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The Grizzly, January 25, 2007

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The Grizzly

Thursday, January 25, 2007

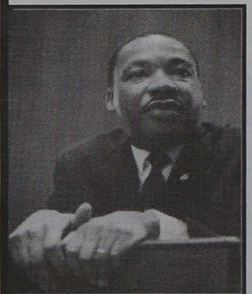
The student newspaper of Ursinus College



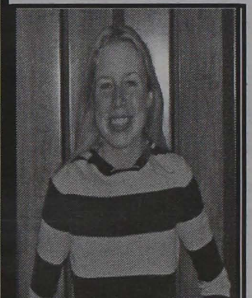
Phi Kappa Sigma's bike-a-thon raises money for Relay for Life

Collegeville, Pa.

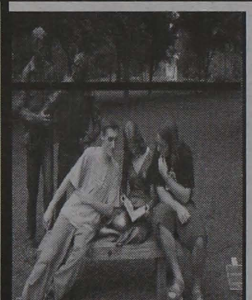
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Volume 31, Issue 14

Martin Luther King Jr. celebration week

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The spirit of the Civil Rights Movement was felt powerfully on the Ursinus campus last week, as staff and students commemorated the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in a week-long program, titled "Spirit in Action."

Celebrations began with an honorary breakfast on Monday, Jan. 15, followed by an Ecumenical Service later in the day and a candlelight vigil that evening. Throughout the week, staff and students participated in 16 Freedom School sessions, were treated to folk artist, Mark Rust, and invited to a screening of "A Genocide in Darfur" on Wednesday. They also gathered for "The Substance of Our Souls," produced by Cathy Young, on Thursday night, a performance of celebration through the spoken word, music, and dance of the legacy and impact on peoples' lives of Dr. King.

"I've been pleased," said Professor of History, Dr. Walter Greason, who organized the participating sponsors and committees for this program. "All of the participants have been outstanding, and the audiences have been inspired and rejuvenated."

Greason said that this year's program is an expansion of last year's, which only offered six Freedom School sessions. Greason and the organizing committee are hoping to build on what was successful this year and implement new ideas to develop an even stronger program next year.

"Spirit in Action" began on the nationally celebrated Martin Luther King Day, a holiday that is often underappreciated and not recognized by educational institutions around the country. Greason said that there are two reasons why it's important to have programs like this at a liberal arts college. "We don't do enough investigation to talk about what it means to be a citizen," he express. "The celebration gives us a way to do that, and to see the importance of being connected and reaching out to people that we don't agree with." Greason also noted the importance of building a way for white students to find ways to be part of King's legacy.

With such a large legacy left behind to be shared and fulfilled through time, Greason had to decide what should be the overwhelming message that participants could take from these events. "King was the embodiment of the Voice of God, of the Holy Spirit," he elaborated. "He was the moral center that guided the nation for a future that was more equal and more ambitious than any other leader in the 20th century. To take that spirit and to make it tangible and make it real is a miraculous accomplishment." Greason noted the importance of remembering just how difficult it was to steer the American public's perception away from the belief that white supremacy was acceptable.

The expanded "Spirit in Action" has come at a time on the Ursinus College campus that follows a difficult semester, one that was met with public outcries of racism and discrimination on campus. "We had a trying period here at the college with issues that King struggled with," Greason stated. He continued in expressing his pride in Ursinus students for coming through the hard times with honest celebration and discussion. "We're at the cutting edge. I am overjoyed that out of the pain that we endured last semester, we have begun to create new ways of including everyone in difficult conversation."

"It's the dawn of a new Ursinus," he claimed.

The organizing committee was made up of Walter Greason, Department of History; Todd McKinney, Director of Student Activities; Deborah Nolan, Dean of Students; Paulette Patton, Director of Multicultural Services; Rev. Charles Rice, Chaplain; Rebecca Skulnick, Department of Education; Cathy Young, Department of Theater & Dance; Gregory Striano, Assistant Director of Student Activities; and Melaina Valentine-Gresko, Office Assistant, Office of Multicultural Services. Students included Caitlin Harris, Blair Reddish, and Dina Yarmus, Class of 2007; and Jennifer Thompkins, Class of 2008.

Bike-a-thon raises awareness and funds for Relay for Life

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"Onward!" was the cry from noon on Thursday, Jan. 18, through noon on Friday, Jan. 19, when a curious sight could be seen in Olin Plaza: a bike-a-thon ridden on a solitary exercise bike. The bikers did not get lost on the way to the gym, but rode to support the upcoming Relay for Life, an overnight team event that raises money for the American Cancer Society. The bike-a-thon, organized by Phi Kappa Sigma member Jeff Teigler, raised \$459.26 for the fraternity's Relay for Life team.

The group of dedicated students, made up primarily of members from the fraternity Phi Kappa Sigma, took turns riding junior Dereck Lafontant's stationary bike for 24 hours. The pedals never stopped moving, even when riders switched. "To switch riders, you pedal fast enough so you can swing off the seat, and the next rider jumps on," explained senior fraternity brother Brandon Brown. Ursinus staff members Greg Striano and Steve Larson also took a turn on the bike.

"As members of the community, we have a responsibility to look out for each other," said senior Brian Kennedy, who rode the bike for two hours and 14 minutes straight. Junior Dave Chamberlain, who rode the bike from 2 pm to 3 pm on Thursday, explained his fraternity's dedication to the fight against cancer. In 2005, Andrew Shindel, then President of Phi Kappa Sigma, was diagnosed with cancer. "After coming back to school to find out your president just had an operation for brain cancer, it really makes it hit home," emoted Chamberlain. Since then, several other members of Phi Kappa Sigma have been affected by cancer. Senior Jeff Teigler, who rode for over four hours overall, said, "Even though we are still in college, cancer affects us, even on this campus." Almost everyone knows someone who has had cancer, as the disease counts for one in every four deaths in the United States, according to the American Cancer Society's Web site. "For the second year in a row, cancer deaths are declining," said Teigler. "It's an uphill battle—but we are helping."

The Phi Kaps accepted donations during the 24 hours and also sold raffle tickets for a facial at Appearances Salon and Spa, and a one-month membership to Body Transit Fitness Center. The continuous bike-a-thon reflected the structure of Relay for Life, in which at least one member from each team must always be walking during the 24-hour period.

Ursinus' second annual Relay for Life is scheduled to take place from April 20-21 at Patterson Field. If you're interested in joining or creating a team, or if you have any questions about Relay for Life, e-mail Sarah Beltrami, at sabeltrami@ursinus.edu. Check out Ursinus' Relay for Life Web site, at <http://www.kintera.org/faf/home/default.asp?event=190246>.

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WeCAN setback

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WeCAN, a social activism group in its first few years on Ursinus' campus, dedicated the majority of the fall semester to workers' rights. As senior French major, and integral WeCAN activist, Dina Yarmus put it: "We use the lens of workers' rights," since, naturally, workers' rights are deeply intertwined with human rights and other social justice movements.

WeCAN is affiliated with the organization United Students Against Sweatshops (USAS), and has initiated programs such as ESL. WeCAN works more domestically to guarantee workers' rights on campus and in the neighboring community as well, as in an international scope.

One of the primary aims of WeCAN was to ensure that Ursinus apparel does not use sweatshop labor. After a semester of open events for the Ursinus community and meeting with President Strassburger discussing this issue, WeCAN was endorsed by several community members and staff. WeCAN's seminal work was to gain President Strassburger's approval to affiliate with the Worker's Rights Consortium (WRC) for \$1000.

The only fool-proof way to ensure that workers' rights are not being violated in the making of college apparel is to know the exact locations of factories that are manufacturing the apparel. If Ursinus College were affiliated with the WRC, the school would require the brands to disclose the locations of factories.

The WRC investigates factories on a case-by-case basis to ensure fair conditions. The organization initiated the Designated Supplier Program (DSP), which works internationally and locates factories with fair conditions, workers' unions, etc., allowing for brands to only use these factories when producing collegiate apparel.

In their persistent efforts toward guaranteeing workers' rights, WeCAN became aware of the Rising Sun factory in Kenya. The Rising Sun factory is run by the Jones Apparel clothing brand, which is popularly used in college apparel. Last year, a worker at Rising Sun was assaulted by a manager. In response, the workers staged a slow-down strike. The next day, all 1200 workers were fired. The leaders of the union in Rising Sun have even been blacklisted, so that they still cannot find work.

On Nov. 29, President Strassburger agreed to affiliate Ursinus with the WRC. This would have made Ursinus one of the premiere colleges in the area to join the growing number of colleges affiliated with the WRC. However, on Dec. 14, WeCAN was notified that the college was in fact not going to be affiliated with the WRC, because, though "the College does support the principle of improving the conditions of workers producing apparel, the College does not support the approach required through the DSP."

The school will consider affiliating with the Free Labor Association, even after specific requests from WeCAN not to affiliate with that particular organization. While the WRC was initiated by students and faculty members (who still run the WRC) to be an independent monitoring body for workers' rights, many of the members of the board of the Free Labor Association are representatives of clothing companies that do not provide reliable, independent monitoring of workers' rights violations. Naturally, the quality of factory monitoring by the Free Labor Association is compromised by this conflict of interests.

After this incredible setback, WeCAN plans to ask the administration to reconsider this decision, while increasing awareness of this event in the Ursinus community. According to Dina Yarmus, "It's not about vilifying people, but it is about holding people accountable."

Philanthropy at Ursinus College

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Philanthropy is a big word. But just what does it really mean, and what does it have to do with us as students? Well, fear not, fellow Ursinians! I am here to explain it to you. Philanthropy basically means giving for the greater good, in terms of time or money. At some point, most of us have given back and can relate to this human instinct to help others.

Back in August, the UC Annual Fund sponsored the Welcome Back picnic, in conjunction with USGA. Since then, they have continued to meet, greet, and educate students about what the Annual Fund is, what it supports, and why philanthropy is so important, not only at Ursinus, but in many other venues.

On Oct. 27, Ursinus experienced its first official Philanthropy Day on campus. Bright green tags were hung on anything and everything that the UC Annual Fund supports on campus, and bright yellow t-shirts promoting those items were also worn by many students. Various flyers and pamphlets were passed out, put in mailboxes, or placed on tables throughout campus. You couldn't miss 'em! The day was a huge success!

So, you might ask, "Why all the bright signs?" Well, the UC Annual Fund aims to educate students about philanthropy because without the philanthropic efforts of alumni, parents, faculty, staff, and friends, Ursinus' current students would not have the wonderful opportunities now afforded to us. Thanks to the generosity of others, we can study abroad, participate in Summer Fellows, appreciate the arts at the Berman or Kaleidoscope, have enough supplies for classroom experiments, and enjoy sporting events. Thanks to the Annual Fund and its fundraising efforts, we have heat, water, and electricity in our dorms. And since tuition only covers about 80% of what it costs to educate one student, we can thank the Annual Fund for covering the other 20%! This is almost \$8,000 dollars that your parents don't have to pay and can spend on you instead!

In addition, the Annual Fund runs Phon-a-thon and the Senior Class Gift Drive every year. Roughly 30 paid students each semester call alumni and parents to ask them to support the Fund. This fall, our callers raised \$176,502.67—pretty impressive! Last spring, the Class of 2006 raised \$14,258.07 for their Senior Class Gift Drive, with 75% of the class participating. Their contributions went to the Annual Fund. Students were able to designate their gifts to specific aspects of campus life, such as athletics, the museum, music, scholarships, their majors, etc. Can the Class of '07 top that? We'll see!

Philanthropy is alive and well at UC, my friends. It's our job to stay engaged and keep it thriving!



News in brief

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A man convicted of sexually assaulting an Indonesian housekeeper and keeping her as a slave was sentenced last Thursday to 27 years to life in prison. Homaidan Al-Turki, 37, denied the charges, and blamed anti-Muslim prejudice for the case against him. He said prosecutors persuaded the housekeeper to accuse him after they failed to build a case that he was a terrorist. (CNN)

"The Scream" and another stolen masterpiece, "Madonna" by Norwegian artist Edvard Munch, were recovered by police last Thursday, two years after gunmen seized the paintings from an Oslo museum. "The Scream" and "Madonna" are now in police possession," police chief Iver Stensrud explained at a news conference. "The damage is much less than we could have feared." He said no ransom had been paid. (BBC)

The U.N. Security Council on Thursday voted 12-0 for a resolution that would put a U.N. peacekeeping force in Sudan's war-torn Darfur region, provided the African nation does not oppose it. But Sudan's envoy to the United Nations, Ambassador Omar Bashir, described the resolution as hastily devised. The U.N. plan would beef up the financially strapped African Union's force of 7,000 troops, which has been unable to quell the violence there. Sudan, however, has steadfastly opposed a U.N. intervention. (CNN)

Battery Notice

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Over the past weeks, disturbing e-mails have been sent from Tech Support, speaking of flaming laptops caused by faulty batteries. This could affect your laptop. Tech Support does not keep a list of the Dell Part Piece Identification number for batteries, and as such, it is up to you to check your battery. To do this, power your laptop off and flip it over. The battery has a small LED panel with a button that will cause any number of five lights. You will see an arrow on the release. Push it in the direction of the arrow and pull it up. This should bring the battery out.

Once out, look on the bottom to see if the serial number contains any of the following sequences: 1K055, C5446, F2100, KD494, W5915, Y1333, 3K590, C6269, F5132, OR331, X5308, Y4500, 5P474, C6270, GD785, M3006, X5329, Y5466, 6P922, D2961, H3191, RD857, X5332, C2603, D5555, J1524, TD349, X5333, C5339, D6024, JD616, U5867, X5875, C5340, D6025, JD617, U5882, or X5877.

If your laptop contains any of these sequences, or if you think it may be a faulty battery, please bring it to Tech Support as soon as possible. And, no matter what, do not use the faulty battery in the computer. For more information on this recall, please visit Dell's Web site, at <https://www.dellbatteryprogram.com/>.

How to avoid stress in a campus setting

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If you have been experiencing some trouble focusing on your school work lately or have been experiencing some changes in your behavior, feelings, or moods, you may be experiencing stress. Chances are, you're one among millions of Americans and many students on campus that are experiencing this psychological phenomenon. However, there are many ways available to help you cope with stress and that will stop making your days miserable.

"Stress" is a term that refers to the sum of the physical, mental, and emotional strains or tensions on a person. Feelings of stress in humans result from interactions between persons and their environment that are perceived as straining or exceeding their adaptive capacities and threatening their well-being. College students tend to stress over too large of a workload (like a 20-page history paper that is due in two days and hasn't been started), or for many of us, financial difficulties. Stress can take on many forms, and can directly affect people of all ages, whether at work or at home.

It is very important to know the signs of stress, because many students this year are probably freshmen who "freshly" graduated from high school and are still adjusting to college life. Others may feel isolated because it's indeed quite painful to make the transition from living at home to a little room with a roommate. Students may also tend to miss friends at home and have trouble adjusting to living away from their parents for such a long period of time. Welcome to the real world: Collegeville, where everything need not be so dramatic; you can still have fun while making new friends and doing all of your work in time.

Coping with stress can be easy, but only if you first

do your homework, and by that I mean recognize signs of stress. Recognizing signs of stress is important for quick intervention. Stress presents itself with a wide range of symptoms, such as fatigue, insomnia, change in mood, and basic physical and behavioral symptoms that are not hard to identify. The next thing you need to do is find out how to get appropriate help, and that's when making a little trip to the Wellness Center will also help you learn more about stress.

Take advantage of the resources available on campus. Ursinus is full of a lot of cool stuff to do, which can help you when you are feeling stressed out. For instance, take a stroll around campus to get some air and take time off studying; there are also many cultural clubs and sororities and fraternities on campus—be part of something, take initiative, be a winner. There are also shuttle buses leaving campus on the weekends to Philadelphia through the Philly Connection; take advantage of that to explore the city, go shopping, and visit new places. The gym doors are also open to you for working out, which helps let some tension out of the body. If all else fails, make a trip to the Wellness Center and have a discussion with the counselors available to you. They will help you see what advice works for you or what advice doesn't. If that doesn't work for you, then further steps have to be taken, depending on how serious the situation might be. Always know that there are also administrators at Ursinus willing to listen to you.

Here are some additional tips: avoid drugs and alcohol, as they can really cause a lot of damage to your system. Try to eat a balanced diet and get enough sleep. Stop procrastinating and start managing your time. Become interested in your inner self: take some yoga classes. Dr. Cathy Young is offering some early in the morning. You can also join martial arts classes or even join Escape Veloc-

ity, where you can let your body express itself by dancing. Try fencing and discover how to play with swords in a professional way, or play an instrument. Set realistic goals for yourself that can be met, and stop giving yourself a hard time!

There's no reason that you should let stress control your life. By taking control of your stressors, you can break free. For more information on about how to cope with stress, please check www.dr-bob.org/vpc/, or stop at the Wellness Center for free stress pamphlets.

Career Corner: summer plans

CAREER SERVICES

www.ursinus.edu/career

Summer may seem like the distant future, but it's only 15 weeks away. As you know, during summer break, many Ursinus students participate in an internship that will earn them college credits, introduce them to experienced professionals in their chosen career fields, and give them the experience they need to be competitive in today's job market. What you may not know is that many students who participate in outstanding internships submit their applications long before the end of the semester.

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

If you would like to broaden your horizons through an internship this summer, here are some recommendations for success: utilize the Career Services Web site and meet with Jen Huber, Internship Coordinator, for resources to help you find and obtain an internship, prepare a resume, identify internships of interest, and apply to more than one internship. The Career Services office suggests that you pay close attention to application requirements; follow up following sending your application; prepare for interviews by knowing yourself and researching the employer thoroughly; send thank-you notes to those who helped you in your search; and carefully choose an internship from those offered to you.

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

For more information, attend our Internship Workshop on Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2007.

teaching future sections of the course; they have suggested topics like Orientalism, the biology of race, sexual identity, and religious differences. While these issues are certainly sensitive, Florka, and apparently the students taking his course, believes that nothing is gained from silence. "If things are going to change," he said, "We need clarity. I don't think any progress can be made without it."

New "Topics in Diversity" class piques student interest

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Dr. Florka's new one-credit course, "Topics in Diversity: a Philosophical Inquiry into Race and Racism," was originally to be capped at 12 students. At the meeting for interested students last Thursday, 27 attended.

"I wanted to have a *discussion* group," Florka said when he saw the crowded room, but things soon settled when everyone agreed to divide the course into two sections, one meeting on Mondays at 9:00 p.m., the other on Wednesdays at the same time.

The timing of the course is no accident: after last semester's Facebook incident, in which several drunk Ursinus students posted photos of their friend passed out with racial and ethnic slurs written on his skin, people at Ursinus began talking. Incidences of harassment and discrimination were unearthed in open forums, such as Exposure meetings. Prompted by the Facebook incident, Ursinus students and faculty began engaging diversity issues head on. "The goal of this course," Dr. Florka said, "is to make the discussion as public as possible. This is just one way."

Students meet every week to discuss readings from "Race and Racism," a collection of essays from the Oxford Readings in Philosophy series, published several years ago.

Topics include the epistemology of race, the ethics behind affirmative action and quota systems, and whether or not color consciousness is morally desirable.

Student reaction after the first meeting seemed positive. "I'm taking this course for three reasons," says senior Dina Yarmus. "I want to support academic efforts and professors like Florka who are committed to addressing diversity issues, I want to continue discussions so that I can better my own understanding, and I like the idea of having discussions on race with other students on a regular basis."

Indeed, the course is free of lectures. It's not an expert imparting his specialized knowledge to students, but rather students and faculty exploring diversity issues together. Dr. Florka has always been interested in issues of social justice, but for him, the course material is all new. However, he believes that his background in philosophy will enrich the discussion, for the discipline deals with "concepts, clarifying them, and what their implications are."

The course may, if all goes well, turn into a four-credit "D" course as early as next year, but regardless, Florka would like to see the one-credit "Topics in Diversity" course remain a part of Ursinus' curriculum. Other professors from several departments have already voiced their interest in

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HIV/AIDS: the facts

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There was a time when using a condom consistently during sex was considered abnormal. In spite of reports of gonorrhea existing in epidemic proportions in our nation since the 1970s, few truly understood the threat posed by the rapidly growing rates of sexually-transmitted infections. This epidemic of malaise regarding sexual health and understanding came to a sudden and world-shattering halt with the appearance of a new, deadly disease, of which scientists, doctors, and the world knew very little. In 1980, HIV/AIDS became a permanent part of the planet's vocabulary, and pushed the world to face reality and protect itself. This article will describe ways in which you can protect yourself and your partner, and in doing so, join the fight against HIV/AIDS.

First and foremost, let's talk about transmission. Because of the nature of the HIV virus, transmission can appear complex and difficult to understand, but in reality, transmission can be put into fairly simple terms. HIV/AIDS is transmitted through blood, breast milk, and vaginal and seminal fluids. Simply stated, this means that HIV/AIDS can be transmitted during and through unprotected vaginal and anal intercourse, recreational needle use, breastfeeding, and situations in which blood may come in contact with open wounds or sores. HIV/AIDS can also be transmitted during unprotected oral sex, though the risk of this is low. (Planned Parenthood) Though traces of HIV/AIDS have been found in saliva and other bodily fluids, it is *not* transmitted through these fluids. (If you have further questions regarding HIV/AIDS transmission, don't hesitate to ask a medical health professional. (Planned Parenthood)

Though abstinence is the only 100% effective way to avoid HIV/AIDS and other STIs, there are other highly effective alternatives that will protect both you and your partner. In

spite of inaccurate and politically motivated reports and claims made by the current governmental administration, condom use is highly effective in preventing HIV/AIDS. Condoms can and should be used during both vaginal and anal intercourse, and have been found to significantly lower one's risk of acquiring the HIV virus. Condoms and dental dams should also be utilized during oral sex, especially considering no cases of HIV/AIDS have been reportedly acquired through *protected* oral sex. (Planned Parenthood)

The Center for Disease Control estimates that there are 40,000 newly infected individuals each year in the United States, thus making this epidemic a public health crisis. If you are sexually active or otherwise at risk for HIV/AIDS, join the fight against this infection and get tested. Completely confidential testing is available at Planned Parenthood clinics nationwide, at which (in some states) you also have the option of testing anonymously, meaning that your name is not used and your HIV status is not listed in your medical records. (In some states, healthcare professionals are required to report positive HIV/AIDS test results to the public health department.) You also have the option of buying an over-the-counter HIV test that can be found behind pharmacy counters or can be ordered through www.homeaccess.com. However, after initial infection, it can take up to three months for a test to come back positive. So, if you are concerned that you may have been recently infected, it is important to understand that testing immediately is often misleading. (Planned Parenthood)

Getting tested and knowing your HIV/AIDS status not only gives you a new and profound control over your health and life, it allows you to protect your partner(s) and take responsibility for your destiny. Join the fight; get tested and protect yourself!

A review of upcoming Residence Life changes

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Although the spring semester has barely begun, Residence Life is already planning changes for next fall. From the addition of a new dormitory to a modified SPINT housing process, students can expect a new—and hopefully improved—housing arrangement for the upcoming semester.

The new dormitory, scheduled to open for fall 2007, is the biggest addition to the housing family. Steve Larson, Associate Dean of Students and Director of Residence Life, said he is excited to see the project come together. The building will house 185 students, including six new Resident Advisors. The regulations will be similar to North, where students will not be able to squat rooms, smoke, or register parties.

The building will be complete with brand new furniture, smaller bathrooms, and four suites. It will also include lounge areas. Students may even be able to watch our Bears from inside their own dorm room. One lounge area will include a glass wall that faces the gym, while another allows for a view of the football field. "They're really nice," said Larson. "It's going to be cool."

So what will these new rooms look like? Unfortunately, students opting to live in the dorm will not get a chance to see their rooms until they move onto campus in the fall. To compensate for that, the college will be creating a Web site that will show the building's progress and design.

Virtually any student has the opportunity to live in the new building. "At this point we are planning to have some first year's living there," said Larson. "We are still kind of waiting to see where things go."

Tight space has been an ongoing problem at Ursinus, and the new dorm's opening will relieve some of the pressure that the Residence Life Office has each year. "We've been so extremely packed with housing; it's been a huge challenge," said Larson.

The game plan is to eliminate the triples," said Melissa Sanders, Assistant Director of Residence Life. And, the basement of BWC will become entirely first-year students.

The converted lounges-to-rooms in Richter-North and the freshmen centers will also open as student lounges.

With the addition of the new dorm, two houses located at 942 and 944 Main St. are being closed for renovation. Larson expects the project to last a minimum of one year, depending on the extent of the necessary repairs.

Residence Life has also been discussing the addition of a substance-free floor or house next year. "We're talking with the housing committee," said Larson. "I think we've gotten enough students requesting that its time to provide some options for that."


Special-interest housing will be making changes in the upcoming year as well, moving toward a more self-governing unit. The current Housing Coordinator (HC) position will become a Programming Coordinator (PC) position. After the SPINT application process, the selected students will vote on who will be the PC for that year. "They will not be paid positions," said Sanders, "but they will have first choice room in the house."

The current HC holds several RA responsibilities, from opening and closing the halls to mediating roommate conflicts. In my perspective, it means the HCs are actually doing a lot more work than their position was intended to handle," said Larson. "We want to move away from that, so that SPINT can focus on SPINT."

SPINT houses like Schaff (Umoja) house may become a social justice house for students driven toward those issues. Zwingli, which is currently the liberal arts house, may become a literary house. "They're really excited about that," said Sanders. "We think we have a lot of students that are interested in those themes already and [we're] hoping to pull them in together and do programming that surrounds those ideas."

"I'm excited about SPINT," said Larson. "I think these changes are going to really make a big difference."

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Opinions

The Iranian threat

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In the community of global powers, an anti-American sentiment has been taking shape and now should be cause for great alarm amongst Americans. Iran, a country governed by lunatic individuals in open disagreement and set on the destruction of western society, will be the greatest threat to American security since before the Cold War.

The concern with Iran is not something new; however, it is something that has escalated as a result of Iranian philanthropy toward terrorist organizations, a desire to pursue nuclear capabilities, and a declared interest to wipe a nation off the face of the earth. Even the decision to invade Iraq has allowed Iran to grow as American troops and attention are devoted to a more immediate issue.

Iran is a danger to the United States, its allies, and, most noteworthy, Israel. In a manner that oozes love and compassion, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad refers to the United States and Israel as "The Great Satan" and "The Little Satan." Iran has not limited its emotions to words; the government has supplied monetary support to terrorist organizations. Iran's most destructive sales to date have been the trade of Iranian-made rockets capable of traveling 2000 miles. The rockets were sold to Hezbollah and later used during the missile attacks from Lebanon into innocent Israeli suburbs this past summer. Iran's generosity toward terrorist organizations is not limited to plans executed against Israel. Terrorist cells in Iraq have had their funds, munitions, and explosives traced back to Tehran. More examples of Iran's attempts to undermine America exist and are worth further individual examination.

Iran obtaining a nuclear bomb would place all of western society in danger of seeing cities such as New York, London, and Jerusalem being obliterated by a terrorist act. Tehran has issued numerous statements declaring that the country's nuclear program is solely designed to generate energy and that nuclear technology is a right Iran will not be denied. However, Iran's actions resemble a nuclear program planned around future violence and war. A branch of the Iranian army directs their nuclear program and their facilities are not open to inspections from international atomic energy agencies. If Iran desires a peaceful nuclear pro-

In defense of Bush's Iraq strategy

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In the wake of public outcry and plummeting troop support for the Iraq war, President Bush unveiled his new plan aimed at restabilizing Iraq on Jan. 10. Mr. Bush took responsibility for his reckless and what appears to be thoughtless handling of the invasion of Iraq stating, "[w]here mistakes have been made, the responsibility rests with me."

President Bush's new plan encompasses three significant pillars: 1. The addition of roughly 21,500 American troops into Baghdad (The locus of roughly 80% of insurgent violence). 2. New responsibilities for Iraq's army to assume, including efforts to end sectarian violence and increase the size, locations, and capabilities of Iraq's own army. 3. The need for diplomatic ties with nations that potentially include Syria, Iran, Jordan, Egypt and others; a remarkable change from the unilateral horse Mr. Bush mounted nearly four years ago.

The course Mr. Bush is pursuing is very much in line with the bi-partisan Iraq Study Group, co-chaired by James Baker III and Lee Hamilton. The group stressed the ill findings that no option would be easy, yet an immediate with-

drawal of American troops would only result in a catastrophic collapse of Iraq's government.

The combination of roughly 21,500 additional troops and new responsibility asked of the Iraqi government appears to be the best option to save a region in the midst of civil war. Previously, too few American troops were available while the Iraqi army failed to achieve a semblance of potential self-sufficiency. To speed the training of Iraq's army, which will encourage an American exit, US forces will be appointed into each squad of Iraqi troops to help train through field experiences.

The new plan will hopefully allow American and Iraqi armed forces to be able to clear areas, continuously hold areas, and later build infrastructure. This is a system necessary to improve the situation in Iraq and a system that, according to President Bush, previously failed due to the inferior number of troops.

The plan Mr. Bush has decided to pursue was selected from a limited list and is still threatened to fail. The Iraqi armed forces will pursue greater responsibility but it is crippled by internal problems.

gram, why make the army responsible for operations and why shield activities from the outside world?

Iran has also built their facilities in a "war like fashion." They appear to have learned a lesson from Israel's strikes on Iraqi nuclear facilities in the 80s that were remarkably successful due to the targeted buildings' closeness. Their nuclear enrichment facilities and other key buildings vital to the creation of a bomb are spread out all over Iran and capable of performing multiple tasks. An air strike to take out nuclear plants would have to be vast, as the destruction of one plant would not immediately stop Iranian nuclear ambitions. As well, many centrifuges used to enrich uranium have been built many feet underground to hide size and information from satellite photos and make destruction from conventional missiles nearly impossible. To increase the variables in an air strike, Iranian facilities are situated in populated areas meaning any air strike would likely result with civilian casualties.

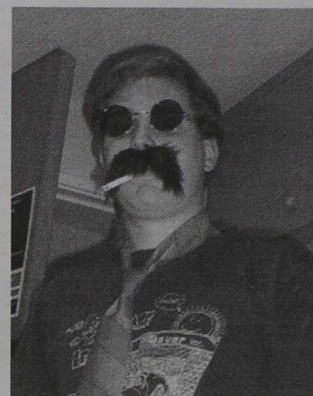
Every troubling fact about Iran is made worse by their theological heads of state. Most noteworthy is their President Ahmadinejad who is open about his belief that he has been chosen to bring about the 12 Imam. This is a religious belief that Islam will dominate the world following the return of certain spiritual individuals. What makes this belief so dangerous is that Ahmadinejad believes great destruction and devastation will precipitate the coming of a global Islamic revolution. As Iran already shares their weapons and funds with other violent groups, there is no reason to think that once Iran obtains a nuclear bomb they will hesitate to use it. There are many ways a nuclear bomb could be used and all are equally terrifying. Regardless, preventative measures must be taken as even the use of a small nuclear weapon will result in countless deaths.

Although America may be stretched to the breaking point militarily, Iran will likely be a pestering issue in the near future that will require attention. There have already been reports that Israel is planning a preemptive strike to ensure its safety and the destruction of Iran's nuclear facilities. Whatever happens, as it sits on enormous quantities of oil that drive the world, Iran is a growing and dangerous player in the international community.

Cont'd on Pg. 7

Incubus grows yet again

For their sixth studio outing, Incubus's "Light Grenades" is an interesting blend of styles which together embody everything the band has been since their formation in the mid 90s. Perhaps the most mature of their major label albums released to this date, this album features the boys of Incubus really showcasing their musical talent. Creating songs that flow together, shifting from elaborate effects-heavy tracks like "Quicksand," to the straight-up rock of their first single "Anna Molly," to the more balladesque quality of "Earth to Bella Pt. 1 and Pt. 2." Altogether the album is a decent combination of the lighter rock that they perfected



BRANDON BROWN
Here Music

on albums like "Morning View" and the heavy metal and alt-rock of "Fungus Amongus." Although Incubus seems to have moved away from the funk metal rock which defined early works like "Fungus Amongus" and their first major label out "S.C.I.E.N.C.E." the band seems to be writing songs which use cleaner tones and show-

case each musician's talent for creating catchy and ornate melodies. "Light Grenades" begins with the psychedelic "Quicksand" which starts off as a slow jam, pulling you in as it slowly builds to a climax, the result of which is the second track "Kiss to Send Us Off." These songs set the tone for the rest of the album, which flows like a mix CD. This has the effect of the listener being immersed in the flow of the disc, thus making the whole the focus rather than individual shining moments.

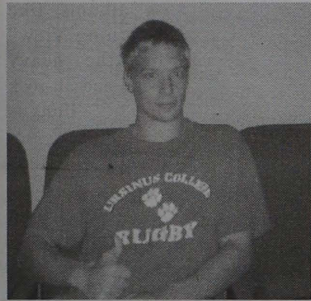
Personal highlights would include "Quicksand," "A Kiss to Send Us Off," "Anna Molly," "Light Grenades," "Rogues," and "Pendulous Threads." These songs are the harder songs of the album and reminiscent of Incubus's beginnings. Perhaps the most interesting aspect of this album is the vocal and guitar work. Brandon Boyd slowly over the years has been screaming less and less, and as a result, some of Incubus's previous albums have had an almost pop feel to them. However, on "Light Grenades," Boyd and co. seem to address this by drawing attention to the instruments. To address the issue of maturity, I feel I should be a little more specific. Take a song like "Pendulous Threads." Not only are the lyrics interesting to listen to, but the guitar and bass work is markedly different. There are more clean tones used, each note rings out, and distortion is used to give texture and not as a tool to cover up the playing. It seems that with "Light Grenades," Incubus showcases its ability to create complex songs that are elaborate and reminiscent of 70s guitar rock, but blending in more contemporary rhythm styles.

In conclusion, "Light Grenades" is worth checking out, and if you don't own "Fungus Amongus," then you should go get it this instant, and definitely catch Incubus on their upcoming tour dates because these songs are sure to be stellar live.

“Invincible” (2006)

Welcome back, everybody. On the heels of a heart-breaking loss to the Saints, I've picked a heart-warming tale of redemption about an underdog who succeeds against all odds. And the best part is, it's true (well most of it, but more on that later). In honor of the Philadelphia “Iggles,” I give you “Invincible.”

Vince Papale (Mark Wahlberg) is a bartender who's down on his luck, having lost his teaching job and his wife. When Dick Vermeil (Greg Kinnear) takes over as head coach for the way down-on-their-luck Eagles, he announces an open tryout. Papale goes out and to everyone's surprise, including his own, makes the team.



ALEX ERNST
The Back Row

Going in to this movie, I was somewhat skeptical. Could Markie Mark actually pull off the role of the greatest South Philly underdog since Sylvester Stallone jogged his way up the Art Museum stairs? I'm happy to say Wahlberg passed with flying colors. The film's Papale feels absolutely like a real person, full of doubts and fears, instead of some cookie cutter sports flick stereotype. Greg Kinnear also brings a much nuanced performance as the coach out to prove himself, but also as a family man, dragging his wife and kids around the country and looking to make a name for himself in the NFL.

Time to take a moment to address the whole “based on a true story” aspect of this flick. Although certain facts had to be true, such as the whole redemption angle, other parts of this movie had that cheesy cliché feel that just made you wonder. Did Papale really have a friend who was suffering from the loss of his brother in Vietnam? Did a blonde love interest really pop up just a short time after Papale's wife left him and before he made the Eagles team? These subplots aside, the film remains very strong in all other regards.

One particular component the filmmakers did extremely well was the sports action scenes. Avoiding the usual ridiculous, high-flying mid air tackle type scenes that seem to plague football movies as of late, “Invincible” had me actually feeling really involved in the plays and the games. The grounded nature of the action helped to keep the film feeling real, without pulling the viewer out of the story.

Because this is a flick about a son of South Philly rising up, it is interesting to see how the city itself is portrayed. All in all, it proves to be an interesting character in itself. From the brown row homes to the CGI-recreated Vet, the viewer gets a real sense of the feeling of home that Papale uses as a source of inspiration. It's nice to see someone besides M. Night Shyamalan portray the city on screen in a way that conveys a real sense of affection.

As the recommendation this week, I'm drawing upon an old classic, “Rocky.” Sure, Stallone doesn't single-handedly beat communism or even worse, Mr. T, until the later sequels, but it's a film that is still as enjoyable today as it was 30 years ago.

That's it for this week. As always send your questions, comments, and suggestions in, as they're always appreciated.

Alex Ernst didn't realize how much he missed the Vet until it was gone. Drop him a line at alernst@ursinus.edu.

That's a tasty metaphor-burger!

At a McDonald's not too far from here, the following scene unfolded as horrified mothers shielded the eyes of their babies and hipster teens took snapshots with their camera phones:

A couple (let's call them George and Laura) walked in the door and up to the counter. After much deliberation, which certainly did not please the customers behind them, they decided to order two double cheeseburgers for the gentleman and a Tuscan Chicken Salad for the lady. When they received their food, this couple was happy as could be. You could tell by the looks on their faces that George and Laura just could not wait to chow down on this delectable feast.

Or so it seemed.

The seemingly happy couple found a nice booth in the corner and sat down. Laura began eating her salad, as George fumbled with the wrapper on his first double cheeseburger. By the time he got the wrapper off, George had broken into a sweat and, if I do say so myself, quite the temper tantrum. “I don't want this stupid burger!” he shouted.

“Okay, dear. Just throw it away and get something else,” Laura said, more motherly than wifely.

“Excuse me, sir, but are you going to throw those burgers away?” I inquired.

“Yeah, they were givin' me a hard time,” George quickly responded, clearly flustered.

“Well, if you're just going to throw them away, would you mind giving them to me instead?”

“Why, whadda you want 'em for?” he asked, seemingly offended.

“Well, I want to eat them. I don't want them to go to waste.”

“I can't do that,” he said stuffily as he tossed the burgers into the trash.

“Why did you do that!?! You let two perfectly

good, edible double cheeseburgers go to waste!”

“Well, it isn't a waste, when you think about it. You see, by throwing those burgers away, I reinforced the values that make America so great. We need to keep the moral high ground, you know.”

“Since when has wastefulness been an American value?”

“Let me... let me finish! You see, America runs on a good, Protestant work ethic. You got to work for what you get. If I gave you those burgers, you wouldn't really appreciate 'em, and you'd expect more and more handouts. It's a... uhh... slippery slope. It starts out with you just wanting to eat my cheeseburgers, and then it graduates to you ransacking my pantry and robbing grocery stores. Yeah, it's a slippery slope!”

“That's the dumbest thing I've ever heard. Are you really going to let him get away with this sort of irresponsible behavior!?” I asked, turning to his wife.

“... uhh... I support my husband,” she said with what little force she could muster.

“That's right! I'm the decider! And I decide I want a McFlurry!”

As George skipped off to order his McFlurry, and I walked out of the restaurant, having lost a little bit more faith in humanity, I could have sworn I heard a faint “Someone please kill me” coming from the booth at which Laura was sitting.

But, unfortunately for her, I have the distinct feeling that her husband wouldn't support suicide (physician-assisted or otherwise), so she'll probably have to wait for Parkinson's or Alzheimer's to get her. And it will get her, what with the lack of federal support for finding a cure and all. There are better things to spend tax dollars on, right?

If you don't understand the metaphor, contact Matt or Dan at maflyntz@ursinus.edu and dasergeant@ursinus.edu so that they can compile a list of your names. That list will be entitled “People to avoid for the rest of our lives.”



MATT FLYNTZ
DAN SERGEANT
Communism for Dummies

Iraq: Cont'd from Pg. 6

A plethora of military departments have made jurisdiction between the army and the police impeding and confusing. The most inhibiting problem of the army is the individual loyalties of the Iraqi troops. Rather than serve law and order, Iraqi troops have gained the reputation of protecting “their own kind.” For example, Shia do not arrest other Shia and Sunnis rarely arrest other Sunnis. Not until Iraq troops drop the favoritism will Iraq flourish.

Most troubling to the entire society, and linked to the issues facing the army, is the lack of trust and civil society between groups. Sunnis fear the Shia-controlled government will seek revenge for decades of oppression during Saddam Hussein's tyrannical reign. This has resulted in local militias and other death squads roaming throughout the country geared to protect individual interest and spite others. Neither sect is trusting of the other or willing to make the first initiative to curb militias or stop what appears to be a religious arms race. Very little hope exists in a society with so much internal strife.

Many of the countries President Bush proposes to create diplomatic ties with are anti-American and appear

uninterested in the rippling effects of a failing Iraq. Most notable is the problem with Iran, a country whose president refers to America as the “Great Satan” and is one of the largest contributors to terrorist organizations in the region and throughout the world.

The Iraq war effort is traveling in a different direction. Hopefully, this will be a direction that allows America to revive our international image while also providing Iraqis with a better and more secure lifestyle. There are undeniable faults with this Iraq plan, but it still appears to be the best solution for a war that has digressed into a bloody quagmire.

If you seek the fame and/or fortune that comes from writing for the Opinions section of The Grizzly, e-mail the editor at maflyntz@ursinus.edu.

Midwest showdown in Miami: Super Bowl XLI

DAVE MARCHESKIE

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Magic in the Midwest last Sunday led to one of the NFL's most historic days. The Cinderella Saints got bipitty-bopped in Chicago as the Bears beat Brees and company 39-14 for the NFC Championship. Just 187 miles southeast, Manning gave Mr. Brady a taste of the last-minute-magic as the Colts came back from an 18 point deficit to win the AFC Championship 38-34.

For the first time in NFL history there will be an African-American head football coach taking his team to the Super Bowl. On this most historic day there will be two African-American men to take the leap for race and mankind. Chicago's head coach, Lovie Smith, along with Indianapolis', Tony Dungy, will face each other in South Beach for Super Bowl XLI.

On a blistery day on Chicago's Soldier Field, the Bears never fell behind the Saints all day. A problem with footing gave both teams trouble in the first quarter as Chicago managed to be the only team to squeeze out a 19 yard field goal courtesy of Robbie Gould.

The second quarter was more of the good Gould show as he was true from 43 and 24 to make it 9-0. After a healthy dose of Cedric Benson, the Bears decided to use Thomas Jones for some bread and butter; good thing, because he got on a roll. Jones touched the rock eight times and on the eighth carry he scored from two yards out. Time ticking with 51 seconds left in the first half, the Saints' Drew Brees found rookie receiver Mark Colston for a 13 yard TD pass. The score was 16-7 Bears going into the locker room at the half.

Early in the third quarter the Saints marched down the field after rookie superstar Reggie Bush caught a pass and went 88 yards for 6. Bush ran himself into the record book for the longest TD play in NFC Cham-

pionship history. The gold and black were only down two, 16-14. Unfortunately, on the Saints' next possession, Drew Brees was called for intentional grounding in the end zone which resulted in a two-point safety. On the Bears' ensuing possession, the snow began to fall and the dome-friendly Saints collapsed.

The Windy City got swept up in excitement as the Bears shuffled their way into the Super Bowl by scoring 21 unanswered points in the fourth quarter. Bears QB, Rex Grossman, can finally breathe easy as many nay-sayers doubted him all season. Chicago played almost perfect football as they surrendered no turnovers and only one penalty for five yards. New Orleans committed stupid suicide with four turnovers and seven penalties for 47 yards. Chicago won the NFC Championship 39-14.

In the next state over the RCA Dome was nice and cozy for the Colts as the Patriots finally have to come through Peyton's house to get to the Super Bowl. This was the third time in four years that the Patriots and Colts were meeting in the playoffs. Manning lost both games in 2003 and 2004 in the snow of New England. These two franchises are turning into one of the NFL's greatest postseason rivalries and this game did not disappoint.

With much of the focus on the quarterbacks it was in fact a day of the big men. New England found themselves on the scoreboard first as offensive lineman, Logan Mankins, recovered a fumble in the end zone for the games first TD. Same clutch kicker, different team, Adam Vinatieri of Indianapolis booted one through the uprights from 42 yards out to make it 7-3 Patriots at the end of the first quarter.

Patriots' running back Cory Dillon scored in the second quarter to make it 14-3. On the Colts next possession Manning threw an interception to Patriots DB Asante Samuel who took it 39 yards to the paint to make it 21-3. A mood of 'here we go again'

third consecutive title and fourth in the past five years.

The Women's basketball team is also in a heated race for the playoffs with a conference record of 5-4. The Bears are behind Johns Hopkins for the fifth and final spot in the conference playoffs and the remainder of their schedule looks challenging, but this group of girls can definitely pull it off. Senior Mary Kate Daley is second in the league in scoring and fellow senior Molly Guntli is sixth in the league in rebounds. That combination, along with the three point threat in Sarah Hennessey, can help the Bears reach the playoffs.

The Ursinus wrestling team is playing up to its usual abilities for the fifth consecutive year. With an overall record of 9-0 and a 3-0 conference record, the Bears look to cap-

swept over the RCA Dome as the Colts faithful were all too familiar with this situation. What they did not realize is that Manning had some Midwest magic up his sleeve. Vinatieri hit a field goal before the half to make it 21-6.

Indianapolis received the ball first in the second half and the opening possession showed nothing but poise from Peyton. Manning drove the team 76 yards down the field as he scored a touchdown on a one yard quarterback sneak. The Colts were finally making progress, with the score now 21-13. Big blue's next offensive possession proved to be the biggest comeback in NFL playoff history. Peyton threw a one yard touchdown pass to defensive lineman, Dan Klecko, then rolled the dice and converted the two point attempt to tie the game at 21.

Brady, fearless under pressure, took his team down the field and scored a quick touchdown with receiver Jabar Gaffney to make it 28-21. Even though it was Sunday, it was Colts' center, Jeff Saturday, who recovered a fumble in the end zone to knot the game up at 28. The game made an NFL playoff record of three different linemen scoring touchdowns in one game.

The game came down to an offensive shootout of who had possession last. The next nine points came from the toes of the kickers making the score 34-31 in favor of New England. On the Colts' ensuing drive, Peyton Manning injured his thumb after smacking it on a lineman's helmet during his follow through. The Patriots were shut down and forced to punt.

Peyton came on the field with 2:17 remaining in the game with a winning touchdown simply 80 yards away. In shotgun formation he orchestrated a game winning drive one pass after another. Joseph Addai ran the ball in the end zone from three yards out to take the lead 38-34.

Captain comeback, Tom Brady, found himself in a familiar situation with exactly one minute remaining and the game on the line. Brady made his career on six game winning drives in playoffs games including three Super Bowl wins. Down by four points, New England needed a

ture their unprecedented fifth consecutive conference crown. Ursinus Wrestling Coach Bill Racich clearly has his team in a winning mindset, even with the loss of two great wrestlers in Eddie Murray and Mike Troutman to graduation.

Coach Jeff Schepers and the Women's Gymnastics team got their season underway on Jan. 13, up in Eastern Michigan. Although they finished third in the competition, the Bears look to have an excellent 2007 campaign and with the likes of Jessica Furman and Briana Morrissey on the squad, Coach Schepers has to be excited about this season.

As for the Men's and Women's Indoor Track and Field team, Coach Chris Bayless has to be excited about the returns of sprinters Josh Hannum and Brandon Evans. As possibly the two fastest kids on his squad, they should pull out a lot of victories for the Bears. Matt

touchdown to win. Brady completed two of three passes and took a timeout with 24 seconds left at the New England 41. Brady's next pass floated right into the hands of Colts defensive back, Marlin Jackson, and with that interception the Indianapolis Colts won the AFC Championship 38-34 on their way to South Florida.

A big hairy monkey has been hanging on the back of Peyton Manning's career and with this magical win, he has earned his team a trip to the Super Bowl for the first time.

Super Bowl XLI will be a Midwest showdown between the NFC's Chicago Bears and the AFC's Indianapolis Colts. This is Chicago's second Super Bowl appearance in 21 years since their win over New England in Super Bowl XX under legendary coach, Mike Ditka. The former (Baltimore) Colts lost to the Jets and 'Broadway' Joe Namath's guaranteed win in Super Bowl III. This will mark the first appearance to the big game for the Indianapolis Colts franchise. Super Bowl Sunday will be on Feb. 4 at Dolphin Stadium in Miami, Florida. The game will be broadcast on CBS; game time is at 6:25 p.m. E.T.

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Grantede is one of the best hurdlers in the conference and Mike Malone is a definite competitor in the pole vault. For the women's side, Sarah McNally finished second in the 5000m. Performances like that can only benefit the Bears down the road.

As for the Men's and Women's swim teams, the Bears have been giving it their all and it has showed as the women's team is only one game under .500 with three meets to go at 4-5. The men's team is still trying to get their first conference win of the season. They have three more shots left to try so good luck to them and to every team at Ursinus College.

Winter sports update

MATTHEW PASTOR

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While the student body was relaxing during winter break, the winter sports teams on Ursinus' campus got right back into the swing of things soon after the New Year. As we started to move back into our dorms and settle in for the spring semester, the winter sports teams never missed a beat, and some are making a push for the postseason.

The Men's basketball team, winner of two consecutive Centennial Conference titles, are right in the thick of the playoff hunt once again with a 7-2 conference record. With the help of recent 1,000 point scorers Will Furey and Nick Shattuck, who lead the team in scoring, the Bears look to push forward into the conference playoffs and take a shot at their