the man advantage they were given by the trigger happy stripes. The score in the third quarter was now 9-3 after the great Dane Mangin sank a shot past the Gettysburg goalie to gain some relief. Mike Tori scored a goal in the fourth as did the Bullets to make the final score 10-4.

With all due respect to the referee and without making excuses for the Bears, but the penalties did become a little ridiculous towards the end of the game. This is my third year following this team and I am very impressed on how well this team has developed since last year. Gettysburg is one of the best in the business and Ursinus kept it close most of the game. Ursinus was not out muscled as aggression was enforced on both sides of the ball. At times Gettysburg showed why they are one of the best, but if you were to take away at least half of the penalties, the game might have been a little different.

With the loss the Bears missed their first chance for a taste of the playoffs with a record of 4-8 overall and 1-4 in the Centennial Conference. The next game for the Bears is down in Westminster, Maryland to face the Green Terror of McDaniel. Game time is at 1 p.m.

Bearly Reminder

Thursday April 20th

Women's LAX @ Frostburg State- 4:30 p.m.

Friday April 21st

Baseball vs. Haverford- 3:30 p.m.

Men's Tennis vs. John's Hopkins- 4 p.m.

Saturday April 22nd

Track & Field at Mason-Dixon Invitational @ Gettysburg- 11 a.m.

Baseball @ John's Hopkins(2)- 12:30 p.m.

Softball @ Gettysburg- 1 p.m.

Men's LAX @ McDaniel- 1 p.m.

Women's LAX vs. Swarthmore- 1 p.m.

Men's Tennis vs. McDaniel- 1 p.m.

Women's Tennis vs. McDaniel- 1 p.m.

Monday April 24th

Women's Golf at F&M Invitational- 12:30 p.m.

Baseball vs. DeSales- 3:30 p.m.

Tuesday April 25th

Men's Golf vs. Stonewall- 1 p.m.

Women's Golf @ Gettysburg- 1:30 p.m.

Softball vs. Muhlenberg- 3:30 p.m.

Baseball @ Elizabethtown- 4 p.m.

Women's Tennis @ Muhlenberg- 4p.m.

Wednesday April 19

Men's Tennis @ Haverford- 4 p.m.

Men's LAX vs. Muhlenberg- 7 p.m.

STANDINGS

Baseball- 14-12 (8-4 CC) T-3rd

Softball- 19-5 (6-2 CC) 2nd

Women's LAX- 8-5 (4-3 CC) T-4th

Men's LAX- 4-8 (1-4 CC) 8th

Women's Tennis- 3-10 (0-7 CC) T-10th

Men's Tennis- 0-6 (0-4 CC) T-7th