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The Grizzly, April 13, 2006

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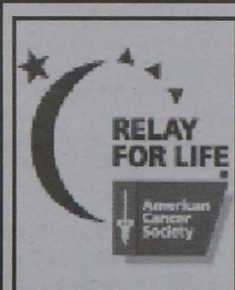
Ali Wagner, Bart Brooks, Sarah Keck, Dan Lamson, Kirsten Schuck, Lane Taylor, Katie Perkins, Katy Diana, Alex Ernst, Ashley Higgins, Danielle Langdon, and Jay Repko

the grizzly

thursday, april 13, 2006

the student newspaper of ursinus college

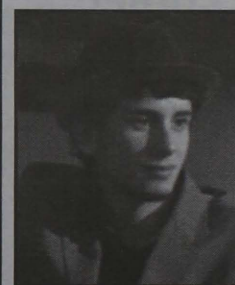
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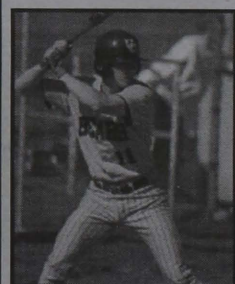
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volume 30 issue 23

News in brief

DAN LAMSON

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Two 16-year-old boys were arrested last Tuesday morning after a video posted on the popular blogging Web site MySpace.com showed them setting off a firebomb at an empty airplane hangar, said police. The police received an anonymous tip about the video and determined the identity of the suspects and the location of the fire bombings after viewing it. Damage to the hangar was minimal, police said. (CBS)

A fish with a toothed jaw and pivoting neck that crawled around 383 million years ago is showing scientists how land creatures first arose from the sea, a team of paleontologists reported last Thursday. Called "Tiktaalik" by scientists, the fish lived in shallow, swampy waters. Most remarkably, the creature, which was less than three feet long, had the body of a fish but the jaws, ribs and limb-like fins seen in the earliest land mammals. (USA Today)

President George W. Bush acknowledged last Thursday the U.S. military made mistakes in Iraq, but defended his domestic eavesdropping program, insisting to a hostile questioner he didn't have reason to apologize for it. Beset by low approval ratings dragged down by pessimism over Iraq, Bush also signaled impatience with Iraqi leaders and urged them to break their deadlock and form a national unity government, seen as crucial to averting sectarian civil war. Trying to rally sagging U.S. support for the war, Bush went to a Republican stronghold for the latest in a series of speeches meant to convince an increasingly skeptical public that he has a winning strategy for Iraq. (Reuters)

A co-defendant in the trial of former Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has said that 148 Shia Muslims sentenced to death in 1982 were given a 16-day fair trial. Awad al-Bandar also told the court that none of those sentenced to death was under 20 years old. He is one of seven men on trial with the former leader for their alleged role in mass killings in Dujail. Saddam Hussein did not attend the two-hour session, after which the court was adjourned until April 12. (BBC)

President Bush authorized the leak of top secret intelligence to the New York Times to help defend the war in Iraq, a former top White House aide has said. The claim comes from Lewis "Scooter" Libby, the former chief-of-staff to Vice-President Dick Cheney. Mr. Libby is facing trial for allegedly obstructing an investigation into a different leak. He is accused of lying to prosecutors investigating who revealed the name of CIA agent Valerie Plame to the press. (BBC)

Relay a success

SARAH KECK

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"In a world where more than 10 million Americans live with cancer, we believe unity is strength, knowledge is power, and attitude is everything."

The Lance Armstrong Foundation was the first to speak these words, but on Friday, March 31 and Saturday, April 1, the Ursinus College campus became a living testament to them as more than 340 students, faculty, staff and community members took part in Ursinus' first ever Relay for Life.

Relay for Life is an overnight event that mourns losses that have resulted from cancer, celebrates the survivors and raises money for research and programs for local branches of the American Cancer Society. They are typically held at schools, parks, or any place where there is access to a track. Throughout the night, members of the 10-15-person teams that have been assembled take turns walking or running on the track. Each team tries to keep at least one member on the track at all times, symbolizing the fact that cancer is something that must be fought 24 hours a day.

"I am so proud to be part of the Ursinus community," said Relay committee co-chair, sophomore Joe Joyce. "They never stopped walking, having fun, and fighting cancer." Joyce and other co-chair, sophomore Aileen Dalton, put together a strong committee that worked hard, not only in the weeks and months prior to Relay, but also throughout the night, to make the event a success.

Noon on Friday marked the official start to Relay. At 7 p.m., participants celebrated the success stories as survivors and caregivers took their ceremonial lap around the track. As the sky over the track grew darker, Luminarias, which are candles purchased either to honor or commemorate someone, were lit. At 9 p.m., a hush fell over the crowd as the Luminaria ceremony began. After performances by the Ursinus a cappella groups the B-Naturals and the Baritones, senior Megan Hollern spoke about losing her mother and the strength she found to move on. The ceremony concluded as freshman Breah Paciotti astounded the crowd with her beautiful rendition of "Amazing Grace."

The rest of the night was filled with events planned by Joyce and Dalton's committee. These activities included a tent and banner making contest, a pizza party, kid games, giant Twister, poker tournaments and concerts. "The committee did a tremendous job working to organize this event," Joyce said. "It would not have been possible without their dedication."

Ultimately, the Ursinus College Relay for Life raised \$36,000. "I was astounded by the success of our first Relay here, and I think it really gave people hope that we can fight cancer when we come together like we did," explained Dalton.

"The event was truly a success," recalls Joyce. "It could be seen in the eyes of every participant."

I'm sure that most people would agree with Dalton's final, enthusiastic statement: "I can't wait for next year!"

career corner

Interview like a STAR

If you want to put your best foot forward during an interview, follow these three steps: prepare, prepare, and prepare.

The next time you interview for a job or an internship, it is likely that you will be subject to behavior-based interviewing. The premise behind this type of interviewing is that the most accurate predictor of future performance is past performance in similar situations. Use the STAR technique to devise a response appropriate for a behavior-based question.

Situation or Task: Describe a specific event or situation that you were in or the task that you needed to accomplish. Be sure to give enough detail for the interviewer to understand. This situation can be from a previous job, a volunteer experience, or any relevant event.

Action: Describe the action you took and be sure to keep the focus on you not others that may have been involved in the project.

Result: Explain the result of your action. Make sure that the outcome reflects positively on you, even if the result itself was not favorable.

Examples of possible behavior-based questions:

1. Describe a major problem you have faced and how you dealt with it.
2. Tell me about a time when you worked effectively under pressure.
3. Give me an example of when you persuaded team members to do things your way.
4. Give me an example of a time when you had to go beyond the call of duty to get a job done.

Career Services has more information regarding interviewing in their career library and on their Web site (www.ursinus.edu/career). Ursinus students can also have an interview dress rehearsal by participating in the Mock Interview program or utilizing the Perfect Interview computer program available in our office. Call ext. 2274 or stop by Olin 104 for more information.

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New healthcare scholarship available

KIRSTEN SCHUCK
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We all know how hard it is to pay for college, and if you are looking for new ways to tackle this financial challenge, you should be on the lookout for new scholarships. Recently, Student Financial Services presented a health career scholarship. This scholarship is offered by Koster Health Insurance and is open to students entering their junior or senior year and interested in entering into a healthcare-related field. As with most scholarships, there are requirements to fulfill. Students must demonstrate academic excellence, financial need, and a commitment to serving their community.

Koster has been offering this scholarship for six years now, and, in that time, has awarded 20 outstanding students with the scholarship, allowing them an opportunity to achieve their goal of a career in health services. The award recipients are chosen by the Scholarship Program Board of Directors, and in addition to receiving the scholarship award, are invited to a reception and dinner where they can meet Koster staff, the Scholarship Program Board of Directors, and other Koster friends and associates.

In order to apply, eligible students must apply by May 1, 2006. Applications consist of a Financial Aid form, two letters of recommendation and a transcript. An essay describing personal goals, academic awards received, and involvement in community service organizations is also mandatory. The minimum requirement for the scholarship is a 3.0 GPA, and recipients are eligible to receive an internship for two years. This year, there are six \$3,000 awards to be received, each payable in two installments for the spring and the fall. The application form, all the information in this article, and more can be found on the company's Web site at www.kosterweb.com.

If you are interested in pursuing a job in the healthcare field, be sure to check out other helpful online resources. Web sites such as www.discovernursing.com and www.campusm.com offer great resources for scholarships and jobs, and a simple web search produces countless results for more specific scholarships as you narrow in on your interests.

For all majors, Ursinus also has a great program to help students find fellowships and scholarships. You can find more information on the Ursinus Web site under Academic Programs in the Fellowship section. This resource allows you to search for scholarships by major or view all available scholarships. It also includes invaluable information regarding who should apply, how to craft a personal statement, how to make yourself a competitive applicant, and information for faculty advisors on the fellowships. It also provides contact information for the Coordinator of Student Fellowships and Scholarships, so you can have your own personal consultation.

These resources may make it a bit easier for you to find funding, put your dream career a little closer into reach, and realize how much money is available for students in so many areas!

So, you think you want to consolidate your student loans....

Are you a graduating senior being inundated with notices to consolidate your student loans? The Student Financial Services Office is holding Senior Exit Interviews on Wednesday, April 19 at 7:00 p.m. in Olin Auditorium. There will be a representative from American Education Services at the session to answer all your questions on loan consolidation and debt management.

Two \$50 gift certificates to King of Prussia Mall will be given away as door prizes - you must be present to win. There will also be giveaways from Stafford Loan lenders and guarantee agencies. This is a mandatory session for all seniors as federal regulations require they complete an Exit Interview at graduation. If you are unable to attend the group session, please contact Student Financial Services at 610/409-3600 to schedule an individual interview.



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Lurking beneath the skin – Scabies infection



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

Earlier in the semester, we discussed pubic lice, or crabs, which are sexually-transmitted “unwelcome visitors” that are more a bother than they are health threat. We also discussed the fact that depending on what or whom you come in contact with, pubic lice may

be transmitted outside of sexual activity. Unfortunately, this phenomenon is not exclusive to pubic lice.

Scabies, a dermatological infection caused by mites, is often classified as a sexually-transmitted infection due to its ability to spread from person to person through intimate contact. Though scabies often finds itself in this classification, like pubic lice, it is often transmitted with-

out sexual contact. Fortunately, like pubic lice, it is not a serious health condition and can be easily treated. This article further discusses scabies, and the ways in which these creatures can be cast into oblivion and become nothing more than a distant memory.

According to Wikipedia.org, a scabies infection occurs when the *Sarcoptes scabiei* mites burrow into the skin and lay eggs. When these eggs hatch, the larvae walk along the skin and then eventually mature into adults which repeat the process. Adult mites have a life span of 3-4 weeks. Adult females lay their eggs in “burrows,” or thin, curvy, flaky lines that can be up to 1 centimeter long. Burrows are most often found in the armpits, elbows, belt line, lower buttocks, the skin used for flexing on the wrists, in-between the fingers, male genitalia, and female breast areolae. Though hundreds of bumps (or papules) may occur on the skin, fewer than 10 burrows usually occur.

When the adult females lay eggs within the burrows, an allergic reaction is triggered. This reaction is often delayed, and appears 30-40 days after the eggs are laid. Elevated, red, bumps (papules) occur along with severe itching caused by the moving mites and the allergic reaction.

At the beginning of the infection, the papules may not be noticeable and occur on the hands. As infection continues, the bumps, which may originate as a dark, shiny color, become progressively redder (Wikipedia.org). To view

pictures of a scabies infection, log onto <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scabies>.

A medical professional can determine whether or not an individual has scabies by locating the burrows. Also, if the person is aware of being in contact with someone infected with scabies, it is important that he or she alerts the medical professional so he or she will be more aware of the situation. Therefore, if only minor, ambiguous, symptoms are occurring, a correct diagnosis can still be made. Scabies is most often transmitted through direct, prolonged, contact with an infected individual. Less often, scabies can be transmitted through the clothing, towels, and sheets of an infected person (Wikipedia.org).

Scabies can be treated through prescription lotions or creams that are applied directly to the skin. The medication should be applied to the entirety of the skin (even in areas that seem uninfected) and should be left on for 12-24 hours before being washed off. Because the mites can survive several days outside of the human body, the infected person’s washable items should be cleaned after the individual is treated. Anyone the individual has been in contact with should also be treated, preferably at the same time so a reoccurrence can be prevented (Wikipedia.org).

In spite of their annoying presence, scabies can be easily eliminated through a trip to your medical professional and then your pharmacist. Following their simple directions will then allow you to evict the creatures lurking beneath your skin.

Day of Museums

KATIE PERKINS
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The first Sunday of every month, all public museums are free, no matter what age; so of course, it’s best to see as many as you can in one day. The first Sunday of March, my ambitions were set high at four museums in completely different parts of the city, and one of which was a 45 minute train ride out into the *banlieue*, the suburb. The four museums that I had intentions of visiting were: Versailles, the *grand chateau* of Louis XIV, also known as the Sun King; the Musée de Rodin, well known for his *Penseur*, the Thinker; the Musée de Picasso, self-explanatory; and Dali: Espace Montmartre, the Salvador Dali museum near Sacre Coeur.

Starting my adventure at Versailles, I left my house at 10:30 in the morning, hoping to get there by 11:30, giving myself enough time to get lost. And of course, I did. The RER C, which has about six branches off the main line, made it such a headache getting there that it took me about two hours to make the journey. Finally at Versailles with my friends, the line was huge to get in. So we stood in line for at least another 45 minutes, making little progress. With a bit of snow-rain combination falling on us, we were eager to get inside and explore, so when we heard over the loud-speaker that there was an entrance to the right of the line with a direct entrance inside, we were on our way before the woman on the loud-speaker had time to say *merci*. Unfortunately, that was an entrance for the part of the museum that was not free. Bummer. So unfortunately, the trip to Versailles was a bust, but we did get to see the gardens, which were very impressive.

Back into Paris, we had only three and a half hours to see the other museums before they closed at 6:15. The second we went to see was the Musée de Rodin. With a temporary exposition of his work with hands, the museum

was crowded. The temporary exposition room was impossible to get into, but I am determined to see it, so I’m going back next week. However, the sculptures that I did get to see were amazing. The Thinker was located outside, and set on a large pedestal-like mount that made him look even larger than imagined. Outside in the little garden, there were the Gates of Hell and a few sculptures of men with serpents and holding each other up. Inside, there were sculptures of all sizes. One of my favorites was “The Kiss.” A man holding a woman in his arms like only seen in the movies, locked in a passionate kiss was one of the largest in the museum. There were small sculptures of dancers, busts of well known artists, Greek gods and goddesses, and a plethora of other important historical figures. With limited time, we were only there for 45 minutes, but since I am going back, I was not too worried if I didn’t get to get a good look at everything.

Next on the list was the Musée de Picasso. Again, another bust. Because the museum was free, everyone was there and museum attendants were outside telling people to come back in an hour and a half because of security reasons and over crowding. Since we were on a time limit, we didn’t wait and we went straight to the Dali museum, which didn’t disappoint. Unfortunately, it wasn’t free, it is a private collection, but there was a student price, so my friends and I bucked up the six Euros, and saw one of the most interesting collections of artwork.

The majority of the artwork in the collection was drawings that looked like water color and Sharpie marker, but each piece looked different than any other. Each wall had a different theme: “After 50 Years of Surrealism,” “The Old and New Testaments,” “Tristan and Iseult,” “Romeo and Juliette,” “Alice in Wonderland,” “The Art of Loving,” and there was another about Islamic life. Each theme had about eight to 12 pieces, filled with color and energy. His scul-

tures were also very interesting. Elephants, unicorns, knights fighting serpents, and Alice in Wonderland herself. His famous Lip Sofa was there, as well as what looked like a living room of furniture he had created.

All in all, I had a great day of running around Paris going to the very different, very incredible museums. My best advice to those as ambitious as myself: start earlier than I did! All the pictures I took are up on my Webshots website, so if you like Dali or Rodin, they are worth procrastinating for! *A bientôt!*

The 2006 Senior Giving Campaign would like to thank the following local sponsors for their generous contributions of gift certificates and merchandise. With their help, we have raised more than \$1000 in prizes for the Senior Giving Campaign, which will be held April 17th-30th. Stay tuned to find out how you can win!

Thanks to:

Acme, Applebee’s, Body Transit, Chick-Fil-A, Clemens, Great American Pub, Great Wall, Gypsy Rose, Hess, Justin’s Carriage House, Limerick Bowl, Limerick Diner, Lou’s Too, Lowe’s, Panera Bread, Philadelphia Rock Gym, SaladWorks, Trappe Tavern, Wal-Mart, and Whitby Jewelers

* A special thank you to the Senior Giving Campaign Steering Committee which includes Kristin Blaser, Katy Diana, Jess Fean, Stacey Garcia, Allie Hunter, Lisa Injaian, Jenn McCann, Vanessa McGrath, Matt Meeker, Vince Rossomando, Defne Sarsilmaz, Brian Shultz, Sarah Smethie, Marci Stehman, Sarah Tax, Julia Tramontana, and Maedea Watson-Bey for all their help in collecting the donations.

Shopping with Eco-labels



KATY DIANA

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Shopping is no doubt one of our country's favorite pastimes. At the risk of making this activity a little less fun and uninhibited, I'd like to introduce you to one way you can make your shopping more conscious and responsible: eco-labels. If you think about it, our loyalty to brands and labels are a way to consistently find styles, food, and everything else that we love. Eco-labels take this idea and apply it to the way products are made – they impose consistency and a way to choose the best product without researching its contents, chemicals used, etc.

The most obvious eco-labels that most of us are familiar with include organic food, "no animal testing," dolphin-safe, fair trade, and "made from recycled materials." Many new eco-labels are starting to be recognized in the market, some of them more consistent and meaningful than others. One label that can be confusing is "made from recycled materials," since this does not necessarily mean the product comes from our recycling efforts when, say, we put paper in the recycling bin. Paper industries tend to recycle waste in their own process, which is great, but to see the results of the recycling we do every day look for a label that says "post-consumer recycled." Jazzman's uses this label on the cardboard sleeves you get around your grande mocha. (PS – don't throw these away with your cup! They are 100% recyclable *or* you can reuse it each time you go for a coffee fix – that's why it's removable).

Although these labels are meant to educate our purchases some are extremely inconsistent and can even deceive. An example of this is the "free range" label for eggs and chicken. According to www.eco-labels.org, the USDA has only defined this label for poultry, not eggs, and only requires that "outdoor access be made available 'for an undetermined period each day.'" This does not necessarily mean that the animals even leave the coop since outdoor access merely needs to be "available." Eco-labels.org also says this label is pretty much unregulated for beef, chicken, and eggs, and that the USDA considers 5 minutes a day to be adequate for the "free range" label.

One label that is consistent is the Rainforest Alliance certification. This label is most often seen on coffee (they have it in Jazzman's!), orange juice, chocolate, and bananas. Products with this label are generally grown in an environmentally responsible way by limiting certain pesticides, conserving soil and water, treating workers fairly, and supporting communities. Eco-labels.org says the label's standards were created by the Sustainable Agriculture Network, "an international coalition of nonprofit conservation groups." The standards are designed for each specific crop in a specific region. Rainforest Alliance is also a superior label because the organization creating the labels is independent from the

certified products so there is no conflict of interest with their sales. For more info, go to www.rainforest-alliance.org.

Purchasing fish has become relatively difficult, since there are now so many concerns about sustainability with wild populations and the environmental hazards of fish farms. Most people recognize Wild Alaskan Salmon to be a superior purchase, but the catch is that *everyone* can't buy Wild Alaskan Salmon, or we will run out. One eco-label that certifies sustainable fisheries is the Marine Stewardship Council. According to eco-labels.org, the MSC defines a sustainable fishery as those that, "ensure that the catch of marine resources are at the level compatible with long-term sustainable yield, while maintaining the marine environment's bio-diversity, productivity and ecological processes."

Unfortunately, this label is somewhat criticized because it is difficult to certify the standards in developing countries, whom we do get a lot of fish from. It also doesn't consider labor issues for the fishers in the standards. Hopefully, improvements on this label will be implemented soon, but for now, it seems to be the only recognized standard for sustainable fisheries.

There are many other labels on the market and others that are just being created. Eco-labels are becoming a great way to make responsible purchases. Here's the catch: getting certified with an eco-label is expensive, so prices tend to be higher. This is what prevents most people from buying organic food – only some of the products have prices competitive with the norm, others can be over twice the normal cost. This is something I have learned to get over, although as a college student I can barely afford to buy organic milk.

Many eco products run the risk of being too high end. I can't even count the number of times I've found a fair trade/eco-friendly hand bag going for a shocking \$50-\$80. Some of them are made out of used candy wrappers for god's sake! It's obviously unfair to make these choices only available to rich people. Of course, in my mind handbags are overpriced anyway and I would never spend more than \$25 on one, so I'm probably not being fair.

Eco-friendly products need to be weighed against what we already purchase so we can compare prices, think about what the label represents, and make a choice. It's unrealistic to think that everyone will automatically purchase products with eco-labels, but the ideal is that these will become the norm, which will prevent tons of pollution, give laborers better lives, maintain sustainable populations of fish, and conserve land and biodiversity. For more information on the many eco-labels out there, go to www.eco-labels.org.

Airband a hit

The crowd roared with approval for each act at Ursinus' 23rd annual Airband show, which was held in Wismer Dining Hall at 8 p.m. on Friday, April 7.

The show, which featured a series of lip-synched and choreographed acts performed by students, faculty, and staff, raised over 7,000 dollars for the Victim's Service Center of Montgomery County, which offers support to crime victims as well as training for professionals who work with these victims.

At the end of the wildly successful event, the "East Side Story" performance won best choreography and best overall crowd pleaser. Sankofa Umoja Nia (SUN) won best creativity, and the sisters of Kappa Delta Kappa won best costume.



Events week of April 13 – 20:

Thursday, April 13

Tour of Asia

6 p.m., Wismer Lower Lounge

Ursinus College Theater: "Fashion"

7:30 p.m., The Kaleidoscope Lenfest Theater

Friday, April 14

Track & Field hosts Grizzly Invitational

11 a.m.

2006 Latino Festival

6 p.m., Wismer Lower Lounge

WVU presents a free concert featuring The Feverfew and campus artists

6:30 p.m., Wismer Parents Lounge

Ursinus College Theater: "Fashion"

7:30 p.m., The Kaleidoscope Lenfest Theater

Saturday, April 15

Ursinus College Theater: "Fashion"

7:30 p.m., The Kaleidoscope Lenfest Theater

Tuesday, April 18

First annual Celebration of Student Achievement

Classes Canceled

Thursday, April 20

Ursinus Dance Company Concert

7:30 p.m., Kaleidoscope Lenfest Theater

Wal-mart's humanitarian crusade

Perhaps you've heard about Wal-Mart's plan to (and I'm quoting those bastards at Reuters now) "open more than 50 stores in distressed areas and help small business around those locations thrive once the discount chain moves in."

Well, now you certainly have. This perhaps takes away the prestigious "most ridiculously asinine business assertion of the past decade" award from KFC's "Fried chicken is health food" promotion a couple of years ago.

"Hey now, be fair," you say. Okay, let us take a closer look at this plan. Wal-Mart plans to offer such benefits to local "Mom and Pop" shops as business development grants and free in-store advertising. So, Wal-Mart will supply its "competition" (HA!) with funds and free advertising. Two natural questions arise: Why? And what's the catch?



**MATT FLYNTZ
DAN SERGEANT
Communism for Dummies**

First, it is well documented that Wal-Mart has been responsible for the demise of many small businesses owned by hard working Americans like me and you. You know that coffee shop down the road that just went out of business? Blame Wal-Mart. In fact, Wal-Mart is responsible for many of the atrocities of the past fifty years or so. Wal-Mart supplied the Viet Cong with buy-in-bulk shovels with which they dug their elaborate tunnel networks. John Wayne Gacy bought his infamous clown costume at Wal-Mart. And Wal-Mart has continuously supplied Art Garfunkel with the gallons of hairspray necessary to keep that afro raging.

Anyway, Wal-Mart, for elitist pricks like me at least, has gained a stigma of *evil*. Naturally, evil people and things try to lose their stigma by making themselves seem, well,

good. Satan, for example, takes the form of kind Catholic Priests to get people to do his bidding. So, Wal-Mart, wanting us to SHOP SHOP SHOP 'til we DROP DROP DROP, is trying to lose its evil stigma. Fair enough.

But there's got to be a catch, Oh, and there is. Get this. "Wal-Mart will also hold seminars for minority and women-owned business owners on how to become Wal-Mart suppliers." It all becomes crystal clear. Wal-Mart is buttering up these Mom and Pop shops so they'll *supply* it. And we all know that the life of a Wal-Mart supplier is by no means a rewarding one. It starts off nice. You know, these intrepid venture capitalists are thinking that they have found a market for their exciting new product.

But then... "Sure, we'll buy your product... for twenty-five cents!" Before you know it, you've hired twelve illegal immigrants, eleven under the age of ten, to do the work that you can't afford to pay *white* people to do. And then you ask yourself, "what went wrong?" And then you see that giant yellow smiling face, and you cry like a child. Sam Walton gives you a shoulder to cry on, and to paraphrase the ending of 1984, you love Wal-Mart.

Wal-Mart is like that creepy guy with candy your mom warned you about as a kid. Sure, you want the candy, but you know you'll get more than just candy in your mouth if you take it. So, small businesses, don't take it. Protest the manifestation of Satan that is Wal-Mart. Unless, of course, you like a life a servitude. Then go right ahead. Whatever floats your boat. I'm not going to judge.

Matt Flyntz and Dan Sergeant actually love Wal-Mart. Send any coupons you can find to maflyntz@ursinus.edu and dasergeant@ursinus.edu.

The Back Row: Highlander (1986)

**ALEX ERNST
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After my *Con Air* article a few weeks back, I had a lot of discussions about other people's favorite guilty pleasures. During one of those conversations, this movie came up and I kicked myself for not having thought of it before. This is one of my all-time, really ridiculous, so-bad-its-good movie favorites. Where else can you find a film where people run around beheading each other, while at the same time exploring the philosophical price of immortality? The icing on the cake has to be setting the movie in Scotland, choosing one of the most famous Scottish actors of all time, Sean Connery, not even bothering to have him change his accent, yet casting him as a *Spaniard!* Of all the movies ever made, there can only be one: *Highlander!*

Connor Macleod (Christopher Lambert) is an immortal, bound to walk the Earth seeking out and beheading other immortals as they quest to be the last one standing in order to win "The Prize." He finds himself squaring off for the final battle in New York circa mid-1980s against the evil Kurgan (Clancy Brown). Get ready for one hell of a clash because in Kurgan's words, "There can only be one, Highlander!"

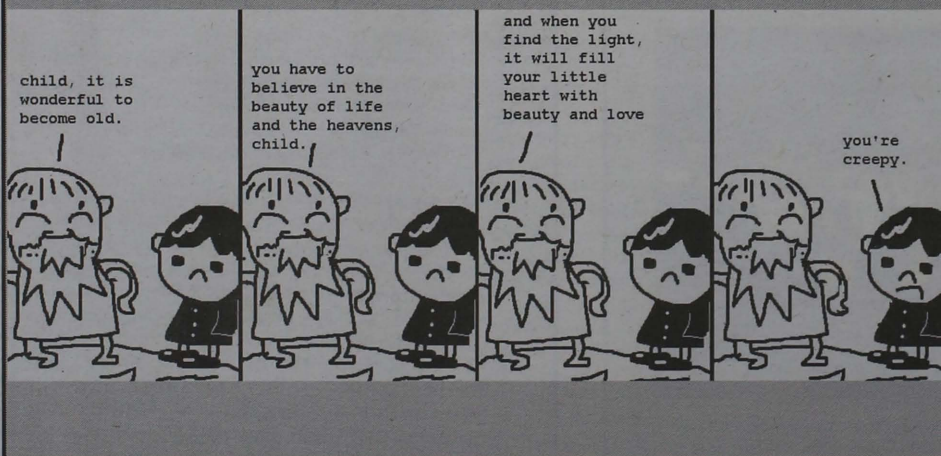
As far as acting goes, Lambert does a decent enough job. Scrolling through his credits on IMDB, it becomes clear that he's no Brando, as the only movie I had seen (much less recognized) was the adaptation of *Mortal Combat*. The same goes for Clancy Brown, who has made a career out of playing miscellaneous baddies. The real star here is Sean Connery, playing Ramirez, a fellow immortal who teaches Macleod the ins and outs of making a life out of cutting people's heads off and generally not dying. He comes off as the special mentor we all wish we had. As sad as I was when he died, knowing that there could only be one Highlander movie with Sean Connery, the filmmakers finagled an appearance for his character in the first sequel.

The special effects in this film prove to be a real double-edged sword when watched today. Watching any special-effects heavy movie from the early '80's to about 1994 is tough, partly due to the higher standards we hold movies to today, partly because the effects are just plain lousy. Every time an immortal is killed, we are treated to some really cheesy lightning effects ala the original *Terminator*. The upside of this is that it makes you grateful that we live in a time where CG-technology has progressed light years to the point where we will never have to use fake lightning again. Also, it provides some inadvertent humor that makes this movie so much more than the sum of its parts.

I realize it seems like all I have done is bad mouth this movie, pointing out the poor acting, the shoddy special effects, the bizarre story, etc., but you have to watch this movie to understand. All of these ridiculous elements are taken so seriously that you cannot help but be sucked into the world of *Highlander*. This movie has no right to be enjoyed this much, so don't go in with high expectations or you're bound to be disappointed. Before I go, I apologize for all the "There can only be one..." jokes. All I can say is "don't worry," as there can only be one HIGHLANDER... movie review.

Nosebleedboy

**BRETT CELINSKI
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The importance of CoSA, a message:

Dear students,

I hope that by now all of you are aware that the Ursinus College Celebration of Student Achievement will take place on Tuesday, April 18. We have received a number of very interesting proposals that run the gamut from art to volunteerism, and all points in between. This day will offer something of interest to everyone and promises to be both enlightening and entertaining.

I am writing this letter in order to clarify a misconception. As you know, there will be no classes on April 18; however, this does not mean that the 18th is a holiday. Classes have been rescheduled so that you can participate in CoSA, either as a presenter or an attendee (or both).

Student achievement is what makes Ursinus special, whether it takes place in the classroom, at a research conference, in a studio, or on a stage. We are setting aside a day in April to celebrate these achievements and we are starting a new tradition in the process. Please help us make this first Annual Celebration of Student Achievement a truly memorable day.

Sincerely,

Ed Gildea
Deans' Office

Ragnarok

I was driving out on the North Shore of Long Island the other day and I passed a place of worship called "The Church of the End Times." Depressing, but less so than the Church of We're All Going to Die Soon across the street.

Now, I understand that if you thought the world was going to end, it would be very important to have a church where you can sit around and talk about it, though I imagine it would really take the punch out of your Bingo winnings.

"Bingo!" Old Man Jennings cried triumphantly, knocking over his cane. People shuffled their walkers and grumbled darkly, "Any minute now..."

The caller, a fresh-faced young pastor (aren't they all?) came over to the table to, microphone in hand.

"Congratulations," he said cheerfully. "Your prize is ... salvation!"

More mutters. Salvation again? Jennings scowled and return to his old threat about joining the Church of Your Bingo Winnings Actually Mean Something.



CHRISTOPHER CURLEY
The 7 1/2 Floor

When you actually stop to think about it, there were way too many churches in the area. It cast a real doom and gloom over the town. Even shopkeepers had caught the bug, changing their storefronts to match the times, though Mike and Tony's Repent Sinner! For Your Time Has Come, Pizza had proved less popular than Mike and Tony's Little Italy.

I had always enjoyed the North Shore. It was the quaint part of Long Island where urbanization hadn't reached. I wondered why it had taken such a sudden turn for the morbid.

A young boy around nine or ten years old walked by, bouncing a rubber ball.

"Hey kid," I asked as he stopped and looked up. "What's with all the grimness and prophesy? This used to be a fun town."

"Oh," he said charitably, "I don't understand it either. Something to do with the construction over there." He pointed to a fenced off lot. I heard cackling and strange bestial sounds, as a crane hoisted a wide blue sign into the air.

"Wal-Mart Supercenter. Coming Soon!"

I sighed and walked back across the street.

"Where you going?" the kid asked.

"To play bingo," I said.

Drawing the line: the moral predicament of abortion, Part II

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Since Roe v. Wade is not the beginning of abortion, it follows concurrently that reversing Roe v. Wade will not end abortion. Reversing Roe v. Wade may sentence many women to the aforementioned (in last week's article) dark alley death. I do not mean to attack the pro-life stance, but it certainly seems hypocritical to use bleeding heart sentiments to protect the life of 'innocent, unborn children' in hopes of reversing Roe v. Wade, which will allow for mother and child to die together. Though obviously not every woman would submit to the hanger abortions, the risk of overturning Roe v. Wade is doubling the loss of life in some cases. Though I may not have the credentials of many others who have written on this topic, this is where I draw the line.

However, this is somewhat speculative. To remain more grounded in facts, consider the state of Mississippi. Over the past few years, anti-abortion sentiments have resulted in the closing of all but one abortion clinic in the entire state. Also, anti-abortion legislature has now mandated counseling for all women seeking abortions and a mandatory waiting period before the procedure. This mandated counseling involves such misinformation as the conjecture that abortions may increase the risk of breast cancer, which has not been empirically supported.

Also, the waiting period caused the number of second trimester abortions to rise from 7.5% of all abortions to 11.5% of all abortions. After the release of this information, the state immediately tried to ban second trimester abortions, which was, thankfully, blocked by a federal judge.

The passing of such anti-abortion legislature has had the following effects. First, the rate of teenage pregnancy continues to rise in Mississippi while falling nationally. Secondly, at least 200 babies were born in Mississippi in 2001 alone to mothers under the age of 15. Also, in 2001, for every thousand, 22 children were reported as abused or neglected, while probably many others went unreported. Lastly, in 2002, 55,000 grandparents were deemed the primary caregivers to their grandchildren in Mississippi (Newsweek).

There, concretely, is evidence of the effects of anti-abortion legislature. If abortion were to become entirely illegal in the state of Mississippi, the statistics may only become worse. Many do want to completely illegalize abortions, without even allowing special conditions for victims of rape or incest. Once again, abortion is an all-or-nothing, yes-or-no, completely polarized issue. Or, is there middle ground? Feminists, who have always perceived anti-abortion sentiments as an opposition to women's rights more than a protest about the sanctity of fetal life, were ecstatic to hear of the drug Plan B, which prevents conception. An advisory panel for the FDA voted 23-4 to allow Plan B to be sold over the counter in the US. This was cause for celebration. Finally, a woman can assert her reproductive rights without angering anyone concerned with the sanctity of life from conception onward.

Plan B is not an abortion pill. It is a large dose of hormones that prevents ovulation and, therefore, prevents contact between the sperm and egg entirely. Many felt that Plan B would provide a no muss, no fuss situation. However, the FDA rejected the panel's decision. Federal guidelines sent to hospitals in early 2005 on the treatment of rape

victims did not even mention Plan B, though one study notes that it would have been very useful to the vast majority of women who become pregnant by sexual assault (Newsweek).

Why was Plan B rejected? Margaret Little boils the abortion debate down to this one question: is the fetus, from conception onward, a person? Obviously, if we can attribute personhood to fetuses, than conservatives are completely right in the comparison of abortion to murder.

Little wisely asserts this: "Complex as the issue of personhood is, though, the temptation to think our work is done if only we could settle it — as though the moral status of abortion follows lockstep from the moral status of the fetus — has led theorists to ignore the rich ethical issues that are raised by the, shall we say, rather distinctive situation in which the fetus is located" (Abortion). Since Plan B is not an abortion pill, and therefore does not violate a fetus' right to life, some deeper issue is at work here.

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 heturnbach@ursinus.edu

Bears battle back

DANIELLE LANGDON
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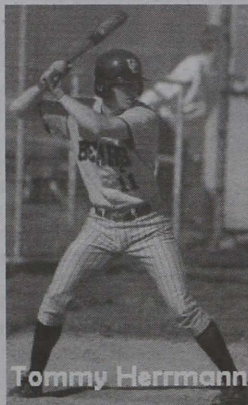
Baseball season is in full swing and our boys are trying to gain their bragging rights once again. With a record of 8-11, the Bears are trying to stay strong against their tough competition.

Junior Tommy Herrmann, one of the teams captains states, "We are a young team this year with lots of potential. We have yet to take advantage of that potential, but once the team gels, we will be a strong force to compete against. Everyone has been working real hard, which will definitely pay off in the long run." With this type of encouraging attitude leading the squad, the Bears are determined to improve their record through the remainder of the season.

In their most recent win, Freshman Zeb Engle recorded his second win on the mound on April 5, helping to defeat Delaware Valley. Freshman, Ryan Schmidt also helped out by pitching relief in the last two innings and striking out two Aggie batters. The Bears managed to tie up the game in the third when Herrmann slammed one into center field to bring home Senior, Ben Fisher. Sophomore, Bret Jenkins walked in the top of the fourth while Senior, Jon Sheppard hit a single to left center. Sophomore, Brendan Evans had a sacrifice hit to advance the base runners then allowing Fisher to bang a double into left field bringing in two runs; one of which

was the eventual game-winning run in the fourth inning to lead Ursinus past Delaware Valley 3-1.

Despite the two errors in the sixth allowing Del. Val to catch up 3-2, the Bears were not willing to give up their lead. Jenkins secured another run in the top of the seventh with an RBI single sending Herrmann to the plate. The Bears are now prepared to yet again, take on Swarthmore on April 7 at 3:30pm, hopefully crushing them like they did on Tuesday the 4 with a 12-1 victory.



Coach Brian Thomas, who has had over 36 years of thriving coaching expertise and has been the Ursinus Director of Athletics for five years now, has significantly helped the Bears, thus far, have a fairly optimistic season.

Thomas has led the UC baseball team to its best era in the 111 years the program has been in place. He has helped lead the team to three Centennial Conference Championships as

well as achieving 280 wins in 16 years. However, he is not the only positive attribute on the team.

Assistant Coach Steve Larson, who is also Director of Residence Life and Associate Dean of Students at Ursinus, has been a part of the program for three solid seasons. Larson has the natural ability to coach and contribute to the UC pitching staff; his outstanding background as a pitcher at Washington State University has assisted to his uncanny ability to work well with the Bears' pitchers.

Bearly Reminder

Thursday April 13

Men's Golf @ DeSales- 1p.m.
Women's Tennis vs. Bryn Mawr- 3:30p.m.

Friday April 14

Baseball @ Muhlenberg- 3:30 p.m.

Saturday April 15

Women's LAX vs. Dickinson- 12 p.m.
Baseball vs. Washington(2)- 12:30p.m.
Softball @ F&M- 1 p.m.
Men's LAX vs. Gettysburg- 3p.m.

Monday April 17

Men's Golf @ F&M- 1p.m.

The real deal on steroids

JAYSON REPKO
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Steroids and Baseball: What's the real controversy?

A dark cloud hangs over the start of the season in Major League Baseball as the steroid controversy is in full swing. As baseball purists cry foul for the sanctity of the records broken by juiced players, the real question becomes what benefits do steroids truly offer players?

There is no doubt that steroids are able to enhance muscle growth and recovery time, but can they really help a player hit a baseball?

What we do know today is that home-run records are breaking at a pace never before seen. From 1900 to 1994, the major leagues averaged one home run per team per game only once, in 1987. Since 1995, it has happened every year. In 1992, the average was .72; eight years later it had increased 62.5 percent, to 1.17. We also know that Roger Maris hit 61 home runs in 1961 and that his record stood for 37 years. Today, players have hit 61 or more six times since 1998.

We also know that baseball players have been using anabolic steroids since the late 70's. Recently, slugger Jose Canseco estimated that 85 percent of users of some type of anabolic steroids. In page nine of his recent book, Canseco stated, "The challenge is not to find a top player who has used steroids. The challenge is to find a top player who hasn't."

At first glance, this evidence appears to be concrete in support of how steroids truly do aid players in hitting homeruns.

However, more than just steroids need to be considered. There are numerous other factors involved. Today, strike zones, as well as ball park dimensions, continue to shrink, making more aspects of the game hitter-friendly. Personal trainers and massage therapists, as well as chiropractors and nutritionists, help to build better athletes. There is expansion, which, some argue has allowed weaker pitchers to make major league rosters. Also, the array of high-tech video equipment in clubhouses allows hitters to pick up flaws in opposing pitchers' deliveries while refining their own swing mechanics. Finally, laser surgery and eye exercises help to improve eyesight.

The other problem with determining whether or not steroids truly help a player hit more home runs is that there is no possible way to do field tests. Steroids are an illegal substance, so injecting half a team of players with steroids, keeping the other half clean, and waiting for the results just cannot happen.

Slugger Barry Bonds, the single season homerun record holder, is currently amassed in controversy as investigations are underway into determining whether or not he used anabolic steroids. Bonds offered his own take on steroids saying, "I don't know if steroids are going to help you in baseball. I just don't believe it. I don't believe steroids can help you, eye-hand coordination, technically hit a baseball. I just don't believe it, and that's my opinion."

The only thing that anyone can be sure of is that records are breaking like they never have before, and while the game may be cleaned up, it may never be pure again.

Tuesday April 18

Men's Golf @ Del Val- 1p.m.
Women's Golf @ Ursinus Invitational- 1p.m.
Softball vs. Haverford- 3p.m.
Baseball @ Haverford- 3p.m.
Men's Tennis vs. Muhlenberg- 4p.m.
Women's LAX @ Bryn Mawr- 4p.m.

Wednesday April 19

Men's Golf @ Elizabethtown- 1p.m.
Softball @ Gwynedd-Mercy- 3p.m.
Baseball vs. Widener- 3:30p.m.
Women's Tennis vs. Swarthmore- 3:30p.m.
Men's Tennis @ Arcadia- 4p.m.

STANDINGS

Baseball- 11-11 (5-3 CC) 5th
Softball- 15-5 (2-2 CC) 6th
Women's LAX- 7-4 (3-2 CC) T-4th
Men's LAX- 4-6 (1-2 CC) T-5th
Women's Tennis- 3-7 (0-4 CC) T-10th
Men's Tennis- 0-5 (0-4 CC) T-7th