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The Grizzly, November 30, 2006

Kerri Landis

Marlena M. McMahon-Purk

Sarah Keck

Salia Zouande

Akasya Bengé

See next page for additional authors

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Authors

Kerri Landis, Marlena M. McMahon-Purk, Sarah Keck, Salia Zouande, Akasya Bengé, Amber Adkins, Lane Taylor, Tracey Ferdinand, Erin Andrew, Corinne Licchetto, Kyle Fox, Alex Ernst, Matthew Pastor, and Danielle Langdon

The Grizzly

Thursday, November 30, 2006

The student newspaper of Ursinus College

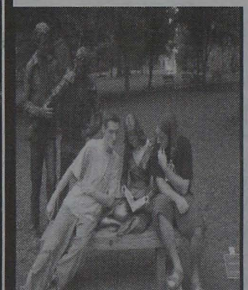
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UCDC concert showcases campus talent

Collegeville, Pa.

Volume 31, Issue 12

Alcohol awareness on the front burner of the Ursinus campus

SARAH KECK

sakeck@ursinus.edu

On Sunday, Nov. 19, Ursinus students watched in horror as three of their fellow students fell victim to alcohol poisoning; all three were transported to the hospital, two of them by ambulance.

Students were quickly informed that these events, which took place in the Quad, BWC, and Reimert, were staged as a way of bringing alcohol awareness to the front burner of conversation at Ursinus.

The enactments started off with three or four students entering one of the three residence halls listed above, making enough noise to get the attention of the students who were living there. Once there was attention drawn to the situation, one of the students passed out and, while the other actors responded appropriately, SERV was dispatched and responded. Two EMTs, both of whom graduated from Ursinus and work for a local ambulance squad, were informed of the enactments before they occurred and responded to the scene, transporting two of the three patients away from the college by ambulance.

Later in the evening, an e-mail was sent to all students from the sponsoring organizations. "Tonight on campus, three alcohol poisonings were staged on by multiple organizations that care about you," it read. "We hope those you that witnessed the acting and were scared for the person lying there. We want you to realize what it feels like to worry so much about someone, because if you don't drink responsibly, you're causing your friends and family a lot of pain."

"We got a response from people," said Kari Sear, Chief of Student Emergency Response Volunteers (SERV), who heard afterward that at least every location there were a few people petrified with what they saw. "We got an emotional response from people,

and that's what we were looking for. And when you get an emotional response from people it makes them think."

The college declared the following day, Monday, Nov. 20, "Remembrance Day," for all those who have lost their lives because they did not drink responsibly. Student leaders on campus dressed in black, wearing halos, representing and carrying the story of one lost. That night, an Alcohol Awareness panel was held in Pfahler Auditorium. The panel, which consisted of Kari Sears of SERV, Julia Lickfield of Campus Activities Board (CAB), Kate Conner of RHA, Brandon Peer of Residence Life, and Vinny DiMeglio of Greek Life, began with a slide presentation of general statistics which was then opened up for questions from the student body. "People asked everything from how to cure a hangover, how we can make policies on campus more effective, what's too much and how do you know what's too much, [and] how [to] get a friend to stop drinking," Sears said.

Senior Derek Zimmer is a member of one of the sponsoring organizations and was one of the "patients" on Sunday night. "We wanted to deliver two messages to the campus with these events," Zimmer said. "The first one was to the upperclassmen and student leaders on campus: it's time to take action and take on the responsibility of teaching others how to drink safely and responsibly. The second message was to the [under]classmen, and it was a much simpler one: we care about you and want you to be safe."

Zimmer said that overall, the events had a positive response from people, particularly from the upperclassmen in attendance at the panel. Because of a conflicting BIO111 test, there weren't as many freshmen present at the panel as organizers would have liked, but they're hopeful that they were reached with the other events.

"We chose this time because the alcohol poisoning count was getting way too high," Zimmer said. "It was just time that students took charge and made a difference. We have the power and the influence to make a difference on this campus and stop fellow students from hurting themselves."

"The time for action is now."

A snapshot of annual high-risk college drinking consequences*

Death: 1,700 college students between the ages of 18 and 24 die each year from alcohol-related unintentional injuries, including motor vehicle crashes

Injury: 599,000 students between the ages of 18 and 24 are unintentionally injured under the influence of alcohol

Assault: More than 696,000 students between the ages of 18 and 24 are assaulted by another student who has been drinking

Sexual Abuse: More than 97,000 students between the ages of 18 and 24 are victims of alcohol-related sexual assault or date rape

Unsafe Sex: 400,000 students between the ages of 18 and 24 had unprotected sex and more than 100,000 students between the ages of 18 and 24 report having been too intoxicated to know if they consented to having sex

Academic Problems: About 25 percent of college students report academic consequences of their drinking, including missing class, falling behind, doing poorly on exams or papers, and receiving lower grades overall

Vandalism: About 11 percent of college student drinkers report that they have damaged property while under the influence of alcohol

Police Involvement: About five percent of four-year college students are involved with the police or campus security as a result of their drinking, and an estimated 110,000 students between the ages of 18 and 24 are arrested for an alcohol-related violation such as public drunkenness or driving under the influence

Alcohol Abuse and Dependence: 31 percent of college students met criteria for a diagnosis of alcohol abuse, and six percent for a diagnosis of alcohol dependence in the past 12 months, according to questionnaire-based self-reports about their drinking

*Statistics courtesy of www.collegedrinkingprevention.gov.

A snapshot at Ursinus

In the fall semester of 2006, to date, SERV has been dispatched for 11 alcohol related calls. It was necessary in seven of these cases to transport students to the hospital.

In the previous issue of The Grizzly, an article written by Saia Zounde was printed about the SquadZilla concert on Nov. 3. Credit was not given to WVOU as being the main contributor to the funding of this event.

We would like to express our sincerest apology for this error.

For more information on the events the WVOU hosts throughout the year, please contact events manager Sheila Marrero, at shmarrero@ursinus.edu.

The Grizzly

The student newspaper of Ursinus College

Volume 31, Issue 12

grizzly@ursinus.edu

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TO ADVERTISE:

E-mail: grizzly@ursinus.edu
Phone: 610-409-2488
Ursinus College-The Grizzly
P.O. Box 8000
Collegedale, PA 19426

grizzly@ursinus.edu

Diversity forum held for staff and students

SALIA ZOUANDE

sazouande@ursinus.edu

On Wednesday, Nov. 15, students, staff and faculty were invited to take part in a very important discussion concerning diversity on campus initiated by Professor Matthew Mizenko, Associate Professor of Japanese and East Asian Studies and President of the Diversity Committee.

The dialogue on diversity was an idea initiated by Mizenko, along with members of the diversity board, to create a dialogue between professors and students to understand the feelings of both. The discussion, which took place in Wismer Lower Lounge, was sponsored by Exposure and the Committee on Diversity and was one in a series of different community events that was going to take place on campus throughout the week on the topic of diversity.

One of the main purposes of this dialogue on diversity was to initiate talking among ourselves, to get together and think about the theme of diversity at Ursinus. This dialogue on diversity had been highly anticipated by the student body in an attempt to try to find solutions to the recent different issues affecting the community. "This in an ongoing project," declared Professor Matthew Mizenko. "We're hoping for more dialogues in the future."

Another new place for students to speak their minds on campus is Exposure. Exposure is a new diversity club on campus created by senior Heather Saunders in response to the series of different racial incidents that took place on Ursinus campus couple of months ago. The purpose of Exposure was to bring students of different colors together to discuss ideas, as well as learn from each other's differences, share ideas and grow as one community. "Ursinus students need to know that diversity is a power on this campus that needs to be utilized," said Saunders.

Exposure meets every Thursday in Wismer Lower Lounge from 7 to 8 p.m. to celebrate diversity and discuss some of our issues on campus.

The central theme of this dialogue revolved around three questions addressed to the students and faculty members: Where are we now? Where do we want to be? And how can we get there? A discussion followed, during which students, as well as faculty members, expressed what their views of diversity are. Other topics were discussed, such as how to report incidents of harassment, how to utilize campus safety, and how staff members can be approached as well.

Among some of the suggestions that were proposed by students, one was a revision to the school curriculum, particularly the Common Intellectual Experience (CIE), taken during freshmen year; different books could be read in class that would be more relevant to what's going on in our society today, by touching more on subject such as religion, race, gender issues, sex, etc. Also, professors could try to link the problems on campus with their classes to reach those who aren't aware of the various occurrences on campus.

Students also discussed how attending USGA meetings are also a good means to get informed about the different issues going on campus. Town hall meetings happen three times a semester, and by attending them, you can hear a lot about the community and learn ways to make personal progress by viewing others differently and celebrating diversity in our student body.

For more information about Exposure's upcoming events, please e-mail hesaunders@ursinus.edu or any of the club officers. If you would like to learn more about the Diversity Committee on campus and some of its goals, please e-mail Professor Matthew Mizenko at mmizenko@ursinus.edu. You can stop by at his office as well, in Olin 207, if you have more questions. Also, you can contact Ms. Patton of the multicultural services at the Unity House. Stop at the Dean's office in Corson Hall for further information.

Town Hall discusses incidents on campus

AMBER ADKINS

amadkins@ursinus.edu

On Nov. 15, 2006, the Ursinus Student Government Association (USGA) held its third and final Town Hall Meeting of the semester. At each Town Hall Meeting from now on, there will be an Executive Report from the USGA Executive Board.

During this report, the student body will be informed of the recent incidents that have occurred on campus. The student body has been requesting more information about what is going on around campus and will be informed if they attend upcoming Town Hall Meetings. No names or residential locations will be given due to confidentiality, but all of the basics of what is going on will be announced.

At the Town Hall Meeting, President Amanda D'Amico announced that several stu-

2nd annual Relay for Life officially kicked off at Ursinus

AKASYA BENGE

akbenge@ursinus.edu

Relay for Life, the fund-raising event for cancer research, has begun once again. Last year, Relay for Life was held in the spring semester, and because of the enormous interest and success, with Ursinus raising \$38,563, this year the program was officially established.

A kick-off event was held in Pphaler auditorium, where committee members presented the event to interested students and staff.

Relay for Life is a program that was founded in 1985 by Dr. Gordy Klatt of Tacoma, Washington. It was a fund-raising effort for cancer research, in which the doctor walked a track by himself for 24 hours and raised \$25,000. Since that time the tradition has expanded to 3 million participants, and last year alone it raised \$380 million. The original concept of walking for funding is still in place today.

The money has helped fund 40 Nobel Prize winners in their research for treatment and increased cancer survival rates for five years after diagnosis from 50% to 65%. It does make a difference; people are actually living longer because of the research done with the money earned from the walk. The program helps fund not only the American Cancer Society (ACS), but also Road to Recovery, Look Good ... Feel Better, Hope Lodge, and Camp Can-Do. The support programs are especially helpful because they are free of charge to those in need with cancer.

About 50 students attended the kick-off, as well as President Strassburger, Dean Debbie Nolan, and Director of Residence Life Steve Larson. General information about cancer and Relay for Life was provided at the kick-off. There was a survivor ceremony, which redefined survivor in several ways. The way a survivor is defined ranges from someone who is in the remission stage to someone who has just been diagnosed. A guest speaker also came at this time and shared her own personal story with the students about her and her family's battle with cancer. The story was extremely inspirational and motivated the students about this worthy cause.

The kick-off ended with the Luminaria Ceremony, a time to reflect on this cause and those that the participants personally knew who have been affected by cancer.

Relay for Life is an ever-expanding program, and college students are extremely involved with it. One out of 10 Relayers is a youth participant, which includes college students. In fact, a special organization has been created for college students who are concerned about cancer, called Colleges Against Cancer. The club works year round to involve students and fight against cancer by educating, motivating, and honoring survivors.

It is important that students continue to be involved, and motivate others to be involved. It is an extremely worthy cause that can be a lot of fun, while really helping others in their battles against cancer, and in the battle for their lives. For anyone interested in starting or joining a team, please contact Joe Joyce (jojocoyce@ursinus.edu), Anthony Natale (annatale@ursinus.edu), Jeanna Krier (jerkrier@ursinus.edu), or Courtney Fox (cofox@ursinus.edu), or visit <http://www.kintera.org/faf/home/default.asp?event=190246>.

Students have been dismissed due to fights in the recent months. Students will continue to be dismissed, suspended, and given disciplinary measures for fights, using threatening language, and not following Ursinus policies.

The focus of the Town Hall Meeting was to give students the opportunity to discuss possible changes to the social policies here at Ursinus. Many students were concerned about the overemphasis on alcohol and the lack of event options on the weekends. Other students expressed the concern that those hosting parties are not following the Student Handbook policies by not providing food and non-alcoholic drinks at social events where alcohol is present. Over the next few weeks, many organizations around campus will be hosting open forums to discuss the social policies in more depth. If you are interested in participating in a forum, please contact Melissa Sanders.

For more information about the Ursinus Student Government Association, please visit their Web site at <http://webpages.ursinus.edu/usga/> or e-mail usga@ursinus.edu.

An oral examination



LANE TAYLOR

Everything You Never Knew You Wanted to Know About Sex

What usually comes to mind upon hearing the phrase “oral examination?” Most American college students would respond that they most often think of traumatic experiences of failed attempts to pass a speaking exam in a foreign language course. Of course, these students would be lying. Due to a combination of factors, including the spread of sexual information, education, and the Clinton-Lewinsky scandal of the late 1990s, most minds drift to

sexual contact when hearing the term “oral.” “Oral sex,” in the context of this article, refers to mouth-to-genital contact during sexual activity, specifically cunnilingus and fellatio (the formal terms for “eating out” and “blow job”). I would argue (in accordance with this column’s recurring themes of “non-judgment” and “yeah, it’s okay to have, enjoy, and talk about sex”) that it is not problematic that most people think “oral sex” upon hearing the term, “oral,” and that a large portion of information is the perfect side dish to a healthy curiosity and appetite.

In order to protect both you and your partner while participating in oral sex, there are several measures you can take to prevent disease transmission. (Like vaginal and anal intercourse, certain sexually-transmitted infections can be transmitted through oral sex, including gonorrhea, syphilis, herpes, and in rarer cases, HPV and HIV/AIDS.) When engaging in cunnilingus (“eating out”), using a dental dam will prevent contact with fluids exiting the vagina and stop the transmission of most sexually-transmitted infections. However, herpes and HPV infections can also be spread through sores and growths around the vaginal area, meaning that a dental dam will not always prevent transmission of these infections. It is also important to note that herpes and syphilis infections can be acquired while receiving oral sex due to the sores and growths that can occur around the mouth, and the best method of prevention (aside from abstinence) is to communicate openly with your partner about past sexual experiences, and to be tested as frequently as your healthcare provider deems necessary.

There are also methods that you and your partner can undertake while engaging in fellatio (or “blow job”) to protect one another from infection. First and foremost, condom use prevents the spread of most sexually-transmitted infections that can be transmitted during oral sex. How-

ever, much like cunnilingus, because sores and growths can occur around the mouth and outside of the genital area, condom use is not always preventative of infections such as herpes and HPV. However, preventing fluids from coming in contact with one another is very effective in preventing most sexually-transmitted infections. When using a condom during oral sex, choose a brand or type that does not include spermicide, which can create a bitter taste in the mouth. If you or your partner have trouble performing with non-lubricated condoms, flavored condoms are available that can make the experience more enjoyable.

Another important part of making the experience of oral sex as enjoyable as possible regards etiquette. When performing oral sex on your partner (male or female), do not make any disparaging remarks regarding odor, taste, or sight. Such comments prevent an individual from completely opening up and feeling comfortable during sexual activity, making it less enjoyable. If you are uncomfortable with any words or actions committed by your partner, make it known, and open the lines of communication, so that both you and your partner can make the most of your experience. Also, if you do not feel comfortable giving or receiving oral sex, communicate this to your partner. Not discussing your comfort levels with your partner can create confusion and frustration, both of which can be easily prevented through open and honest discussion.

Now that you’ve gained a significant amount of information to accompany your curiosity and interest regarding oral sex, hopefully you’ll feel more comfortable participating in sexual exploration and will now be able to pass any oral examination without hesitation or fear.

UCDC performs superbly in latest show

TRACEY FERDINAND
trferdinand@ursinus.edu

Over 50 students participated in this semester’s dance concert that was presented by the Ursinus College Dance Company. Both dance majors and non-dance majors were involved in the show, proving that students from different disciplines can work together to create a stunning performance. The show was produced by Cathy Young, opened on Nov. 16, and ran for three days. Though last semester’s concert proved to be spectacular, the dance company definitely outdid themselves this semester. Each piece was executed with a professional attitude, setting the bar a bit higher for future performances. There were seven pieces in all, ranging from hip-hop to modern ballet. The choreography of each tested the students’ strength and skill. Overall, the concert showcased the long hours put into rehearsal. Students, faculty, and the stage crew did a wonderful job of displaying the best of their talents.

“Escapade” was the first performance that set the tone for the following acts. It was choreographed by artist Ruth Andrien, who is currently a member of the faculty at American Dance Festival. The piece opened with dancers using brooms as part of their costume, and bright orange jumper suits complimented the energetic tone of the piece. The partnering was precise and the audience was drawn into the dancers’ high energy. Crisp movements, flips, and lifts added to the technically demanding piece. Roger Lee’s Michael Jackson asides got a rise from the audience.

Senior Ramon Clark performed the culmination of his Summer Fellows research on hip-hop dance. The differ-

ence between his Summer Fellows performance and this performance was subtle because he was strongly focused on technique from the very beginning of his work. His creativity made the piece both unique and entertaining. Senior Jason Comcovich crept painfully across stage in the opening of the piece entitled “Off Kilter.” It was choreographed by Cathy Young and students. The dancers displayed their versatility in this act by performing to music as well as to spoken word. Costumes were themed in green camouflage army print. The tone was definitely “Off Kilter,” as dancers expertly held the mood in their bodies. The lighting also complimented the piece.

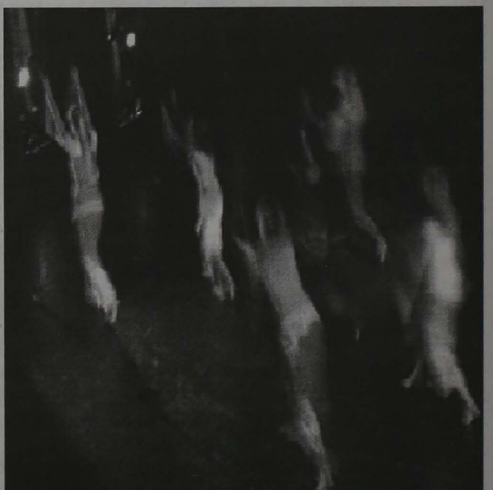
Chris Aiken and students choreographed the piece entitled “Found.” Made up entirely of female dancers, the piece was part of a semester-long collaboration. The performance began with freshman Shakeeta Parker sitting covered by tree branches staring blankly out a window. The dancers soon lined up and spoke on how they believe in finding themselves. One of the most memorable lines was “I want to be like me.”

The other hip-hop piece included in the show was choreographed by guest artist Shakia Johnson, who received her Associate’s Degree in art at Dean College. Music by Janet Jackson set the upbeat and fun tone of the dance. Senior Biology major Larry Barr proved that you don’t have to be a dancer to be a part of the company. His energy was high and he executed the movements with precision.

“Hearts and Bones,” a piece choreographed by Cathy Young, was beautifully performed by dancers Catriona

Whitehead, a sophomore, and senior Brett Kuras. The piece was unique in that the dancers did role reversals in the partnering. Catriona displayed her strength and technical abilities with the lifts, and Kuras once again proved that he could “poetically hold the music in his muscles.”

The show ended with a piece choreographed last semester by Ming-Shen Ku. The students were very professional, and the show was a complete success. The bar has definitely been raised for next semester’s dance concert.



grizzly@ursinus.edu

People seeing people: the artwork of Seward Johnson

ERIN "HALLIE" ANDREW

erandrew@ursinus.edu

It is only appropriate that I conclude this featured segment by focusing on everyone's two favorite statues on campus: the "Knitting Lady," and the one the students on campus refer to as—well, I can't put that in print. Let's just say it's commonly referred to as the "Lewd Act Statue." Their formal titles are "Getting Involved VIII," and "The Reader I," respectively.

Both of these sculptures were created by J. Seward Johnson Jr. Johnson spent his life as a painter until 1968, when his wife, Joyce, suggested he try his hand at sculpture. One surprising fact about Seward is that he is the son (and heir) of the Johnson & Johnson company. The inheritance of this company has caused some drama in the Johnson family. Seward should have no fear of living destitute, however, because he has more than 200 sculptures located throughout the world in the United States, Canada, Europe, and Asia.

Johnson is also famous for giving back to the community through the Johnson Atelier Technical Institute of Sculpture, a non-profit institution meant to help young artists develop their talents. Johnson founded the Atelier in 1974 to provide opportunities for emerging artists. Located in Central New Jersey, the Atelier is 75,000 square feet and has a technical school, a library, indoor and outdoor exhibition areas, and a fabrication facility.

Johnson's work is created through a multi-step process involving many different materials and different people along the way. Because his statues are so humanlike and realistic, one may think they come from plasters of real people. However, Johnson does it differently. He starts with plasticine figurines about 12 inches tall. Once he gets the figure into a shape and position he's pleased with, he then brings in live models to focus on the minute, realistic, details of individuals. After that, apprentices duplicate the small version into a life-size one. A seamstress then attaches real clothing to a plaster cast of the form so the wrinkles and folds look authentic after casting. The whole thing is finally stiffened with a resin spray before it goes into casting. After the model is cast, Johnson's assistants color it with a polychrome glaze of paints. An original figure by Johnson costs up to \$46,000.

Johnson's artistic inspiration comes from everyday people leading everyday lives. His figures can be seen reading books, eating sandwiches, learning to ride bikes, even getting into a little mischief. Johnson says of his work, "In each piece and its contents, I try to portray a 'mini-hero' taking a minor piece of his or her life under control to express self-determination. All of these bronze people are taking time between appointments, in the small gaps of their structured lives to do something spontaneous for their own satisfac-

tion."

Often times a prospective student or visitor to campus will see our beloved "Knitting Lady" and become concerned for the elderly woman's well-being if she is sitting in the dark or under piles of snow. This is exactly the response that Johnson wants from his artwork. He says, "I want my work to disappear into the landscape, and then take a viewer by surprise. After he gets over the shock of being fooled, it becomes an emotional discovery. Then he owns the sculpture."

Even after we have established that these figures are not real people, and may be nothing more than bronze sculptures, they still hold a special place in our everyday lives. (I've seen people sit on the bench next to the "Getting Involved" statue and chat on their cell phone, and there is a Facebook group entitled, "I Have In Some Shape or Form Violated, Harassed, or Imitated an Ursinus Statue.") Johnson is no stranger to the fact that his statues are photo opportunities. He created a group of bronzes taking pictures of each other as a reference to the popularity of that act.

Allow me to shed some light on some meanings given to these sculptures. "Getting Involved VIII" (or "Knitting Lady") shows a grandmother whose daughter cannot come to visit her. From the letter in her bag, the viewer can see that the daughter will not be able to visit "for several months," which means this grandmother will not get to see her new grandson. There are two bronze photos of this child, as well as other knick-knacks in the bag sitting next to her. Still, the woman knits what appears to be clothing for her grandson, possibly showing hope of a visit sometime soon.

"The Reader I" (or "Lewd Act Statue") is much simpler, and requires little explanation. The girl on the bench appears to be a typical college student; she is reading "Leaves of Grass" by Walt Whitman (a piece of literature almost every college student must encounter before achieving full maturity). She is so absorbed in this book that she doesn't notice the two boys behind her, who are in a position to create some trouble. As with our "Knitting Lady", people have been known to become concerned about what appears to be an incident that would and should involve Campus Safety.

As you go about your daily lives here at Ursinus, I encourage you to stop and think about what the artwork you see every day means to you, at least every one in a while. Many of the artists created their work specifically for the reaction they hoped the viewer would have. These sculptures are sitting in plain sight, day after day, and will continue to be there, whether we chose to use them for relaxation, introspection, self-exploration or simply just plain amusement.

Highlights of the "Exposure Week" events and festivities

CORINNE LICCKETTO

coliccketto@ursinus.edu

Two weeks ago, "Exposure Week," Ursinus College's outreach to unite the many cultures that compose our student body, was held. The activities allowed everyone to come together and enjoy their differences. Each night of the week there was a different activity held, each being a neutral and entertaining function.

On Monday, "Colors of the Community" was conducted in Wismer Lower Lounge. There, students made beaded necklaces while spending time with one another. (There were also some treats included in the festivities). Although the event was not held for more than an hour and a half, the time spent there was valuable to each individual.

Tuesday evening featured celebrated director Spike Lee, and students were invited to the Olin Auditorium to watch "Do the Right Thing." This racially driven movie is as powerful and poignant to society today as it was when it was first released. Students were encouraged to come and bring their friends to this viewing.

Wednesday featured another "Exposure Week" event which proved to be both unique and refreshing. Senior Blair Reddish organized a mini theater production for any student who wanted to be involved. There was no talent necessary. The production was called "Theatre for the Oppressed."

On Thursday evening, the organizers of "Exposure Week" arranged a dinner. In Wismer Lower Lounge, students were invited to share in a variety of cultural foods, music, poetry, and dancing. The night called for great conversation with many interesting people. It was truly a time to get to know one another. Students were also invited to stay afterwards

and participate in the first annual "Take Back the Streets of Ursinus."

This semester has been difficult for many due to certain racially-motivated incidents. Students on campus have felt both victimized and threatened. "Exposure Week" is a step in the right direction of settling the uneasiness that has developed within the student body. Hopefully many of you participated in the activities that our fellow students worked hard to compose. Let us all acknowledge this effort as one to unify and celebrate our differences. I encourage you to remember, however, that "Exposure Week" is not the only time that we should all be working together.

Interested in a topic regarding sexual or general health? E-mail Features Editor Lane Taylor @ lataylor@ursinus.edu to see your topic of interest in an upcoming issue of *The Grizzly!*

This Last week in absurdity

Editor's note: This article was written under the impression that this issue would be published a week ago. In other words, The Chris Curley totally got PUNK'D! With that in mind, please read this article as if today were Thursday, November 23.

Between Scientology weddings, midterm elections, and video game console releases signaling the approach of the End Days, Ursinus is not the only place where things are a little crazy. There's everywhere else, too. Let's take a look at some of the local and ongoing news this week.

War in Iraq: With the Dems controlling Congress, there are a lot of whippers about imminent withdrawal from Iraq. Is this foolish hope, blind folly, or something else? Foolish folly, perhaps? In any case (lest we forget), there have been between 46,863-51,968 civilian deaths according to the Iraq Body Count project plus another 2,838 total American deaths with other 21,572 wounded. That's like wiping out the population of Collegeville – seven times. This week Bush announced he's "open to new ideas." Bravo. This is what happens when you elect a president who shares a name with the Texas Ranger. Twice.*

O.J. Simpson: After months of deliberation, on Oct. 3, 1995, the jury delivered a "not guilty" verdict to O.J. Simpson for the murder of his ex-wife in the so-called "Trial of the Century." This week, Fox News top shareholder and evil emperor Rupert Murdoch brokered a deal to interview O.J. on his forthcoming "If I Did It," a fantasy tale devoted to Simpson's account of how he *would have* killed Nicole



CHRIS CURLEY
Modern Times

Brown, presumably based on an alternate reality where the glove fit.

The backlash of this news was so strong that several affiliates have preemptively refused to air the interview, as people across the country have denounced the book and Fox's shameless opportunism. Has America come to its senses? Well ... no. But it's good to know the bread and circuses stop somewhere. Hail Caesar!

Three: Three people were shot in an Annapolis, Md. mall Sunday after an altercation between several teenagers. Oh, and another three people suffered gunshot wounds following the release of the Playstation 3. Being shot is reportedly nothing like playing "Metal Gear Solid."

Gamers who weren't beaten or wounded waited in line for hours, days, and even weeks to get their hands on the new system. While this seems outwardly ridiculous, let's remember that this is the first sunlight most of these people have seen since the release of the Playstation 2.

???: Former high-priced call girl Heidi Fleiss has reportedly hired Mike Tyson to be her "big stallion" at her new male-escort brothel (the Stud Farm) in Nevada. Because two wrongs make a right, and hiring a convicted rapist to shack up with your customers is good for everyone. What could go wrong?

* George Walker Bush. Of course, the first Bush had Walker in his name too, but any effect this might have had was tempered by his first middle name: Herbert.

The bolds of this column support the theory that the universe can have a sense of humor, but only with a British accent. Adopt a Cockney accent and practice your acrostics. chcurley@ursinus.edu

Racism in our world and home

KYLE FOX
kyfox@ursinus.edu

Racism is arguably one of the most commonly ignored aspects of American culture. It is an issue that is effortlessly swept under the area rug of our nation's proverbial living room right alongside all of our other social demons. Racism is one of those subjects that nobody talks about so everyone can pretend it does not exist and go about their everyday lives believing that everyone is perceived as equal. That is, until it strikes so close to home that it appears there is no way around acknowledging the fact that there may just be a monster in our closet. Then we, as noble and accepting Americans, respond in the only way that the rest of the world would expect us to respond to our own national moral dilemmas: we run from the room screaming and lock the door behind us.

That is why everyone need not be surprised to hear about the New Jersey man who cut a racial slur in the grass of an open field with a riding lawnmower and, instead of being tried and punished for his actions, was "released on his own recognizance pending a court hearing on Nov. 15." Not only did this man write a degrading word about African-Americans, this white male wrote the word in front of the house of the only African-American resident within a 5 house radius.

For a country who screams equality at the top of its lungs, the pardon of this man should be perplexing. If this does not even faze you, and you are an American citizen, check your pulse immediately.

This man showed a direct act of racism toward another individual with the intent of evoking some kind of negative response from the victim. This is racism. This is where Ursinus College's student body's disgust should lay, not with Ursinus College's administration for their response to the now legendary "Ursinus College Facebook Case 2006."

The UCFC (yes, it has reached acronym-worthy status by now) was not an act of racism. A line needs to be drawn between racism and words with racial connotations. While there is no justifying the acts of the students involved in the UCFC and as it is true that these words are offensive to large groups of people, there is also no reason to believe that the intention was malicious in nature. The problem does not stem from the action itself, but the niggard reaction to a joke that got blown out of proportion.

Our culture is inherently self-righteous. We are quick to jump on the bandwagon of injustice done unto ourselves over issues that we feel like we can control. This is why there is no outrage or even knowledge of the New Jersey man among Ursinus' student body. The sad truth may be that this New Jersey man was truly a racist and that idea evokes such fear in our collective mindset that we feel it is easier dealt with if not dealt with at all.

The flip side of that is with the UCFC. There was no blatant intent to offend or threaten anyone. This was a couple of guys who played a joke on a friend that they all woke up

Cont'd on pg. 7

The meaning of liberal arts

TRACEY FERDINAND
tferdinand@ursinus.edu

Please forgive me if seem to "forget my place," but whatever happened to the student of life? Whatever happened to possessing an eager desire to learn? Wouldn't it be wonderful if each student studied different subjects simply because they wanted to know about all different subjects? These questions may lead one to believe I have a slight case of pretend nostalgia for a past period I've never even had the pleasure of living in. I must confess I am rather sentimental. However, there are some truths to be found in this way of viewing education.

Here's a more specific situation to help draw a clearer picture of what it is I'm trying to uncover. I've heard a few old doctors complaining about specialists. They argue that specialists lack a general knowledge of the entire human body. Of course specialists concentrate on one area of the body to ensure that they can excel in its treatment. Yet, I often wonder whether or not the concerns of those old doctors were within reason. Applying those concerns to an Ursinus academic setting today reveals that students also focus intensely on one area, their major. This concentration can lead to a decreased desire to aggressively tackle other areas of study. Such a strong focus in one area leaves little room for learning about, well, life.

One may argue "I didn't come here to learn about life. I came here to get a degree." To that I'd ask whether or not students truly understand what they're getting themselves into when they apply to a liberal arts college, which has a specific goal in mind. Lately, this question of whether or not Ursinus fully understands what the term "liberal arts" means has been popping up in the most unusual places. At a recent Exposure meeting, an interesting question arose around the issue of discussing recent campus incidents in class. A professor questioned whether or not it would be appropriate to do so. Some may ask if the stress of including campus occurrences is worth it. Discussions like that are guaranteed to lead students off topic. However, I believe it would be appropriate to do so. Integrating present issues into any kind of subject is a skill professors must have. It's one of the ways students can become "students of life" as opposed to students of a particular subject.

One can only imagine the frustration professors encounter when trying to squeeze a variety of subject material into one lousy semester. However, Ursinus's mission statement since 1869 has been "To enable students to become independent, responsible and thoughtful individuals through a program of liberal education. That education prepares them to live creatively and usefully, and to provide leadership for their society in an interdependent world." How are students supposed to live "creatively and usefully" in our society if we're not encouraged to apply the topics we've learned in class to our immediate realities?

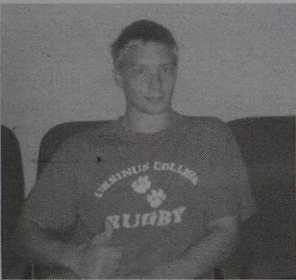
Is our campus environment sending the wrong messages to students? *Think but don't think too much. Question but don't question too hard.* After we've cleared away all the snobbishness and the selfishness, some answers have to be reached. After we've waded through the apathetic and the lazy, there are those students who dare to learn. There are students who dare to cultivate their minds with the education Ursinus has to offer. I've seen students who live with the idea "I pay to get an education and damn it I'm gonna get an education, not just a degree!" There are some students who do get to the bottom of what it means to be human: possessing a desire to learn.

“Stranger than Fiction” (2006)

If you are at all familiar with this column, you may have caught onto my routine by now: I pick a movie, give it a rave review, and inject slightly witty comments that sounded funnier in my head (like that one). The problem with this is that when a really great movie comes along, it's hard to make it stand out given that, with the notable exception of “Swing Kids,” all of these movies are exceptional as well. With that in mind, I have to say that “Stranger than Fiction” was the best movie I've seen this year. If the other flicks were “great,”

this one was fantastic. Now that I've beaten that horse to death, on to the review.

Harold Crick (Will Ferrell) is a quiet, introverted IRS agent who inexplicably hears narration (Emma Thompson) in his head one day. This only proves to be a minor annoyance until Harold learns from the disembodied voice that he will soon die.



ALEX ERNST
The Back Row

The plot above is extremely abbreviated because this film is more enjoyable the less you know about it. It has to be said that it wears many hats: at times it is a comedy, a tragedy, and a romance. As I sit here and write this, I realize that there is so much to be said about this movie that cannot be put into words. But 200 words in, I'll continue to give it my best shot.

This film has been described as “Will Ferrell’s ‘Truman Show,’” and in many ways it is. He pulls off a character that is as muted as this summer’s Ricky Bobby was boisterous, yet Ferrell does it in a way that creates a great empathy for his character and the inexplicable narration going on all around him. The casting is extremely strong, as Emma Thompson, Queen Latifah, Maggie Gyllenhaal, and Tony Hale all deliver fantastic performances as characters that are extremely likeable, yet fundamentally flawed in ways that they themselves don't realize. Dustin Hoffman, however, absolutely takes the cake as the English professor Harold turns to for help. He embodies every English professor you know, from his office filled with books on top of books to having run an entire class based around the phrase “Little did he know...” Also worth mentioning is the film’s amazing ability to make Harold’s wristwatch one of the most likeable characters, despite having no lines and being an inanimate object.

Many people I have spoken to about this film have mentioned their refusal to see it simply on the grounds that Will Ferrell is in it. If you are one of these people, get off your high horse and see this movie. Unlike actors such as Jim Carrey and Robin Williams who still seem “on” even in serious roles, Will Ferrell becomes Harold Crick to such a degree that you have to almost pinch yourself to be reminded that this is the same guy who was Frank the Tank and Ricky Bobby. Ferrell really shows his growth as an actor and I sincerely hope he takes on more serious roles in the future.

This film was unique and touching in a way that I haven't experienced in a long time, so I am once again left struggling for a pick this week. Frankly, if you haven't already, go out and see this movie. I really hope the Academy isn't composed of the giant snobs they have continually

Wiki this

This article is about [Communism for Dummies](#), a middlingly popular feature in the Ursinus College newspaper. See [For Dummies](#) for the much more popular line of books. See [Communism for Dummies \(disambiguation\)](#) for other uses.

The [neutrality](#) of this article, as well as the author's [talent](#) and [merit as a human being](#), are in dispute. Please see the discussion on the [talk page](#).

[Communism for Dummies](#) is an [opinions column](#) in the [Grizzly](#), the weekly newspaper of Ursinus College in Collegeville, Pennsylvania. It is written by two students, [Daniel Sergeant](#) and [Matthew Flyntz](#) ([Class of 2008](#)), who are widely regarded by their peers as [sex gods](#). The column appears in every issue, and the authors alternate weeks. Its focus is [satirical](#) humor, usually against political targets or local campus fixtures and figures. As can be guessed by the name of the column, the authors' political leanings are heavily [liberal](#).

History: The column began in fall of 2004, when the two authors, at that point bewildered [freshmen](#), walked into a Grizzly meeting and asked to write a satire piece. Originally, the column was to be accompanied by a [political cartoon](#) made on [MS Paint](#), to be drawn by whichever writer was not writing that week. That idea, while great in theory, did not turn out so well in practice, as editors frequently dropped the cartoon to save space, and the cartoons kind of [sucked](#) in the first place. Since then, the column has become a staple of the opinions page, outlasting previous Ursinus columnists such as [Goody](#), [Cam Furman](#), and [J.D. Salinger](#).

Notable columns: In the past, the column has been notable for tackling issues ranging from [President Bush's](#) egregiously disturbing handling of the [war in Iraq](#) to [President Bush's](#) woefully incompetent handling of the [war in Iraq](#). Other articles have included a call for the invasion of neighboring [Haverford College](#), a (provoked) attack on a rival opinions column, and a com-



MATT FLYNTZ
DAN SERGEANT
Communism for Dummies

mentary on the [Terri Schiavo](#) case, notable for being published a full year and a half after Schiavo died. The pair also have a love of [haikus](#), a love which, like incest, is frowned upon. A frequent feature of the column is “[This Week In Propaganda](#),” a shameless way for the authors to avoid writing meaningful columns during slow news weeks.

DCUPS: In the fall of 2005, the two authors, angry at having been censored from an edition of the Grizzly, formed an underground newspaper called the [Discontented Collegian](#). It is not much funnier than CfD, though it is much less frequent.

CfD and Wikipedia: Communism for Dummies' stance on the [Internet](#) phenomenon known as [Wikipedia](#) has always been that it is a wonderful tool for lazy journalists who get [hives](#) at the thought of doing actual research. However, the two authors also acknowledge that Wikipedia (and Wiki-anything for that matter) has its shortcomings. Sergeant has gone on the record as having said:

“Think of everyone you have ever met, and try to gauge the average [IQ](#) of that group. Unless you have spent your entire life cloistered in the [Mensa doomsday bunker](#), chances are it's a number that could be counted without invoking the help of your [toes](#). Now, considering what that number

tells us about the general intelligence of the human race, try to imagine the average person writing the [Encyclopedia Britannica](#). Not a pretty picture? Well, welcome to Wikipedia! And hell, welcome to the [Internet](#) in general! Because that's what the Internet is, after all! It's a tool for the [lowest-common-denominator of humanity](#) to rise up and be equal with everyone else by virtue of anonymity. It's the only true [democracy](#) the world has ever seen. Do you like what you see? Don't you wish you could just paint the whole world red with democracy now? Isn't it just liberty-tastic? ANSWER ME!”

See Also: [Elitism](#), [Anarchy](#), [Misanthropy](#)

Due to recent vandalism, Dan Sergeant and Matt Flyntz (dasergeant@ursinus.edu and maflyntz@ursinus.edu) ARE STOOPID FACES AND BUTT.

proven themselves to be and at the very least give Will Ferrell the Oscar nod he so righteously deserves for this role, but we'll see. I think it would be worth it just to see Jim Carrey slit his wrists in the audience out of frustration, but who knows?

Little did he know, Alex Ernst set himself up for a barrage of letters from the English department. You can reach him at alernst@ursinus.edu

Do you want the fame and fortune that comes from being a Grizzly columnist? Send your ideas to maflyntz@ursinus.edu; today might just be your lucky day!

Racism (cont'd from pg. 6)

in the morning and laughed about. Here is an issue that could be easily interpreted as racist and so, to give our mouths and minds a new issue to play with, we label it as completely offensive and ugly and suddenly racism is the hot topic on campus.

Please.

So here is my challenge to you, Ursinus College students. If the desire to alter the course of racism in this world pumps through your veins, then achieve it at a level and under a circumstance that is justified and legitimate; not one that is conveniently place in your lap. Challenge yourself and your mind if you seek true acceptance in this world.

With that being said, I need to run from the room and find the key to my door; I think homelessness is coming down the hall.

Ursinus 2006 Division III Field Hockey National Champions!

MATTHEW PASTOR
mapastor@ursinus.edu

If you look back a year ago, the Ursinus field hockey team was in a position similar to the one they were in this year. With one of four teams remaining in the 2005 Division III Field Hockey tournament, the Bears were seeking their first national title in school history. All hopes of returning from Lexington, Virginia with the title, however, were dashed with a 3-2 loss at the hands of Salisbury. As they watched Salisbury defeat Messiah 1-0 in the title game, they knew the Bears should be in Salisbury's shoes hoisting that championship plaque. With the loss of only one player to graduation, one of the best coaches if not the best in field hockey, and a plethora of experience and talent, that dream could become a reality for the Bears.

Fast forward to this year and the Bears found themselves right back where they were in 2005, but in New York as one of the final four teams competing for the Division III national title. This time around the Bears would not be denied what they had worked so hard for. With a 3-2 win over Lebanon Valley in the national semi-finals and another 3-2 victory over Messiah in the title game, Ursinus captured their first ever Division III field hockey national championship.

It was a battle from the beginning against both Lebanon Valley and Messiah as the Bears surely earned every goal they would score in both games. Against Lebanon Valley, Karen Wendler scored the first goal thanks to a sideline pass from Centennial Conference Player of the Year Kait

Sutherland to give the Bears an early 1-0 lead. In the 30th minute, however, the Flying Dutchmen were able to knot the game up at one before Wendler would score her second goal off a rebound with 43:28 on the clock.

In the 56th minute, Lindsay Cappa gave Ursinus some insurance as she netted a goal of her own to give the Bears a commanding 3-1 lead late in the game.

Lebanon Valley was able to close the gap to one thanks to a great defensive play. The Flying Dutchmen were able to intercept an Ursinus pass across the turf and put the ball in the goal. As time expired, Lebanon Valley received two penalty corners as they tried immensely to put up another score to send the game into overtime. The Bears were able to knock the ball away and seal the deal with a 3-2 victory, propelling them into the title game where they faced Messiah.

Both Ursinus and Messiah have been to the title game before, but the Falcons

clearly had the experience advantage being that they were there in 2005, whereas the Bears haven't made a trip back to the title game since 1977. It was definitely a game to remember.

Lindsay Cappa scored two goals and dished out another assist as the Bears took home the title in a thrilling 3-2 victory over Messiah. Messiah got out of the gates early and took the 1-0 lead thanks to great ball handling and precision passing. The Bears did not flinch however, as Cappa scored her first goal only moments later to knot the game up at one apiece.

Cappa struck again later in the first half as she scored her second goal of the game when she sent the ball in from the left side and past a defender's stick. Messiah would not give in and made a game of it by knotting it up at two, thanks to a penalty corner in the 29th minute to make it 2-2 at the half.

After halftime, Ursinus controlled the game and the ball, showing all of Division III why they are the best in the country. Midway through the second half, Cappa came calling again, but this time with her passing as she found

Molly Stevens, who hit a point blank shot into the goal, and gave the Bears a 3-2 lead that they would never relinquish. After that it was all Ursinus and their defense as they would not let the Falcons near the goal as the clock ran out.

It was quite a season for the Ursinus Bears field hockey team, which finished the season 21-3 overall (10-0 Centennial Conference) and also brought home their third straight Centennial Conference crown along with the big one in the National Championship title as well.

Seniors Allison Doult, Karen Wendler, Abby Loefflad, Melissa Buckley, Molly Stevens, Emily Godfrey, Jess Rogers, and Erin Bender finished their careers with an overall record of 79-8, have won every regular season conference game (40-0) and are 47-1 overall against Centennial Conference opponents with their last loss coming on Nov. 8, 2003 (a 1-0 loss to F&M). They have won 37 consecutive Centennial Conference games since their last loss and have brought home three conference titles, an ECAC Division III Mid-Atlantic Region Championship and, the big one, the Division III National Championship. I'm no genius, but I'd say that's quite a career and quite a legacy to leave here at Ursinus. Thank you seniors for such a phenomenal four years at Ursinus and thank you Coach Moliken and the Ursinus Bears Field Hockey team for bringing home the National Title: you've earned it!



Swimming to success

DANIELLE LANGDON
dalangdon@ursinus.edu

The Bears' swim team was on fire last Wednesday night! The women won 10 of their 11 events to post a 115-81 victory over Drew in their first non-conference home meet. The men also rocketed to success recording an outstanding 94-84 win over the Rangers, pulling ahead on the second-leg swimmer to touch first in the final 400 free relay with a time of 3:42.52 for a 10-point victory. There was no doubt that the Bears dominated every aspect of the competition that night.

Junior Kate Snyder achieved her first victory of the night in the 200 free, finishing in the number one spot with a time of 2:05.80. Senior Caitlin Hanlon took second in 2:12.69 and senior Jonelle Hedrick brought in the third place spot with 2:16.29. Freshman Emily Herman also stepped up her game and pulled in her own individual wins in the 200 IM in 2:26:18 and 500 free in 5:42:32. The women also stole first place in the 200 medley relay with a time of 2:04.95, while freshman Lyndsay MacFeeters won the 1000 free with a gripping time of 12:15.95. Sophomore Catharine Palchak also put out a tremendous effort ending only one hundredth of a second behind the first place winner in the 50 free; this was the only

event UC did not come out on top, but the next seven events belonged solely to the Bears. Hanlon came back into the picture finishing first in the 100 free, while Palchak won the 200 backstroke. Meanwhile Snyder collected her second win in the 100 fly and Elizabeth Gombosi dominated in the 200 breaststroke, getting another first place spot for the Bears.

Senior Brandon Peer and Sophomore Ryan Kennedy helped push the boys ahead, pulling in individual wins and dominating throughout the entire meet. Peer touched at 2:15:39 in the 200 IM, earning his first place title, and then again in the 200 breaststroke in 2:31:84, while Kennedy's victories came in the 200 backstroke with a time of 2:16:80 and in the 50 free in 23:22. Sophomore Andrew Piasecki made a thrilling effort later on winning the 500 free for the boys. The men's meet was close, coming down to the last event where the Bears edged Drew by 37 seconds for the win. Ryan Kennedy says, "Everyone is filling their positions on the team and stepping up to challenges. It's definitely going to be a great season and as one of many people on the team who have done personal best times in only the first two meets I can tell we'll have a good showing at Championships."

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