



9-28-2006

## The Grizzly, September 28, 2006

Kerri Landis

Marlena M. McMahon-Purk

Sarah Keck

Dan Lamson

Erin Padovani

*See next page for additional authors*

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.ursinus.edu/grizzlynews>



Part of the [Cultural History Commons](#), [Higher Education Commons](#), [Liberal Studies Commons](#), [Social History Commons](#), and the [United States History Commons](#)

[Click here to let us know how access to this document benefits you.](#)

---

---

**Authors**

Kerri Landis, Marlena M. McMahon-Purk, Sarah Keck, Dan Lamson, Erin Padovani, Kevin Curl, Lane Taylor, Gabe Herman, Travis High, Chris Curley, Matt Flyntz, Simon Marcus, Brandon Brown, Alex Ernst, Tyler Johnson, John Strassburger, and Stephanie Kaysen

---



# The Grizzly

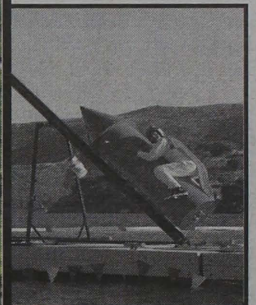
Thursday, September 28, 2006

The student newspaper of Ursinus College

## Inside



Tim Wise enlightens campus **News, 2**



Interview with *Jackass* stars **Features, 5**



The Back Row reviews *Ronin* **Opinions, 7**



Letter to the editor **Sports, 8**



Ursinus dancers usher in Fringe Festival



## Anti-racist writer and educator speaks to Ursinus community

SARAH KECK

sakeck@ursinus.edu

"People of color have a much more realistic answer about the state of racial inequality because they're living it and because they have to know. White folks have the luxury of not knowing. In every generation, whites have had the luxury of minimizing the problem. And in every generation, we've been wrong."

As anti-racist author and activist Tim Wise spoke these words, a hush fell over the audience gathered to hear him speak.

37-year-old Wise gave a talk entitled "Race is Not a Card: White Denial and the Ongoing Reality of Racism in the United States" on Wednesday, Sept. 20, at 7 p.m. to a standing-room-only crowd in Olin Auditorium.

"I want you to know that I know that I'm here in large measure because I'm white," Wise told students and faculty. Wise explained that the reason he--instead of a black person--was able to be on the lecture circuit, was because reaping the benefits of past racism gave him the opportunity to get a good education. This allowed him to make connections and be in the position he's in today. "The past affects the present," Wise said. "It brings us to where we are today."

Wise criticized colleges and universities for ignoring prejudices on their campuses. "Campuses famously call [them] 'diversity issues,' a word that is completely meaningless, because it means everything and nothing at the same time," Wise attested. "Really, anything can pass under the rubric of 'diversity efforts' and make us think we've done something substantial."

"Too often when we discuss race and diversity on a college campus, we focus only on the surface matters, the so-called 'cultural traditions' of different people," Wise continued. "We are encouraged to examine and to appreciate and celebrate these diverse traditions, but the one difference--and it's the biggest difference of all between different groups of people--is the one we never pay attention to. It's not food and festival, it's the difference in power, the difference in opportunity, the difference in access--and that's a difference which should be neither celebrated nor tolerated nor accepted."

Wise condemned the use of the word "underprivileged" when talking about social class in America. He explained that it's passive and relative; it doesn't imply that anyone did something to force people into where they are, and doesn't acknowledge the "over-privileged." He warned his audience of the consequences that come from being privileged. "Privilege can get you killed," he cautioned, "because you let down your guard to dysfunction." He reminded his audience that events such as the shootings at Columbine High School happened in a privileged community that thought it was safe.

For an hour and a half, Wise's combination of humor and well-spoken passion captivated the audience, who eventually rose to their feet in applause. He concluded by telling them that while he may have raised questions in their minds, they were responsible for finding the answers. "Answers to questions are found in struggle," he stated.

Following his visit to Ursinus, Wise traveled to Birmingham, Mich., to continue his 2006 lecture schedule. For more information, visit his Web site at [www.timwise.org](http://www.timwise.org).



## Smoking ban introduced

ERIN PADOVANI

erpadvani@ursinus.edu

On Sept. 14, legislation was signed enacting a new set of smoking restrictions in Philadelphia. The law now states that there is to be no smoking in all workplaces throughout the city and outside of the buildings 20 feet from the entrances.

Students at Ursinus feel affected by this legislation. Most student smokers expressed frustration with this law. Those who frequent bars consider smoking to be an integral part of the appeal in such establishments. "It is ironic," one student claimed, "that they allow [Philadelphians] to drink until their livers melt while cracking down on those who make a similarly poor decision regarding their health." Others feel that this new legislation is a victory. "Even though laws like these do not necessarily stop people from smoking, at least they stop others from being harmed by the second-hand smoke," asserted an avid anti-smoker on campus.

## Spinach recall and dining at Ursinus

DAN LAMSON

dalamson@ursinus.edu

"Eat your spinach!" Many students around the country grew up with this or a similar refrain ringing in their ears. A recent warning from the government gave them a temporary reprieve.

A few weeks ago, *Escherichia coli* was detected in spinach coming from San Benito and Santa Clara Counties in California, where much of the salad greens for the United States are grown.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, at least 146 people in 23 states have been linked to the spinach contamination, resulting in one death. As a result, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) urged people not to eat fresh spinach while the specific origin of the disease is investigated.

Students who frequent the dining halls at Ursinus can rest easy, though. According to Alan Peters, executive chef at Wismer, the staff reacted promptly to the news. "As soon as the story broke about *E. coli* and raw spinach, Dining Services did an immediate removal of all products containing raw spinach from our inventory," Peters said. "There is nothing in the building now that contains raw spinach, and we will continue to keep it off our shelves until we get the OK from the FDA."

Some students are not reassured, including one sophomore who wished to remain anonymous. "I have always been concerned about the quality of the food in Wismer and this just increases my level of concern," he said.

California produces over 70 percent of the nation's spinach harvest. The Salinas Valley, where the spinach in question is supposed to have been grown, accounts for roughly three-fourths of the state's crop and it has been the focal point of the investigation.

The area has links to both Natural Selection Foods and a second company that has also recalled fresh spinach products. A third company out of New Jersey has recalled several brands of spinach products distributed to the East Coast because some of the spinach may have come from Natural Selection Foods.

Normally found in the intestines of people or cattle, *E. coli* is particularly harmful to young children and senior citizens. The Food and Drug Administration has suggested that irrigation water tainted with cattle feces might have been responsible for the outbreak. Infection by the *E. coli* bacteria causes diarrhea and, in some cases, kidney failure.

Almost two weeks after the events that led to a recall, the search is still on for the origin. Outbreaks like this have happened in the past and sources say they may happen again if the cause is not found.

Even after the source of the outbreak is pinpointed, there will be long-term effects for spinach farmers and consumers, including new labels for packaged spinach and improved FDA guidelines.

# The Grizzly

The student newspaper of Ursinus College

Volume 31 Issue 5

grizzly@ursinus.edu

### EDITORIAL BOARD

Kerri Landis Editors-in-Chief  
Marlena McMahan-Purk

Sarah Keck News Editor  
Lane Taylor Features Editor  
Matt Flyntz Opinions Editor  
Matt Pastor Sports Editor

### PHOTOGRAPHY

Ivy McDaniels Photo Editor  
Dan Sergeant Cover Photo

### ADVISOR

Dr. Rebecca Jaroff

### TO ADVERTISE:

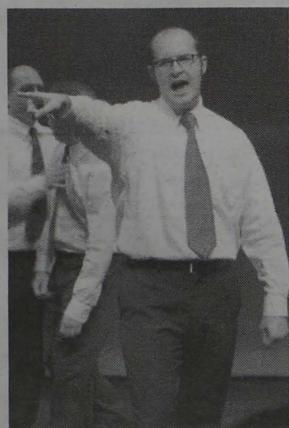
E-mail: [grizzly@ursinus.edu](mailto:grizzly@ursinus.edu)  
Phone: 610-409-2488  
Ursinus College-The Grizzly  
P.O. Box 8000  
Collegedale, PA 19426



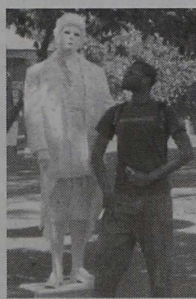
grizzly@ursinus.edu

## Images from annual Fringe Festival

**SARAH KECK**  
sakeck@ursinus.edu



From Sept. 14 to Sept. 16, the Ursinus Arts & Lecture Committee sponsored its annual Fringe Festival produced by Professor Domenick Scudera. For three days, professional and student theater artists performed live around campus.



## “Shades of Clay” closes

**ERIN PADOVANI**  
erpadovani@ursinus.edu

Any student or faculty member who did not make it to the Phillip and Muriel Berman Museum of Art to admire the “Shades of Clay” exhibit missed out on a wonderful experience.

The exhibit ran from July 30 to Sept. 24. The 19 artists who contributed to the exhibit came from California, Nebraska, and Maine to Oklahoma, New York and Vermont; each corner of the country was represented in the collection. Furthermore, most artists traveled all over the world to broaden their cultural horizons. Africa, Europe, and Mexico were only a few places that affected the artists’ work.

Lisa Hanover, director of the museum, explained that every artist is well known throughout the country for his or her work in clay and ceramics. “The curator selected the work for its variety, color, use of materials and shapes,” she said, “He also wanted the museum visitor to see what the artist looks like and hear their words.” As a result, a picture of each artist hard at work in the studio was mounted on the wall near his or her work. In conjunction with the picture, the artists had an opportunity to make a statement about their work and life experiences.

This exhibit pushed the boundaries of conventional clay use. Although clay was the primary material used in the works, other media were incorporated to increase its visual values. Wood, metal, and paint all contributed to the diversity of the clay pieces. Hanover explained that Ursinus College decided to house “Shades of Clay” to exhibit diverse works of art from contemporary periods to historic periods. “Sculpture in clay is distinctive and we wanted to show that ceramics isn’t just about creating pots and bowls for utilitarian use,” she said.

Lisa also disclosed which piece she enjoyed most. “My favorite work is *Diane’s Gemstones*, where the artist [Eddie Dominquez] molded orbs of clay and experimented with different colors’ glazes and piled them up on the floor like a treasure.” A rope enclosed the piece on the floor in one corner of the gallery.

The Berman Museum will showcase several other exhibits for the rest of the school term. There will be a historical painting exhibit of American artists from the 19th and early 20th century beginning on Oct. 5. From January to April, abstract paintings based on jazz music will be shown in the gallery. Finally, the work of Ursinus art students will be admired from mid-April to mid-May.

## Ursinus Family Day

Saturday, Oct. 30

9:30-10:30 a.m.	Registration, Pfahler lobby
10-11:30 a.m.	“Footprints Beyond the Classroom,” Pfahler Atrium
10 a.m.-12 p.m.	Myrin Library Open House
11 a.m.-12 p.m.	Student Art Show, Ritter
11 a.m.-12 p.m.	“Tales of the Fairy Queen,” Wismer Lower Lounge
12-1 p.m.	Music Department Performance, Lenfest Theater
12:30-1 p.m.	Ursinus College Dance Company, Helferrich
11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.	Country Fair and Picnic Lunch, Zack’s Plaza
1-2 p.m.	Family Day Parent Drop-In, Wismer Parents Lounge
2-3:30 p.m.	Children’s Activities, Wismer Lower Lounge
4 p.m.	S.U.N. and A.L.M.A. Reception, Unity House
4 p.m.	Catholic Mass, Olin Auditorium
4:30 p.m.	Hillel Reception, 33 6th Ave.
5 p.m.	Protestant Worship Service, Wismer Parents Lounge
5:30-7:30 p.m.	Buffet Candlelight Dinner, Wismer Faculty/Staff Dining Room
6-9 p.m.	Jazz Night @ Duke’s Place, Wismer Lower Lounge

The bookstore will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. with special discounts for Ursinus Families. For more information, contact Todd McKinney at tmckinney@ursinus.edu

## USGA Townhall meeting

**KEVIN CURL**  
kecurl@ursinus.edu

The Ursinus Student Government Association hosted its first town hall meeting of the year on Sept. 19 in Pfahler Auditorium. Dean Debbie Nolan ran through her role as USGA faculty advisor and Dean of Students and opened the floor for student questions.

Then, two prospective organizations, UC Breakaway Productions and Poetic Literati, gave short presentations concerning becoming official clubs on campus. UC Breakaway Productions is a student-led theatre group hoping to educate students on play production, take trips to see shows in Philadelphia, host guest theater speakers at Ursinus, and put on its own productions each semester. Poetic Literati then made its presentation, making it clear that their goal is to foster the interest and love of poetry of all forms at Ursinus and in the surrounding community.

USGA President Amanda D’Amico then presented changes to the USGA constitution to be voted on at the next meeting. Following that, USGA Treasurer Sage Corwin addressed AFAC club liaisons about the special AFAC budget requests. USGA Corresponding Secretary Kevin Curl then discussed BearFacts, a weekly e-mail summarizing all organizational meetings and events for the week. The meeting closed with an open forum for clubs to announce upcoming events or address concerns.

The USGA would like to thank Dean Nolan for attending the meeting and speaking on behalf of the administration. We would also like to thank the over 60 students for attending the meeting. We encourage all students to attend our meetings, held every Wednesday at 9:30 p.m. in Pfahler Auditorium. Please feel free to contact the USGA executive board with any questions or concerns at USGA@ursinus.edu.

## COMMENTS SOUGHT FOR TENURE REVIEW

In accordance with the Ursinus College Faculty Handbook, student comments on teaching effectiveness and student-faculty interaction are invited at the time of a faculty member’s review for tenure. Although student letters must be signed to be considered, student names may be withheld, upon request, when their comments are shared with the Promotion and Tenure Committee, and the faculty member.

This year, the following members of the faculty are being reviewed for tenure:

- Dr. Francis Fritz, English
- Dr. Rebecca Roberts, Biology
- Dr. Xochitl Shuru, Modern Languages
- Dr. Mohammed Yahdi, Mathematics and Computer Science

Your feedback is strongly encouraged and will assist the Committee in its review process. Letters should be sent to Dean Judith T. Levy, Office of the Dean by Oct. 13, 2006.



## Beyond the condom: a guide to safe sex



LANE TAYLOR

### Everything You Never Knew You Wanted to Know About Sex

When the majority of students hear the term "safe sex," they typically think of the condom. The condom is an innovation that has revolutionized the practice of safe sex by preventing bodily fluids from entering the penis or vagina, which is preventative of most sexually-transmitted infections. Throughout the years, condoms have evolved to fit the needs of the individual, whether that is through

lubrication, increased sensitivity, or other options that can enhance one's sex life. However, the condom can only aid to a certain point in disease prevention, at which point other mechanisms are necessary to retain a sexually healthy lifestyle. This article will illustrate these mechanisms as we travel beyond the condom to obtain the knowledge needed to ensure a safe and pleasurable sexual experience.

One of the most controversial sexual topics of our generation is oral sex. Those of us who recall the Clinton-Lewinsky scandal of the late 90s remember President Clinton stating that he believed oral sex is not included in the definition of "sex," and found that having oral sex performed on him to be far less punishable than if he had engaged in sexual intercourse. Apparently, the Senate agreed, and he was acquitted of all charges, sending the subtle message that the consequences of oral sex are far less dire than those of sexual intercourse. Unfortunately, that is far from the truth.

Although pregnancy is not possible through oral sex, it provides a pathway in which many sexually-transmitted infections are communicated. Genital and Oral Herpes, syphilis, gonorrhea, HIV, chlamydia, CMV, hepatitis, and genital warts can be transmitted during oral sex (according to PlannedParenthood.org). Most of us are able to recognize these as the diseases we were warned against in health class, but we may not have been given all the information. For example, while I learned about most of these infections during high school, we were never taught that they were transmitted through oral sex. That is the frightening truth: unprotected oral sex is *not* a safe alternative to sexual intercourse.

However, there is a silver lining to this sexual

cloud. Using a condom during oral sex can prevent disease transmission, which is important to emphasize because sexually transmitted infections can also be communicated to the individual that is *receiving* oral sex. During vaginal oral sex, dental dams and female condoms can be used to protect both partners from infection, and can be purchased locally. (If you are having trouble locating dental dams, you can consult the Planned Parenthood in Collegeville who will be able to aid in your search.)

Because "outercourse" (dry-humping) and mutual masturbation also often cause exposure to bodily fluids, it is important to utilize condoms and latex gloves or finger cots to prevent exposure of fluids or cuts on the hands and fingers.

In order to insure a healthy sexual relationship, it is important to communicate openly with your partner about sexual histories, feelings, and fears about starting a new sexual relationship. Opening communication early in the relationship will make it easier in the future to express your needs and wants to your partner. Showing concern for yourself and your partner will also increase intimacy, allowing you to use the previously discussed mechanisms to make the most out of your sexual experience.

## Constitution Day: a review

GABRIEL HERMAN  
gaherman@ursinus.edu

In the summer of 1787, the greatest organization of philosophers, politicians, and minds ascended to Philadelphia to establish a document by which we could run our young country. Following four months of deliberation, the Constitution of the United States was signed by 39 out of 55 Delegates and then later ratified. That day, Sept. 17, 1787, is still remembered as one of the most important days in our country's brief history, and recently, as a national day of celebration, known as Constitution Day.

Last Wednesday, many Ursinus Students and Faculty organized to commemorate the 219th anniversary of the ratification of the Constitution of the United States. Previously known as Citizenship Day, Constitution Day was officially created by a law passed in 2004. By law, every year, on Sept. 17, all schools that receive public funding must offer some form of education that relates to the American Constitution. Although Ursinus exists as a private institution, the choice to participate in this event shows an amazing commitment to the understanding of our government by both faculty and students.

Tradition alone does not equate Americans into forced homage, but the Constitution is something with which all Americans should be familiar. This is one of the strong ideas behind making it a national celebration. Only through understanding the constitution and related events can Americans understand why laws take shape and what rights people have. It was an amazing sight, as dozens of

interested students devoted time and effort to better understand some of the most important pieces of text that shape our daily lives.

Dr. Hemphill's United States history class led the celebration with presentations on a broad variety of issues surrounding the Constitution. Events and laws that have had enormous repercussions on our country were all represented to increase the knowledge and understanding of those who participated. Issues such as *Roe vs. Wade*, *Plessy vs. Ferguson*, and the Second Amendment are all events of which people should be aware, so they were thoughtfully presented along with their importance. Each student was able to present on a topic of his or her choice. Todd Wonderland commented on the event, saying, "It's great for people to understand the Bill of Rights. Americans pride themselves in having freedoms. It's only right they understand where such freedoms come from."

Sitting down on the steps along with roughly 30 other individuals, I was impressed as the class presented a wonderful selection of landmark topics that are relevant today. Potentially the greatest part of the event seemed to be the higher understanding of the working of our country. This occurred not only by students who led presentations, but dozens of students who passed by and listened were obviously interested, enjoying, and grasping the foundation of our country.

Constitution Day is a wonderful tradition based on education and familiarization with the Bill of Rights and our Constitution.

## Career Corner: job and internship search

It's never too early to begin your search for jobs & internships. The average full-time job search for a new college graduate takes about 6 months, but the staff in Career Services advises May grads to take steps as early as September. The fact is that many organizations can anticipate their hiring needs in advance, and have very early application deadlines for May 2007 grads. These employers will take advantage of this fact and hire new college grads long before graduation in order to beat their competitors to the best and brightest employees.

Don't be a job-search procrastinator! Graduation may seem far away and you may not want to worry about job hunting yet. However, the time will pass much more quickly than you expect, and it's never too early to start making your career plans. The earlier you start, the easier the job search will be.

Here is a brief list of organizations that have been working with Career Services and have announced early application deadlines:

- Larsen Allen (open house) – Oct. 5, 2006
- Briggs Bunting and Dougherty (on-campus interviews) – Oct. 9, 2006
- Federal Bureau of Investigation Intern Program – Oct. 10, 2006
- The Vanguard Group – (www.vanguard.com) Oct. 31, 2006
- The U.S. State Department Summer 2007 Intern – Nov. 1, 2006
- Teach for America – Nov. 5, 2006



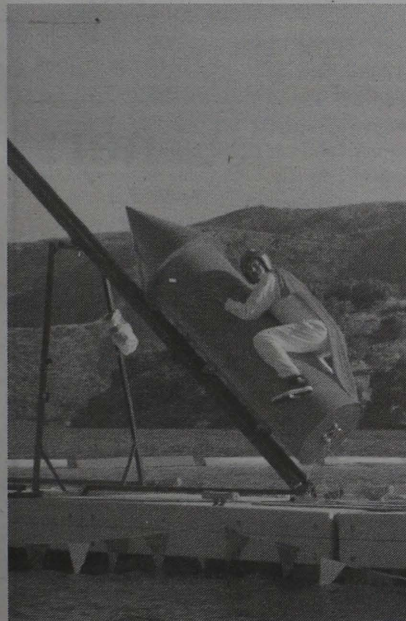
# An afternoon with Johnny Knoxville and Bam Margera

LANE TAYLOR

lataylor@ursinus.edu

Two weeks ago, I had the incredible pleasure of sitting down with Bam Margera and Johnny Knoxville to discuss their upcoming film, "Jackass: Number Two." Though I don't often admit this, I am a huge fan of "Jackass;" I own "Volume One" and "Volume Two" on DVD, along with their first movie. As you can imagine, this opportunity came as a great thrill to me, so I jotted down a dozen or so questions, called upon MapQuest as my guide, and jumped into my car, eagerly headed toward Philadelphia.

I arrived at the Four Seasons Hotel in Central Philadelphia a little late after a valiant battle with the turnpike. Unshaken by my ordeal, I walked through the doors of the hotel to meet their representative and a handful of other local college journalists who had been invited to the interview. After a brief delay in the lobby, we were ushered to one of the private rooms in the hotel that was garnished with delicious desserts for our enjoyment.



My colleagues and I, as college students, struggled to balance our professionalism with the prospect of free food, and were able to achieve this balance successfully.

Johnny Knoxville and Bam Margera made their entrance not too long after our snacking began. Johnny entered first, wearing sunglasses and moving slowly toward the couch to my left. When Bam entered, Johnny exclaimed, "It's Bam Margera! He's Famous!" at which point Bam joined him on the couch. Both looked haggard from a night of partying (which they admitted to) and cracked open a beer for the interview. (Johnny drank a Heineken, while Bam enjoyed a Beck's.)

The interview began with a question regarding any markings or ailments that the pair may have received during the film, to which they responded that they had received "some scars," and Johnny jokingly commented that, "I'm sure both our livers are in pretty bad shape." When I asked where they

found the inspiration for the outrageous stunts that they perform, Bam responded that he got his best ideas while drinking "red wine on an airplane," and Johnny admitted that his inspiration came from a combination of "scotch, amphetamines, and ignorance." The pair's laidback attitude and vibrant sense of humor allowed us all to feel comfortable and enjoy more than a few laughs during the interview.

After being asked a question about his relationship with director Jay Chandrasekhar, Johnny plugged Jay's movie "Beerfest" and couldn't understand why more people weren't going to go see it.

I asked if the "Jackass" crew ever got recognized while doing stunts, and was informed that it does happen, which caused the crew to do less work with "Joe Public" for this movie.

One of my fellow writers inquired about the possibility of a third Jackass movie, and unfortunately, it looks like the second film will be the end. Johnny explained, "We said we wouldn't do another one," and Bam commented, "We'll die if we do Number Three."

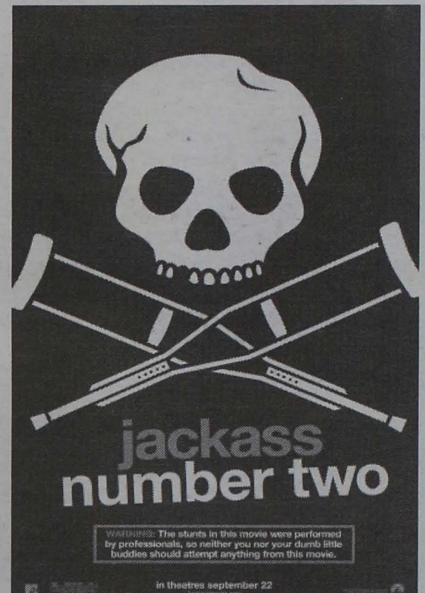
Bam and I had a brief side conversation off the topic of the film regarding a common injury that we both had suffered, a broken tailbone. Bam assured all of us that when he broke his tailbone and his hospitalization and x-ray were shown on MTV, "It was February," and regarding his package (which was visible on the X-ray): "It's not that small, I swear."

The Jackass crew has received waves of negative criticism due to the vulgarity and danger involved in some of their stunts, and when asked about how they received said

criticism, Johnny replied, "We don't give a f--- either way." At that point, someone brought up the tragic death of Steve Irwin, and asked if the way in which he passed affected them in the context of their chosen line of work. Johnny responded with a simple and blunt, "No."

As the interview came to a close, I asked Bam if being a professional skateboarder helped him perform his stunts. He replied that it "totally helps," because, as a skateboarder, you "learn how to roll out of a trick."

Leaving the hotel that afternoon, I found myself more ecstatic to experience the new "Jackass" than I had been when I entered. The film hit theaters this past Friday, and I wouldn't miss it. The new "Jackass" has promised to be full of new, unique stunts that make the performances in the first film pale in comparison. Having seen the film, I can assure you that it more than lives up to its expectations and fulfills every promise. For those who are skeptical, or simply do not consider themselves "a fan," I would challenge you to allow yourselves to enjoy stupid comedy by taking it for what it's worth. The cast of "Jackass" doesn't take life too seriously, which is one stunt that is safe enough for us all to attempt.



## The Watson Fellowship

TRAVIS SCOTT HIGH

trhigh@ursinus.edu

Good news, seniors! It is not too late to apply for a Watson Fellowship! The deadline for submitting the full application to the Dean's Office is 4 PM on Monday, Oct. 2, 2006. On-campus interviews begin Oct. 3, so even if you forgot to submit a brief outline of your project, you can still apply. Make no mistake--this is not the kind of application where you can roll out of bed, slap it together, and expect to win the fellowship. It requires serious thought and consideration.

The Watson Fellowship allows you to pursue an independent research project overseas after graduation. You are given \$25,000 to support you in your quest, which can send you to any country in the world (including U.S. territories such as Puerto Rico). The only catches are that you cannot visit a country in which you have lived before, and you cannot visit a country that has a current travel warning (see [www.state.gov](http://www.state.gov) for details). For more information about the Fellowship itself or to get a sense of what kinds of projects win, check out the Ursinus Study Abroad Web site or the Watson Web site, at [www.watsonfellowship.org](http://www.watsonfellowship.org). Dean Annette Lucas is the Ursinus College liaison for the Watson Fellowship.

Ursinus is allowed to nominate up to four candidates for the Fellowship, although it may choose not to nominate anyone if no one is qualified. The application process is competitive. You must write a five-page personal statement and a five-page proposal. If an applicant passes the Ursinus round, then his or her proposal is submitted to the Foundation for consideration. Fellows will be announced on March 15, 2007. So finish your applications now, because this is your last chance. Good luck!



## Point/Counterpoint: the "core" education A well-rounded education

**SIMON MARCUS**  
simarcus@ursinus.edu

When considering the usefulness (or lack thereof) of Ursinus' core curriculum, its supporters and opponents will likely fall into two categories. Those who come here with a clear, set idea of his or her major and possible career path will inevitably moan and groan about having to sit through a class that has not a thing to do with that major. On the other hand are the undecideds: those who come here with absolutely no clue as to what to major in, looking at the course requirements as a way to go through every subject the school has to offer and come to a decision based on those samplings. Even for those students completely intent on one set career path, the core curriculum is, in the end, important in providing a well-rounded education.

In its current structure, the core is essentially set up as a smorgasbord of the essentials: two foreign language courses, one math course, one laboratory science, one course in the social sciences, one course in the humanities, two courses emphasizing diversity, and one art-related course. In addition, every freshman goes through a year of CIE, which while not exactly loved by the typical freshman, at least gives that sense of uniformity in a class that every freshman takes and can relate to. Other than figuring out the mystery of just what exactly qualifies as a humanities or diversity course, the core is far from the hassle it appears to be. For most, it will amount to about 48 credits, which is little more than a third of the required 128 credits needed to graduate. Even for Joe Pre-Med or Jane Politics, set on one major from day one, a third of 128 credits devoted to unrelated courses will not make that significant of a splash on a four-year college career.

To demonstrate just how important the core curriculum is, especially to those undecideds, I'll use myself as an example. Going into my freshman year, I knew I wanted to focus either on physics, English, or philosophy. I had absolutely no clue which one of these completely unrelated subject areas I'd end up majoring in, so I took classes in each. After running the gauntlet of introductory courses, I eventually settled on English. So after settling on a major, were all those other courses utterly meaningless? Not in the least, the way I see it. With those required courses, I sampled each and every potential major and saw what I didn't like in each of them, finally settling for English. So, for those undecideds, the core curriculum gives a taste of everything the school has to offer, allowing for an eventual decision as to a major.

Even for someone with a definite major from the first day of freshman year, the core curriculum has its benefits. In particular, it offers a diverse set of courses to prepare for life after college. When finding employment after school, employers will want to see variety in a résumé, particularly when it comes to a college career. Sure, experience in an introductory biology or chemistry course won't do much in a career as, say, an English teacher, but that little bit of diversity among your college courses can go a long way in impressing a potential employer and presenting yourself as well-rounded. Sure, the core curriculum may seem like a pain when trying to squeeze that one last art class into the schedule before spring of senior year, but really, for both the here-and-now and life after school, it is vital for a liberal arts program.

## Improper and impractical

**MATT FLYNTZ**  
maflyntz@ursinus.edu

Defenders of Ursinus' core curriculum argue that it provides students with a well-rounded education. I have two issues with this: first, it is simply not the duty of a college or university to create "well-rounded" students, and even if it were, the core curriculum does not accomplish that goal.

If we ask ourselves "What is the purpose of high school?" we will likely answer "to prepare us for the rigors of college and to give us some idea of what we'd like to do with our lives." Whether or not high schools are actually achieving that goal is for another time and place, but I will assume that high schools are doing their job properly. Throughout high school, students take three to four years of math, science, social science, English, etc. In short, students are "well-rounded" when they graduate from high school. This prepares students for college in that they are well-prepared to take any education/career path they choose. Thus, the duty of a college is to pick up where high school left off: to allow students to pursue a career path and to prepare students for said career. Some suggest that part of preparing students for any career is ensuring that they are "well-rounded." This seems rather naïve. For instance, when a medical school is looking at applicants, will they consider how many art credits a candidate has taken? Probably not. A core curriculum, for the most part, has no practical bearing in the "real world." As I mentioned, the duty of a college is to prepare students for this "real world." A core curriculum ignores this duty, and indeed, the more colleges emphasize a "balanced" education rather than one promoting expertise, the more they turn into bigger, more expensive high schools.

But, for the sake of argument, let's assume that colleges should be creating "well-rounded" students (I keep putting "well-rounded" in quotes because it seems that no one really knows what it means). Our core curriculum does not come close to achieving this goal. A truly well-rounded student must have significant education in all areas of study. Let's assume that I take 15 Politics courses for my major, one science, one math, one art, etc. Keep in mind that my having no interest in science, math, or art would probably lead me to take "cop out" courses (I don't think I have to name course names). So, I've had extensive study in one field, and only trifling, disinterested study in a number of others. If that is well-rounded, then I'm Karl Malone (see by-line for the answer to the question "Is he really Karl Malone?").

The fact of the matter is that a truly well-rounded student would have to triple or quadruple major, or at the very least carry a handful of minors. Creating truly well-rounded students is simply impossible at the college level, where students are *supposed* to focus on one specific field of study. So, why do we go through the motions? Some suggest that it helps the "undecideds" among us. I simply do not see how getting rid of the core curriculum would harm these folks in any way. Getting rid of the core would not prohibit anyone from taking a wide range of courses. It would simply allow those more decisive among us to pursue our interests.

Let me end by noting that there are a couple of merits to our set of requirements, namely LSS-100 and 200, aka CIE I and II. But, that's another debate entirely.

## New Zack City

**CHRIS CURLEY**  
Modern Times

*Zack's Food Court, 2:55 p.m.:*

Ok, ok. New Zack's, new selection, new digs that look like The Max from "Saved by the Bell." I can handle this. Mexi-Grill. All right. I grabbed my food and went to the counter. The cashier looked up and smiled.

"That'll be seventeen dollars, please," she said as I froze. I looked for signs of a put-on. She held out her hand for my dining card.

"Seventeen dollars!" I blurted. "All I got was a burrito!"

"Plus sour cream and salsa," she pointed out. "Those cost extra." I felt confused, lost, angry; alone.

"Well, how much is equivalency?" I asked. She stared at me blankly, then broke out in a maniacal laugh. Tears were streaming down her face. I waited patiently until she was through daubing her face with a stack of napkins.

"I'm sorry, what did you say?" she said, suffocating gasps of leftover giggles. "It's uh... four dollars."

"All right, fine." I handed her the card. "Take it off my meal."

"And thirty-five cents," she added. "Would you like anything to drink?" I swore I saw a smirk.

"Just a cup of water," I said.

"I'm sorry," she said. "We don't do that anymore. You'll have to buy the cup." *Forty-one thousand dollars a year and I have to buy the cup?*

"Well," I said. "How much is the cup?"

"Ninety-nine cents."

"And how much is a soda?"

"Ninety-nine cents."

"So let me get this straight," I started. "It costs the same to buy a cup of *tap water* as it does to get a soda?"

"Yes," she said. "It's because of theft."

"Theft?" I cried. "Theft!? Are you really cracking down because too many kids are stealing soda? There's - what - two cents worth of syrup in here?" I grabbed my lunch and backed away from the counter.

"Wait," she shouted, "do you want the cup?" I ran.

The burrito was only o.k.

*Wismer Dining Hall, Later:*

I sidled up to the register to enter the main dining hall. She took my card, then held me up as I tried to walk past the counter.

"You've already used your dinner meal today," she said. "You'll have to put this on your Dining Dollars if you want to eat." Nausea.

"What?" I sputtered. "How much is that?" She looked at the computer.

"\$9.50," she said. I felt dizzy.

"Ok," I said. "So dining equivalency downstairs is \$4.35, but the same - and let me be clear on this - *equivalency* - upstairs is \$9.50?"

"Just for dinner," she said. "Lunch is only \$7.75!" She folded her hands. "Dining Dollars, then?"

"Sure," I said. "Or you could just, you know, sodomize me."

"What was that?" she said.

"I said, 'These orders surprise me.' You know what? Don't even bother swiping my card. I think I'll just kill myself instead and save the trouble of purchasing another meal." She considered me for a moment.

"Well," she said, "if you do it in here, I'll have to swipe your card."

*Modern Times is published bi-weekly and costs thirty-four dollars in meal equivalency. Chris Curley can be reached via email: chcurley@ursinus.edu.*



grizzly@ursinus.edu

## Ronin (1998)

If someone were to talk about a 90s movie in which DeNiro plays a highly intelligent and complex thief, most people would think of *Heat*, the much heralded flick that paired Pacino and DeNiro for the only time to date. Although that is also a very good film, this week I'm taking on a very underrated and very different film, one as full of as many twists and turns as the pic's climactic car chase (absolutely one of the best put to film). This week we're looking at *Ronin*.

Robert DeNiro plays Sam, a former US intelligence agent employed as a mercenary along with a group of other specialists by a mysterious Irish woman to obtain a briefcase under heavy guard. All goes as planned until the soldiers of fortune are double crossed by one in the group. From there, it's one twist after another as everyone races to steal back the case and get their hands on its enigmatic contents.

When I was re-watching this movie for this review, I was really struck by just how much I miss DeNiro acting in straight dramas, if only because he's so freaking tough. His withering stares and flat-out bad-ass attitude have been noticeably missing as of late, but they're a huge reason



ALEX ERNST  
The Back Row

why his characters were so intimidating in movies like *The Godfather Part II*, *Casino*, and *Goodfellas*. Another standout amongst the cast is Jean Reno, best known for playing the slightly shady French specialist in every movie over the last 15 years (See *Mission Impossible* for an especially good example). To quote *Army of Darkness*, "Good. Bad. [He's] the guy with the gun."

More than the great acting, more than the explosive action, the real draw of *Ronin* for me is the complexity of the characters' actions, particularly DeNiro's character. He is constantly testing those around him, exploring every situation to the minutest detail, often in ways that the viewer may not pick up on or even understand the first time through. As far as movies that demand repeat viewings go, this one is near the top of the list. The best example of this is the opening scene as all of the characters gather in a small restaurant to meet their contact. DeNiro spends a good ten minutes wandering around the building, hiding a gun, setting up crates near the back entrance, etc. All of this is done without dialogue, leaving the viewer completely in the dark. Having seen the movie at least once already, you're left marveling at the meticulousness of Sam's preparations, even in a situation that ended up turning out just fine.

If you're looking for a real thriller to keep you guessing, give this flick at least two chances. The second time around is very rewarding, and you may actually find yourself still being surprised. As far as recommendations go, the movie of the week is *Heat*. DeNiro and Pacino make great adversaries and throwing Val Kilmer and nutjob Tom Sizemore in the mix only makes the film that much more entertaining. I just want to thank everybody for the positive feedback and absolutely encourage all to come up and tell me how much you like (or hate; nothing like a good batch of hate-mail) these reviews. To end on a high quote: "It's 106 miles to Chicago, we've got a full tank of gas, half a pack of cigarettes, it's dark and we're wearing sunglasses." "Hit it."

## The long and winding road: Petty's Highway Companion

BRANDON BROWN  
brbrown@ursinus.edu

The powers that be found my first article insightful, so they asked me to make a triumphant return. So here it is, for your reading enjoyment: a review of the recent Tom Petty album *Highway Companion*. This is Tom Petty's 18th album and third solo disc; his last solo outing was 1994's *Wildflowers*. Before I start in on Tom Petty, I would like to share with you, the reader, a little rule of thumb I live by: if the first single of a new album is the first track on said album, then it usually is not a very good album, but give the album a chance and you may be surprised. I did the same thing with *Highway Companion* upon realizing that *Saving Grace* was both the first single and the first track. My rule did not hold up; the album was good, with a great song selection and it is the perfect album for a road trip. The album is a collection of upbeat rockers and slow acoustic tunes with an overall tone of reflection. Each track rolls from one to the next much like *Traveling Wilburys*, an album and band of which Petty was a part. Some highlights are *Saving Grace*, *Square One*, *Flirting with Time*, *Dam-*

*aged by Love*, and *The Golden Rose*. Perhaps my favorite song on the album is *Flirting with Time*, a song about how love is two sided. In it Petty sings, "I've done all I can do. Now it's up to you" at the end of each verse and then in each chorus he sings, "You're flirting with time baby/ Flirting with time, but maybe./ Time baby, is catching up with you" leaving it open as to who and what the song is about. But what I find most interesting about the album is that anyone can identify with its songs. Although most of them seem like short tales and lessons that Petty has learned on the road, I think anyone can identify with the album's major themes, namely travel, uncertainty, love, and taking chances. The exciting thing about a Tom Petty solo disc, and why I recommend you give this a try, is that it does not have a full band feel to it. Although Petty enlisted the help of other musicians, most of the songs feel like songs you'd see two guys playing in a bar. It is definitely Tom Petty at his finest. The songs are well crafted and the music is rockin'. If I were to pick one highlight for this album I would choose the slide guitar playing; about a quarter of the songs have slide guitar, which adds to the bluesy and country feel of the album and the sense of being on the road.

## We are a pie in the face of the greatest generation

Ladies and gentlemen, I'm not sure if you know it yet, but we are fighting World War Two Part Two. I guess that means we're fighting World War Two Times Two (WWIIx2). Which would make it World War Four, even though World War Three hasn't technically been fought yet. But I digress.

We are fighting World War Two Part Two. We were resting real easy there these past 60 years, believing the Nazis had gone the way of quainter mid-century phenomenon like Shirley Temple movies and the inexplicable insistence on spelling "marijuana" with an *h* instead of a *j*. We've been kicking back in our Lawn Chair of Prosperity, occasionally spilling our Piña Colada of Freedom on smaller nations like South Korea and Granada, allowing them for the first time to taste the Milky Nectar of Democracy. Except for that lightweight South Vietnam, who promptly vomited Democracy back up into our faces, resulting in the loss of 58,000 American lives. Ungrateful little miscreant.

Anyway, the Nazis came back, but this time, they came in the form of our current enemy, the Islamofascists. Even casual armchair historians like us can plainly see the parallels: one believed in the destiny of the Aryan race to rule the world; and the other believes that those who do not subscribe to their flavor of God must be killed where they stand.

See how similar they are?

But the comparisons don't stop there. Get this: *they both hate Jews*. No joke. Never mind the fact that so does Mel Gibson and yet there is no Global War on Mel Gibson. We're being serious, dammit! If you can't trust

satirists to be serious, who can you trust?

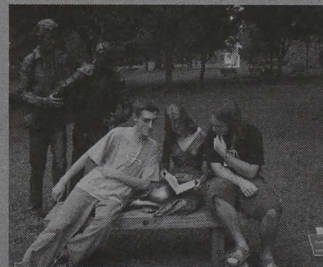
The point is, those who doubt our commitment to Sparkle Motion... wait, no. Those who doubt our commitment to the Global War on Terrorism are a bunch of modern day Neville Chamberlains, living in a carefree dream world where appeasement and peaceful negotiation can solve all problems, and ponies and balloons and miscegenation and sunshine abound. We live in the real world, dammit! Like my dear departed uncle used to say, if we turn our backs on terrorism, they'll stab us from behind!

Actually, my uncle substituted various colorful ethnic slurs for the word "terrorism" but once again I digress. The point is, liberals and their ilk love Nazis. Plain and simple.

In conclusion, World War II is exactly like the Global War on Terrorism. Now, some leftist elements in

our citizenry (whom I suspect are BOLSHEVIKS!) would claim that we are fighting a different enemy with different motivations, different goals and a different worldview, and that our culture's obsession with romanticizing the circumstances of the second World War and our national image as the Genocide-Stopping, Little-Guy-Defending G.I.-Joe-of-the-World is not only woefully false but a grave danger to both the stability of the world and to the very survival of our nation. Those people, however, are missing the point; and that point is, they both hate Jewish people.

IF [world\_war\_3] = has not been fought, THEN [world\_war\_(2x2)] DOES NOT = has been fought. IF [world\_war\_3] = has been fought, THEN email dasergeant@ursinus.edu and maflyntz@ursinus.edu.



MATT FLYNTZ  
DAN SERGEANT  
Communism for Dummies



# Sports

## Letter to the Editor

grizzly@ursinus.edu

Dear Editor:

Sportsmanship. Its definition ... "conduct becoming of a person who is fair, generous, a good loser, and a graceful winner."

The Centennial Conference was one of the first conferences in the country to adopt a sportsmanship statement and include it as part of every Centennial match, be it in a game program or read over a public address system. As one of the elite small college conferences in the country, we are proud of the manner in which our students support their teams and of our Conference's leadership role.

Now we wish to build on that role, as Ursinus College and the Centennial Conference have joined with the NCAA Division III Commissioners Association in a unified effort to promote respect for student-athletes, coaches and officials in intercollegiate athletics.

The message is simple: **Be Loud, Be Proud, Be Positive**

The program asks that fans ...

Ø **Cheer for your team, not against the visitors**

Ø **Don't get personal in your comments about players, coaches or officials**

Ø **No profanity, vulgarity, racist or sexist comments**

The NCAA Division III Student-Athlete Advisory Committee has also adopted a statement on fan sportsmanship:

"As NCAA Division III student-athletes we commit ourselves to sportsmanship by demonstrating respect toward ourselves and others. This includes demonstrating fair play, taking responsibility for our actions and representing the spirit of Division III intercollegiate athletics. We encourage our teammates, opponents, fans, coaches and referees to help us in promoting this philosophy."

The Centennial Conference welcomes your continued support of your friends and classmates and hopes you will continue in building a positive spirit in the stands and on the sidelines.

Sincerely,

John Strassburger  
President, Ursinus College

Steve Ulrich  
Executive Director,  
Centennial Conference

### Classified ads

GUITAR LESSONS: Beginner thru intermediate Mid-day scheduling available  
Call Jeff Larson 484.802.3452

## NCAA drug testing

**STEPHANIE KAYSEN**  
stkaysen@ursinus.edu

On Monday, Sept. 25, Ursinus student-athletes will attend the annual NCAA meeting in the Kaleidoscope to sign consent forms, clearing them for participation in athletic events.

Many student-athletes fail to read these forms, allowing the NCAA to test them for drugs if they reach an NCAA championship. They sign the forms only because they know they must do so to compete. Recent drug issues with several professional athletes means that Ursinus student-athletes should start reading the fine print on these consent forms.

Five-time Olympic medalist Marion Jones, the most well-known face of women's track and field, was involved in a drug scandal over the past month, causing questions about potential drug use by all professional and collegiate athletes.

Jones' initial test on June 23 for the

banned enhancer EPO, usually used by endurance athletes, came out positive through a urine sample. The second test, conducted by the United States Anti-Doping Agency two weeks later showed negative results. The drug tests were conducted for the US Championships that took place in Indianapolis, where Jones won the 100 meter.

The increase in drug use by athletes in all sports has begun to influence the NCAA's focus regarding drug testing with student-athletes. According to a reference from Dr. Tina Wailgum, Associate Professor of exercise sport science, "use of supplements by celebrity athletes might inspire student-athletes to experiment with these products." This year an estimated 13,500 students will be tested for substances listed on the NCAA Web site. According to the Ursinus Web site, the college "operates in full compliance with the rules and regulations of the National Collegiate Athletic Association and of those athletic conferences to which the College be-

## Soccer struggles

**TYLER JOHNSON**  
tyjohnson@ursinus.edu

The men's soccer team recently suffered a pair of losses, including their conference opener. Playing without injured midfielder Danny Callahan, the Bears fell to Washington College 1-0 in a heartbreaking overtime loss and were defeated 6-0 at Eastern University.

The men entered their conference opener against Washington confident about their play, following a 2-0 defeat to Wesley in which the Bears hung tough against difficult competition. Washington and Ursinus battled gamely for ninety minutes, but the teams remained deadlocked after regulation. Despite strong performances from Doug von Allmen and Donald Reilly, who chipped in four and three shots respectively, the Bears were unable to produce a goal in regulation or overtime. The backline, which had performed admirably throughout the match despite the loss of co-captain Zach Coale to a first-half injury, broke in the 101st minute. Jordan Lange scored the golden goal in double overtime to give the Shoremen the victory.

Washington, playing in the newly constructed Roy Kirby, Jr. Stadium, held a 21-16 edge in shots for the match. Bears keeper Ed de Gottal was spectacular throughout the game, making eleven saves to keep his side close.

After a four day rest, the Bears were soundly defeated by Eastern University by a score of 6-0. The Eagles outplayed the Bears throughout the match and held a 19-3 edge in shots and an 8-2 advantage in corner kicks. Freshman Taylor VanBrackle

registered a hat trick for the Eagles, giving him eight goals through the first eight games of his collegiate career. Ed de Gottal and Michael Norris split the goaltending duties for the Bears, with de Gottal making one save in the first half and Norris registering seven in the second.

The Ursinus women's soccer team will begin its pursuit of a Centennial Conference championship in an 0-1 hole after they were defeated 2-1 at Gettysburg on Saturday, Sept. 16.

Gettysburg forward Katie Myers, last season's conference player of the year, put the visiting Bears behind 1-0 with a 21st minute strike. Ursinus' Nichole Papp brought the Bears even in the 34th minute, when she coolly beat Bullet's goalkeeper Danielle St. Pierre. Minutes before halftime, the Bears conceded a corner kick which would prove to be their undoing. Tara Gaston connected with Steph Heath's corner to propel the Bullets into halftime with a 2-1 advantage.

A scoreless second half rendered Gaston's goal the game-winner, and the Bears fell to 2-3-0 overall. Gettysburg held a slight advantage in shots, 7-6, but the Bears managed three corner kicks to the Bullets' two. Ursinus goalkeeper Ashley Potter did not register a save in the first half, while her second-half replacement, Lisa Clark, made one save.

The Bears continued their difficult conference schedule against Dickinson in a crucial home match. The Red Devils won their home opener 9-0 over Washington. The Bears battled Dickinson at noon on Saturday, Sept. 23, and faced Washington at 4 p.m. two days later. Both matches were played at Ursinus.

longs." Allegations of steroid use and other performance-enhancing drugs have plagued professional athletes, spreading these issues to the collegiate level. According to journalist Luke Andrews at the *Oregon Daily Emerald*, "the [collegiate] drug testing program is not adequate and fails to prevent the use of performance-enhancers by student athletes."

The NCAA spends an estimated \$4 million a year on the drug testing program, in which only one to two percent of tests return with positive results of banned substances. Currently, Division III policies state that if a student tests positive for any banned drugs, the athlete will be suspended for one year from the date of the positive drug test. A second positive test would result in complete suspension from the sport for life. NCAA consent forms must be signed by all Ursinus student-athletes prior to participation.

The NCAA is taking steps to inform

college students, including Ursinus athletes, about the on-campus drug testing policy and preparing students for testing if they make it to championships or in the event that Division III institutions adopt year-round drug testing.

Ursinus athletes are held to high standards and to keep Ursinus athletic competitions fair, the campus emphasizes values of "hard work, team work, vigorous competition, and winning and losing, as a part of a sound education experience."

Jones has watched her respect in athletic competition diminish since this scandal, so to keep Ursinus competition a pure representation of our athleticism, it is essential to prevent the use of performance enhancing drugs on our campus.

Following the scrutiny, Jones publicly announced that she would not be racing this year due to being unconditioned.