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The Grizzly, September 27, 2007

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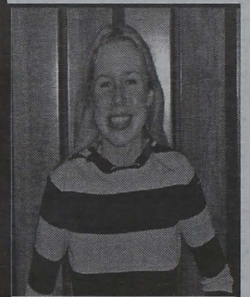
Thursday, September 27, 2007

The student newspaper of Ursinus College

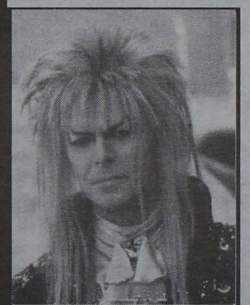
Inside



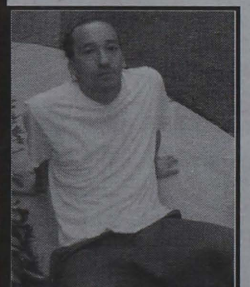
Don Asher on Campus
News, 2



Taylor Talks YAZ
Features, 4



Ernst Enters *Labyrinth*
Opinions, 7



Dubb on Superstitions
Sports, 8

UC Seniors Emcee the Fringe Festival Cabaret

Going Green: Ursinus Commits to Improving Energy Efficiency

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It appears that sooner, rather than later, Ursinus College will forfeit its traditional colors of black, red, and gold for an all green theme. This new look was created by the signing of the American College and University President's Climate Commitment at the onset of the 2007 Fall Semester. President Strassburger has committed the students, faculty, and staff to energy efficiency and achieving greenhouse gas emissions neutrality. I sat down with our collegiate commander-in-chief along with Environmental Studies Department Assistant Director Dr. Leah Joseph to gain a better perspective of the vision for the future of Ursinus. The green bug that has arrived at over 350 other colleges and universities nationwide has finally landed at Ursinus.

To understand the aim of the President's Climate Commitment you need not look further than the mission statement: "A high-visibility effort to address global warming by garnering institutional commitments to neutralize greenhouse gas emissions, and to accelerate the research and educational efforts of higher education to equip society to re-stabilize the earth's climate."

This effort is headed by multiple committees, organized by the level of responsibility for developing and guidance of policy, composed of the Steering Committee, Leadership Circle, Charter Signatory, Signatory, Supporting Organizations, and the Implementing Advisory Committee. Ursinus College is a part of the Charter Signatory section, having signed the commitment prior to Sept. 15, 2007. In signing the commitment, President Strassburger has committed to meeting benchmarks to attain greenhouse gas neutrality, which is the emission of zero net carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and fluorinated gases into the atmosphere.

The specific benchmarks that Ursinus is committed to meeting are in increments of the first two months, 1 year, and two years.

Within the first two months, Ursinus must create an institutional structure that guides the development and implementation of the plan to achieve emission neutrality. Within one year, a comprehensive inventory of greenhouse

gas emissions must be completed and updated every other year. Within two years, there should be an established date to reach climate neutrality, targeted interim goals that lead to neutrality, climate neutrality and sustainability infused within the teaching curriculum, expanded research to achieve climate neutrality, and a mechanism for tracking progress and the completion of the set goals.

Also, two or more of the following must be integrated into the college:

1. establishment of all new construction on campus as LEED certified
2. solely purchasing of ENERGY STAR rated appliances (where applicable)
3. established off-setting of all air travel
4. encouragement of public transportation
5. After one year, 15% of the energy used on campus comes from renewable resources.
6. a committee to support climate neutrality and sustainability among the shareholders at companies in which Ursinus invests
7. competing in the Waste Minimization section of the RecycleMania competition

Lastly, Ursinus College must make the action plan, inventory, and progress publicly accessible through submission of documentation to the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE).

You may wonder "Why the President's Climate Commitment and why now?" I sat down with the man that pledged Ursinus's commitment to environmental consciousness, President John Strassburger. He said when the invitation first came the college evaluated the commitments, and initially questioned whether a college that has fewer resources than a Swarthmore or a Wilson could meet expectations.

The signing forces the college to take environmental consequences into account for every future decision that is to be made, which is a difficult task. However, after conversations with our environmental studies department and individuals at other institutions, "It became clear that the edu-

ational benefits of signing are almost unlimited," Strassburger said. Any burdens were manageable. "The most tantalizing opportunity is for the whole campus to become more sophisticated about environmental issues,"

Strassburger said. "What we can do to address them individually, socially, and politically, and I include myself [in that group]."

Dr. Leah Joseph said we have "a general responsibility to our Ursinus community, and the greater community to promote awareness, action, and ethics on campus." The importance of this commitment to the environmental studies department is that it allows the college to match what other environmental programs are doing, otherwise, we would be left behind. However, she pointed out that students do not have to be Environmental Studies majors. "Outside involvement has already started, with Focus the Nation (www.focusthenation.com) and the Energy Competition (UC Un-

plugged), so the environment is a topic already at hand," she said.

The commitment does have its obstacles, however. The estimations for emissions inventory are complicated and there is ambiguity, such as estimating student and faculty commuters's influence on greenhouse gas emissions. Also, many payoffs are long-term. However, there are student groups (like SustainUC and UCEA) to promote sustainability, and the next class of freshman will have the benefit of a class above them already talking about emission neutrality and sustainability at Ursinus College.

The President's Climate Commitment is a great opportunity for students, faculty, and staff to showcase their leadership, creativity, and knowledge to the world. The level of involvement is unlimited and it is encouraged that students discuss their concerns or questions with faculty, and vice versa. According to President Strassburger, "it is clear that our graduates will be making decisions for all kinds of institutions for years to come; it is the ripple effect that is the most desired outcome."



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. Leah Berman, Mathematics & Computer Science
- Dr. Kneia DaCosta, Psychology
- Dr. Sheryl Goodman, Media & Communication Studies
- Dr. Rebecca Lyczak, Biology
- Dr. Gabrielle Principe, Psychology
- Dr. Nathan Rein, Philosophy & Religion

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 October 12, 2007.

The Grizzly

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Ursinus Joins Fight Against U.K. Boycott

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Spanning from religious to political, Israel has seen numerous conflicts in its ancient past. Now the British University and College Union (UCU) has added academic conflict to the list. In late May of this year, the UCU, the largest U.K.-based professional association of academic staff working in higher education, voted to begin dialogue on severing academic links with Israel.

The U.K. boycott stems from the union's belief that "Israel's 40-year occupation has seriously damaged the fabric of Palestinian society through annexation, illegal settlement, collective punishment, and restriction of movement." In the motion authorized by the UCU, they further note that "Congress condemns the complicity of Israeli academia in the occupation, which has provoked a call from Palestinian trade unions for a comprehensive and consistent international boycott of all Israeli academic institutions."

Though this movement is centrally based in the U.K., American colleges and universities, led by Columbia University President Lee Bollinger and Harold Shapiro of the American Jewish Committee (AJC),

are beginning to take a stance against the boycott proposal. Over 400 American institutions, including Ursinus, have signed on to show that they find the idea of a boycott "utterly antithetical to the fundamental values of the academy," as stated in a message penned by Bollinger that appeared in *The New York Times* on August 8.

After the uproar from the UCU boycott vote this summer, Ursinus, among many other institutions, was asked by Bollinger and Shapiro to join the growing list of American colleges and universities supporting Israel's higher education.

"The goal with this [message]," said Ursinus President John Strassburger, "is to defend the idea that the academy, whether it's a college or a university, should be a space where ideas can be exchanged freely, and we wanted to be a part of that."

The AJC contends that the proposed boycott wrongly punishes the Israeli education system for what is ultimately a criticism of the government. And when many of the biggest opponents of the government's policy towards Palestine are members of academic institutions, the AJC finds the boycott inherently flawed.

"The discussions leading to the [boycott] decision were infused with references to perceptions about current political events,

and the alleged complaints about the universities boycotted...made little sense...[in] that context," says a letter from the AJC to the American Association of University Professors.

In the same letter, the AJC contends that the current boycott proposal is politicizing higher education in a way it has not been since the Nazis took control of Germany in the 1930s. Strassburger agreed with this opinion, saying, "It's...similar to the German assault because it's saying, 'We don't care what your views are, the fact that you're an Israeli academic leads us to boycott you.'"

Ursinus's part in this debate comes at a time when the college is focusing on the Middle East as a region rich with academic promise. In addition to a new Professor of Middle Eastern Studies, President Strassburger was recently invited to give a keynote address in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, as part of a conference of the Higher Colleges of Technology. As he said to *The Grizzly* on Sept. 9, "The center of gravity in the world is shifting...to the Middle East. Thus, a good liberal arts college must allow its students to gain an understanding of this important culture."

In Case You Missed It...

ASHLEY HIGGINS

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Sept. 16, 2007 – The Roman Catholic Diocese of Los Angeles is closing and selling a convent that has housed nuns for more than 40 years. The money from the sale of the property will be used to pay for the diocese's recent sex abuse settlement. The diocese recently settled out of court for a purported \$660 million dollars, \$373 of which will be paid directly by the archdiocese. The rest will be paid from insurers and various other sources. The nuns have until December 31 to vacate the premises. The archdiocese plans to sell up to 50 of its properties to pay for the settlement.

Sept. 17, 2007 – President Bush names retired federal judge Michael Mukasey as his nominee for Attorney General. Mukasey would replace the recently retired Alberto Gonzales, who resigned after months of scandal regarding the questionable firings of nine federal prosecutors. Mukasey has a solid record of handling terrorism cases, and it seems that his nomination will not be challenged by the Senate.

Sept. 20, 2007 – Osama bin Laden issues an audiotape encouraging a Jihad against Pakistani President General Pervez Musharraf. There is some speculation that bin Laden has been so vocal recently, re-

leasing a video and two audiotapes in the past month after a three-year silence, because he believes that there are factions in Al Qaeda who may be spreading rumors of his death in order to usurp his control.

Sept. 21, 2007 – A Department of Justice official reported that attorneys for at least 60 Guantanamo Bay detainees have been disallowed visitation rights to their clients.

This decision came after a judge dismissed challenges to the legality of the detainment.

Sept. 21, 2007 – Chicago area police search for missing Nailah Franklin, who disappeared on Tuesday, Sept. 18. Franklin sent suspicious text messages to family and friends that evening, and then, when she did not report to work on Wednesday, the police were called. Franklin recently filed a police report about threatening phone calls she had received, but she failed to file a restraining order or other order of protection against the man, who was a former romantic partner. Her car was found near an abandoned building in Hammond, IN.

Sept. 22, 2007 – President Bush threatens to veto a Congressional bill. The measure in question is the renewal of a bill that has extended government-funded health care services to poor children. The children are from families whose income makes them ineligible for Medicare, but their income is not high enough to afford private health in-

surance. Congress has moved to add \$35 million to the program over the next five years. Bush proclaims that the measure is too costly and is fearful that it would signal a move toward total federalized healthcare.

Sept. 22, 2007 – Britney Spears faces misdemeanor hit-and-run and driving without a valid license charges. If convicted, Spears could face up to six months in prison and a substantial fine. The charges are based on an incident in August, when Spears drove into a parked car and then fled the scene.

Sept. 22, 2007 – Iraqis allege to have video evidence that U.S. Blackwater guards opened fire without provocation on a group of Iraqi civilians last week. The incident killed 11 civilians. Also, Iraqi's President demanded that the U.S. release an Iranian who is accused of smuggling weapons to Shiite militias.

Sept. 23, 2007 – Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad arrived in New York City amid protests. He appeared at a series of events, including a forum at Columbia University. Ahmadinejad also asked if he could lay a wreath at Ground Zero, but his request was denied. The Iranian President allegedly wishes to speak directly to a U.S. audience, denying that Iran is currently building a nuclear bomb or that Iran plans to attack the U.S.

'Grad School Guru' Advises UC Seniors

ASHLEY MCCOMESKEY

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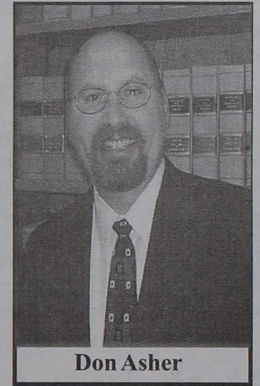
Don Asher, known as the "grad school guru," will be holding a program on the Ursinus campus at 7:30 p.m. in Pfahler auditorium on October 8, advising students about the ins and outs of applying to graduate school.

Asher is a renowned speaker and author on higher education. According to Carla Rinde, Director of Career Services, "He's most helpful now for seniors who are right in the thick of the application process." She advises any student anticipating or even considering graduate school to attend.

From finding the right schools to the actual application process, Asher will provide the important tips that the aspiring grad student should know. He even has advice on where to find "free money," in the form of scholarships and grants.

"He has a lot of really good advice on how you should approach the testing and application process," Rinde said. "He really covers it all; it's a must see for seniors!"

Rinde explained that Asher has presented this talk on campus before. "We have a deal with surrounding schools. He reduces the cost, and Ursinus and other local colleges share the price, because we keep him in Philadelphia." She admitted that she liked having him on campus because it's a collaborative thing. "He's the best speaker on the topic," she said, "and he gets good reviews."



Don Asher

Would you like to write for the News section of *The Grizzly*? E-mail the News Editor at heturbach@ursinus.edu.

Popping the Pill Continued: DRSP



LANE TAYLOR

Everything You Never Knew You Wanted to Know About Sex

Last week, we explored the world of typical oral contraception pills (OCPs) – in other words, those that contain a combination of the hormones estrogen and progestin, as well as those that only contain progestin. Recently, Bayer HealthCare

Pharmaceuticals developed an alternative to the typical OCP by utilizing another hormone: drospirenone. This article discusses these alternative pills and what they may or may not have to offer you or your partner.

Pharmaceuticals developed an alternative to the typical OCP by utilizing another hormone: drospirenone. This article discusses these alternative pills and what they may or may not have to offer you or your partner. In recent months, you may have seen commercials for YAZ, (you know, the commercial with four women sitting at a club discussing their pre-menstrual symptoms, and one of the women is conveniently a physician who knows all the possible advantages and adverse effects of YAZ) the OCP that's different; the OCP that contains drospirenone, or DRSP. Every birth control pill currently on the market contains synthetic hormones, meaning that the chemicals in OCPs mimic hormones found naturally in a woman's body. YAZ, like many other OCPs, is a prescription for combination pills, and typically, combination pills differ from one another based on the synthetic form of progestin they contain. DRSP (a synthetic form of progestin), is the aspect of YAZ that makes it unique in comparison with other OCPs. (Bayer HealthCare Pharmaceuticals)

At this point, attentive readers may ask, who cares? How does that make YAZ any different from other combination pills? Good question. Actually, using DRSP is innovative because YAZ is the only OCP currently on the market that uses a synthetic form of progestin that is not based on testosterone, but another chemical: spironolactone. Spironolactone is a drug that causes a decrease in potassium loss and an increase of sodium and water loss. (Bayer HealthCare Pharmaceuticals) When prescribed alone, spironolactone is used to treat low potassium levels, fluid retention, and hyperaldosteronism (a condition in which the body makes too much of the hormone aldosterone). It is also prescribed in combination with other medications for myasthenia gravis (a condition that causes a variety of neurological symptoms), early-onset, or precocious puberty, and in some cases, abnormal facial hair growth in women. However, Medline also warns that spironolactone has caused tumors in lab rats, and to discuss all the risks associated with this chemical thoroughly with your health care provider. (Medline)

According to Bayer HealthCare Pharmaceuticals, because YAZ contains DRSP (a derivative of spironolactone), it may cause a rise in bodily potassium levels. This can lead to serious heart problems, so Women cannot take YAZ if they have kidney, liver, or adrenal gland disease. However, if you would like to see the full list of side effects associated

with spironolactone, visit <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/druginfo/edmaster/a682627.html>. However, YAZ also contains all the possible positive side effects associated with the other combination pills.

For those of you that did not recognize the name YAZ, perhaps you recognize the name YASMIN. YASMIN was marketed a few years ago by Bayer HealthCare Pharmaceuticals as a combination pill that contained DRSP. In fact, if you glance at the chemicals contained in YASMIN and YAZ, you'll find them to be the same. This instantly aroused my suspicions. After all, why re-market the same drug with a different name, unless there were negative associations that a company would want to hide from? However, the FDA recently approved YAZ as a treatment for Pre-Menstrual Dysphoric Disorder (PMDD), a condition in which PMS symptoms are severe and significantly impact a woman's life. (Psych majors: it can be found in the DSM IV, and an article about it will be arriving very soon.) I imagine that Bayer chose to re-market it in order to highlight its new treatment achievement.

If you or your partner is interested in taking YAZ, talk to a health care professional, and stay tuned for future birth control updates.

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Hillel and Muslim Student Association Host Break-Fast

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Last Saturday (September 22), the smell of Indian masalas mixed with the scent of onion bagels for the second time in two years, as Hillel and the Muslim Student Association (MSA) once again hosted the very popular annual break-fast dinner to celebrate both Yom Kippur and Ramadan.

About forty people gathered in the Hillel House on 6 Avenue to celebrate the end of the one-day fast for Yom Kippur and the end of a daily fast for the month of Ramadan. Yom Kippur signifies the start of the New Year for Jewish people, and Ramadan celebrates the holiest month for Muslim people in which it is believed that the Qur'an was revealed.

Both groups wait until sundown to break the fast; when that time came on Saturday, in the Muslim tradition, everyone ate one date.

Faculty Director of Hillel, Nomi Manon, and Student President of MSA, Mohsin Ali, gave brief explanations of both holidays, and talked about the significance of the fast for both religions as well as the reflective nature of both holidays.

Ali believes that "the dinner was a great opportunity for two religious organizations to come together and

celebrate a common ritual practice."

Following Manon and Ali's short explanation and welcome speeches, guests moved through the buffet line in the sunny-colored Hillel House dining room, filling their plates with Indian spicy salad and Jewish-style smoked salmon or lox.

Hillel's Manon comments, "I'm thrilled that the Hillel house can be a place for interesting, cutting edge, inter-religious programming, and hope that in the future we will be able to do more programming that teaches us each about other religions and about our own as well."

Students from the Buddhist Meditation Group, Intersarsity Christian Fellowship, MSA, and Hillel, as well as many guests and friends enjoyed each other's company by discussing, chatting and laughing, sitting on couches, chairs, and on the floor.

Junior Stephanie Bachmann comments on the event: "It was a great opportunity to get an idea of some of the similarities and differences in the Jewish and Muslim faiths.... it was nice to see two religious groups find similarities to bring together rather than differences to distance them."

All of Hillel's and MSA's events are publicized via school-wide email. To contact Hillel email hillel@ursinus.edu or nmanon@ursinus.edu. To contact MSA email moali@ursinus.edu.

Career Corner

CAREER SERVICES

career@ursinus.edu

According to a recent survey from the National Opinion Research Center at the University of Chicago, the most satisfying jobs are in career fields where you can serve other people and that involve caring for, teaching, and protecting others.

The top three jobs for satisfaction were clergy (87 percent reporting being very satisfied), firefighters (80 percent), and physical therapists (78 percent). Other top jobs, in which more than 60 percent of the respondents said they were very satisfied, were education administrators, painters and sculptors, teachers, authors, psychologists, special education teachers, operating engineers, office supervisors, and security and financial services salespersons. The survey also revealed that the least satisfying jobs are mostly low-skill, manual and service occupations, especially involving customer service and food/beverage preparation and serving.

Previous studies had shown that job satisfaction increases with prestige or social standings, and many of the people reporting high satisfaction and happiness also had jobs respected by society. However, some workers whose jobs have a high degree of prestige, such as doctors and lawyers, did not make the list of the top twelve most satisfied or happy. Those jobs also involve great responsibility and opportunities for stress.

Are you interested in making a difference and changing the world? Serving needy people domestically or internationally? Making a decent salary for work that doesn't compromise people or the environment? Do you want to find work where you can be of service to others and increase your chances of being satisfied and happy in your work life at the same time? Visit Career Services and learn about the many career options where you can help or serve people and work for the common good.

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Faculty Spotlight: Barbara von Schlegell

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Ever wonder how Ursinus became connected to the Middle East? Professor Barbara Von Schlegell, a visiting scholar in the Department of Philosophy and Religion here at Ursinus College, helps students bridge the gap between the Judeo-Christian and Islamic worlds. She teaches Elementary Arabic, Women and Gender, Women and Islam, and the Muhammad Seminar.

Von Schlegell received her Bachelor's degree from Grinnell College in Religious Studies, where she focused on Buddhism and Judaism. After college, von Schlegell moved to California and decided to take an Arabic language course at UC Berkeley. She commented, "After finishing the 10-week program I fell in love with the language. I found it rich and complex."

Von Schlegell then decided to apply to graduate schools and accepted an offer of admission from UC Berkeley in the Near Eastern/Islamic Studies program where she began to study Sufism, or Islamic mysticism.

While von Schlegell was working on her Ph.D. at UC Berkeley, she had her daughter, Hannah, who is now 19 and attends Grinnell College as well. She has also traveled to Damascus in Syria. Von Schlegell has traveled to a number of countries including Nepal, Egypt, Mo-

rocco, Turkey, Iran, India, and Saudi Arabia.

When she was visiting Syria, von Schlegell was invited to a Sufi wedding where women invited her into their private



homes for meetings. "At these meetings I found intelligent women who were reinterpreting the Qur'an," she said. The *Qur'an* is the central religious text of Islam and is familiar to every Ursinus student who has taken CIE.

Von Schlegell spent a year interviewing these women. She is working on her book *Sufi Women and the Islamic Re-*

vival in Syria. She noted, "I'd like to go back to Syria with my daughter this December to write an epilogue for my book since the movement has grown and now there are thousands of women involved."

In the meantime, von Schlegell is content teaching here at Ursinus. She decided to join the faculty because Dean Levy offered her the opportunity to start and explore a Middle Eastern Studies program. Von Schlegell was given further encouragement by the donation given to the college for this new program by parents of Anthony Wright, an alumnus of Ursinus College who passed away.

Presently at Ursinus, students can take Elementary Arabic for two semesters, however, Arabic doesn't fulfill the college's language requirement. Von Schlegell said, "The goal of the program is to expand offerings about Middle East history and culture."

Ursinus students have a great deal of interest in Islamic studies and we have an active Muslim Students Association. Von Schlegell commented, "Right now there is a student studying abroad in Cairo. I'd love to take students to Damascus, which is the world's oldest continually inhabited city and the people are welcoming and friendly."

Von Schlegell has expressed a passion for her subject and a love for teaching. When asked how she likes Ursinus, Von Schlegell responded, "Teaching is my life and I love the students here. They are highly reflective and have great senses of humor."

Book Review: *Vain Art of the Fugue* by Dumitru Tsepeneag

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According to Noah Webster, a fugue is defined as (n.) "A polyphonic composition based upon one, two, or more themes, which are enunciated by several voices or

parts in turn... gradually built up into a complex form having somewhat distinct divisions or stages of development." According to Dumitru Tsepeneag, a fugue is a repetitious and ineffective attempt to understand the various people and events within one's life, culminating in near hallucinatory experiences and re-imaginings of occurrences. The 1991 novel *Vain Art of the Fugue* by Dumitru Tsepeneag was translated from Romanian to English and published this year. This refreshingly innovative novel explores the possibility that humans are simply being toyed with by a puppet-master called fate, set to the spiraling and mysterious method of a fugue. The

plot is organized around a few essential themes which are introduced in the first few chapters, and occur with variation again and again. The central character remains nameless in his unending attempt to catch a bus which occurs again in each chapter and opens the novel leaving his apartment wearing a coat and carrying a bouquet of roses. He walks past a man attempting to slaughter a pig, while three women stand nearby and a young boy plays a flute. The construction of the plot evolves, and by the end of the novel, the reader is being told of the specific number of times which the man stabs the pig, the precise movements of the women standing nearby to catch the pig's blood in their white bowls, and exactly who can hear the articulately repetitious tune of the boy playing the flute from where he is sitting against a wall.

Tsepeneag does not establish limits within his fictional world. Certain characters are brought to the same fate regardless of the change that occurs in their actions throughout the cycle, while others are able to morph into completely different forms with completely different destinies. The protagonist, if one can use the term so loosely, is both an observer and a narrator, who reaches the same conclusion in each chapter. He expounds upon his desire to be on time, and is perpetually in a hurry on his journey to and from the women in his life, who receive overlapping descriptions on occasion. No matter which course he takes, he is always late. He reiterates the urgency of his trip to the driver of the bus consistently, and occasionally it brings laughing and joy to the other passengers, but in one instance it causes the bus to crash and the driver to die, while in yet another he is thrown off the bus and strips down to his underwear to race it up the street.

Tsepeneag is often vague in his connections between characters, which could be attributed to difficulties of the Romanian to English translation. These subtle differences and associations between characters, locations, and events that turn up in every chapter provide the reader with some difficulty when attempting to distinguish between various facets of the tale. However, while that may be troublesome to a reader, the author is holding true to the repetitive nature of themes in the organization of a fugue. In such a musical composition, the themes dance around one another with synchronicity, as Tsepeneag was able to display beautifully, if eccentrically, in this novel. Individual sentences present themselves as stanzas of music, often irreverent and irrelevant to the words or notes surrounding them, as illusions of fish are inserted into a paragraph about a gardener trimming rose bushes. At times, the characters seem to be aware that they are in an alternate reality, and uncertain of their actions. "I was on the streetcar heading for the station: I was going to meet someone, or maybe I was leaving, maybe someone was waiting for me. It felt good." The ambiguity of the events themselves as well as their sequence in the novel allows the reader to question its intentions, beyond creatively establishing a fusion of music and literature. Perhaps Tsepeneag intends to communicate to his reader the varying degrees to which our personalities blend with our loved ones, as happens within our memories of them. Ultimately, the author achieved his goal of converting song into language in a stylistically enjoyable and mentally curious piece of literature that leaves the reader with more questions at the end than were had at the beginning.

Ursinus Goes (Not So) Silent For Jena 6

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Last Tuesday, students and faculty dressed in black gathered in a large circle outside of Olin plaza.

"Who died?" asked observers as they passed by the crowd.

"Nobody died," one student responded, "history is in the making!"

In Louisiana and here on campus, those gathered were protesting in support of the Jena 6. Suddenly, the circle grew with curious students who wanted to know:

"What's Jena 6?"

This question drew a hush over the crowd. It was a silence that failed to recognize the importance of the incidences affecting the Jena 6. However, the silence in correlation with the gathering signified hope for a day of knowledge, awareness, and change.

To answer the important question, the Jena 6 is a modern day representation of racism's existence in America. The "6" are a group of young men from the small town of Jena in Louisiana. These teenagers were involved in a string of racially-driven incidents leading up to their 2006 arrest for a schoolyard fight. The most famous of the bunch is Mychal Bell, a promising athlete who faced charges including attempted murder.

Jena's social climate had a lot to do with the overt acts of racism. When a group of students hung nooses from a "white-only" tree, they were suspended for a short time before having the punishment dropped by school officials. It was deemed a "practical joke," although the black

students of Jena High School were nowhere near laughing.

This is just one example of the numerous events leading up to the fight that threw six African-American young men behind bars. While awaiting trial, news of the injustice began to ease out slowly. Major civil rights activists marched on Louisiana last Tuesday. Numerous churches, universities, and organizations joined in the effort to "save the Jena 6!" Even rocker David Bowie donated \$10,000 to their legal defense fund.

We as a community are privileged enough to have resources at our disposal. We have unlimited access to information regarding serious issues such as the Jena 6. It is our duty, not only as college students, but as decent citizens to be informed on what's going on in the world. Let us do better, not leaving behind a legacy of vicious racism and ignorance like past generations have.

Even though Louisiana is far from Collegeville, we too feel the impact of the acts of racism plaguing our society. We feel the impact of a silent media that until recently had no intention of broadcasting information about the Jena 6. After a year of silence, we as citizens should want answers. We should want a fair outcome for a group of young men whose futures are in the hands of an unfair judicial system.

As tomorrow's future scientists, politicians, athletes, and artists, it is our job to do better for ourselves and the generations to come. If you feel strongly about the Jena 6, you can get involved! There is an online petition that you can sign and active message boards where your opinion can be heard as well. Silence fuels the fire of racism. We need to put it out with knowledge of our past and a plan for a better future.

The Arctic Isn't as Neutral Anymore

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Only within the past few years has a greater concern for the environment entered the mainstream consciousness. And with palpable fluctuations in the weather patterns and the rapidly melting ice in the polar regions, global warming has now become an everyday term in the media and with our politicians as well.

The Arctic has become center stage for the global warming discussion. The European Space Agency recently reported that this summer, the ice cover in the Arctic hit an all-time low, and if this trend continues, scientists say the ice could end up melting by 2030, a drop from the previous speculation of 2070. The loss of this ice would lead to an alarming rise in future sea levels and the ice-free Arctic could further accelerate global warming and also affect Arctic sea life.

These consequences can be averted if we, all the denizens of this global village, act now. But the melting of the ice in the Arctic also has much greater projected implications, a lot of which are very controversial, for the melting ice will also affect politicians and businessmen.

At this point, you certainly can't refute global warming, but it seems like things have lost focus quite a bit. The recent reports by the European Space Agency show that melting ice in the Arctic Ocean has made the Northwest Passage navigable. The Northwest Passage, if fully opened as a consequence of global warming, would open a shortcut connecting the Pacific Ocean and the Atlantic Ocean,

thus making it easier to navigate.

Sounds favorable, doesn't it? But, there again lies the red tape. The Northwest Passage has been a center of much territorial dispute, with Canada claiming some of the regions as a part of Canadian territory while the EU and the United States demanding that the Northwest Passage be more of an international property.

And the race to that hasn't stopped yet either. Only last month, believing that there are potential oil deposits under the Arctic, Russia planted its flag on the seabed. In this great Arctic oil race, the nearly uninhabited region has found itself being romanced by strong suitors: Denmark, Finland, Norway, and Iceland have all taken strong positions.

Now, doesn't that seem like a digression from the real issue? I agree that with oil prices going over \$70 a barrel, this new oil-rich region could be a great source to tap to meet our demands. Then again, doesn't that put us back into the vicious cycle of demand and supply and the dependence on foreign oil? What about the carbon emissions and the ultimate consequences of these on our planet? If we could also invest our time and energy in looking at alternative resources for fuel, that would certainly have more fruitful consequences.

The energy demand will not stop but what the countries fighting over the Arctic can do instead is lead the initiative for more alternative fuel sources, so that developing countries can follow by their example. I say, for right now, leave the Arctic, with its oil, to the geologists.

Fear of Music: World/Inferno Friendship Society

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The World/Inferno Friendship Society has always cultivated a unique strain of punk's raucous anarchy, borrowing more from Berthold Brecht and Tristan Tzara than Malcolm McLaren — their music, since the band's creation in 1996, draws from cabaret, klezmer, and German folk music as well as from punk and psychobilly. Lead singer Jack Terricloth brings a boozy swagger to every song, a tangible sense of an ever-so-slightly trashed career performer prowling the stage of some rundown Weimar-era pub. It's not a stretch to imagine Kurt Weill digging the group.

The band's latest release, "Addicted to Bad Ideas," is even more Brechtian than usual, ostensibly presenting a full-fledged rock opera about the life of actor and youthful Brecht disciple Peter Lorre. The cover itself is an homage to the poster of Fritz Lang's "M," the film that made Lorre internationally renowned as the go-to actor for, uh, creeps and sexual deviants. Long-time fans might be a little disappointed to learn that only seven of the ten tracks on the album are new compositions. However, "Heart Attack '64" and "Ich Erinnere Mich an die Weimarer Republik" are both significantly reworked and, honestly, fit in much more gracefully in the context of Lorre's life story. You can't seriously fault them for not wanting to have *two* songs about the poor guy's fatal stroke in their catalogue, can you? Similarly, Just the Best Party Ever's "Peter Lorre" shows up again at the end of the lilting and melancholy instrumental "Peter Lorre's Overture." It feels almost like the polished final result of a few rough but promising drafts — the three re-used songs finally feel at home.

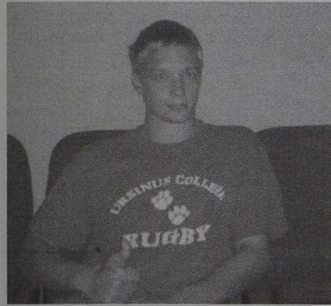
As for the new songs, they, well... if World/Inferno was known for punk-cabaret, they err more on the side of cabaret at many points in "Addicted to Bad Ideas." Not to keep harping on the Weil/Brecht thing, but "And Embarked on a Life of Poverty" is obviously taking a page out of the ol' Berlinist Ensemble playbook. Not that this is a bad thing by any means — it isn't like the modern music scene is oversaturated with crazed Threepenny Opera fanatics. The opening overture in particular is a great example of how the group blends more traditional elements with blistering modern energy. Still, you'd be forgiven for wondering if the whole thing might come off as a bit, well... gimmicky. I mean, come on. A concept album about Peter friggin' Lorre, half-dependant on century-old German showtunes?

So, even if Weimar Republik hijinx aren't your poison (and I can't say I really blame you), rest assured that the more straightforward punk tunes are sufficiently brash and snarly to carry the album on their own. The title track, the standout song of the album, is one of these cases, a by-turns sinister and exultant anthem about Lorre's radical political idealism (I guess — Terricloth's lyrics have a habit of veering into the obtuse). All in all, the album strikes a satisfying balance of unorthodox musical hybridization and solid modern punk-rock. Although on paper the whole affair sounds like a pretty bad idea in itself, it's an incredibly easy album to fall in love with.

“Labyrinth” (1986)

There are so many things to say about this week's flick I don't even know where to begin. I was recently watching HBO's hilarious show “Flight of the Concorde” when they had an episode where David Bowie kept appearing to one of the characters in his dreams - one of his incarnations being (you guessed it): “1986 Labyrinth David Bowie”.

About a week later, it came up again in conversation, eventually leading me to rewatch it for the first time in about ten years, against my better judgment. That being said, strap in for the madness that is “Labyrinth.”



ALEX ERNST
The Back Row

getting into misadventures like all-day detention or summoning a woman up using only a computer and a Barbie doll, she manages to wish away her half-brother courtesy of the Goblin King (David freakin' Bowie). In order to save him, she is forced to enter a magical... what's the word... maze, warren, web, no... it'll come to me. Of course this magical realm is inhabited solely by midgets and Muppets (side note: apparently spell check makes you capitalize Muppets), or some combination of the two, all of whom are more than willing to help Sarah, both to find her brother and learn some important lessons along the way.

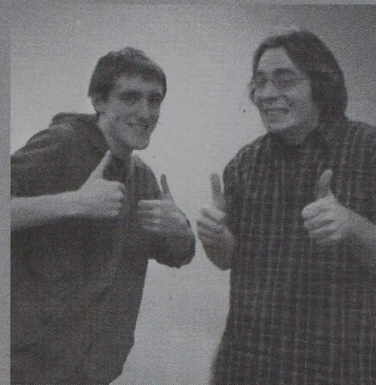
If this review seems overly sarcastic up to this point, it's my brain's coping mechanism for dealing with the ridiculousness of this movie. Made during Jim Henson's “Dark Crystal” period, the flick manages to highlight his puppet wizardry and technical know-how as well as his complete inability to direct actual people. He also found a way to cover the entire set in enough glitter that it looks like David Bowie sneezed all over it before each take. That all being said, this movie still manages to scare the living bejeezus out of me. The goblin Muppets are legitimately creepy, especially for a kid's movie.

As for the acting, David Bowie lords himself over the set as if he were performing Shakespeare, instead of surveying a set full of Muppets having just done three lines of coke in his trailer. Meanwhile, Jennifer Connelly's character see-saws between whiny and dazed, but again, I put the blame on Henson since she a) was only sixteen at the time, and b) has since won an Oscar.

You can't talk about this movie without mentioning the music. Normally, a kids' flick has songs that are, at the very least, catchy. Throw in David Bowie, writer of every song on the official soundtrack and one would expect some pretty awesome songs. Unfortunately, “Space Oddity” this is not. The songs are for the most part bizarre, nonsensical, and just not that good. One managed to combine terrible blue screen, Muppets with removable heads, and completely unintelligible lyrics into the cinematic equivalent of a car crash that you can't look away from. I literally have no idea what the name of the song was or any of the words or I would be more clear about it. As long as we're

A New Front in the War on Terror

As the War on Terror pushes nobly on, the United States is doing whatever it can to stop the threat of Islamo-fascism. It has strategically bombed terrorist training camps, completely revamped homeland security, and initiated grassroots efforts to win over the hearts and minds of real life Muslims on the streets of Baghdad. Until recently, however, there was a terrorist spawning ground that had gone ignored: the Internet. The U.S. State Department has fixed this problem; it has hired two “Arab-American Web monitors” as a part of its “Digital Outreach Team.” These men, Walid Jawad and Muath al-Sufi, bravely surf the Web in search of what they call “swing voters,” or would-be extremists who they think they can sway. They post on forums and chat rooms, sparking lively discussions on American foreign policy and other relevant issues. Here is an example of the chat room discussion during General David Petraeus's testimony before Congress:



MATTHEW FLYNTZ
DAN SERGEANT
Communism for Dummies

WalidJawad: What are your opinions on General Petraeus's testimony?

Iluvmuslimchix: any1 want 2 cyber im me

Allah'sGurl: who luvs allah, press 55

IraqAttaq: 55

BigBaghdaddy: 55

Muathal-Sufi: I have an opinion, Walid.

MuslimPrincess: iluv, a/s/l?

SADDAM: 55

WalidJawad: I would love to hear it, Muath.

Iluvmuslimchix: 17/m/iraq, u?

SADDAM: 55

SADDAM: 55

SADDAM: 55

SADDAM: 55

Poster SADDAM has been removed from the room

Muathal-Sufi: Well, I think that General Petraeus is facing a remarkably difficult situation, and I think that given the circumstances, the United States military is performing better than expected.

MuslimPrincess: 16/f/iraq, sunni?

Poster SADDAM1 has entered the room

SADDAM1: 55

SADDAM1: 55

Iluvmuslimchix: no, shiite

IraqAttaq: BOO US MILITARY

on the subject of music, the other two leads considered for the Goblin King were Michael Jackson and Sting. I guess Jim Henson thought a movie about Michael Jackson stealing a little boy for his own twisted needs wasn't enough of a fantasy (ZING!).

Surprisingly, this movie holds up really well, considering it's 21 years old and consequently relies on 21-year-old technology and special effects.

Looking ahead, get pumped for George Romero's new flick, “Diary of the Dead,” in which amateur filmmakers capture the beginning of the zombie outbreak. Think “Night of the Living Dead” with a strong dash of “Blair Witch.” That's it for this week...

BigBaghdaddy: wut's petraeus?

SADDAM1: 55

WalidJawad: Good point, Muath. The situation in Iraq is growing better every day. The streets are more secure, and we are seeing a return to normalcy.

IraqAttaq: STFU n00bs!

SADDAM1: 55

MuslimPrincess: eww, i only cyber w/ sunni guyz

M u a t h a l - S u f i :

BigBaghdaddy, General David Petraeus is the American general in charge of operations in Iraq. He is doing a splendid job.

SADDAM1: 55

BigBaghdaddy: o

SADDAM1: 55

Poster SADDAM1 has been removed from the room

BigBaghdaddy: then 1 h8

petrause

Muathal-Sufi: It is spelled “Petraeus.”

BigBaghdaddy: stfu

BigBaghdaddy: gb2 usa

iluvmuslimchix: u dont know wut ur missin, honey

IraqAttaq: n00bs!

IraqAttaq: n00bs!

MuslimPrincess: wutevr

Poster SADDAM2 has entered the room

SADDAM2: 55

WalidJawad: Well, Muath, I think this has been a useful session. Our next session will deal with American relations with Palestine. Until then, farewell all!

Muathal-Sufi: Goodbye, room.

IraqAttaq: n00bs!

BigBaghdaddy: we h8 u guyz!!!!1

SADDAM2: 55

SADDAM2: 55

Allah'sGurl: for hott pics of me go 2 www.burkagirlz.com

Poster Muathal-Sufi has left the room

Poster WalidJawad has left the room

As you can clearly see, Mr. al-Sufi and Mr. Jawad are doing a great service to their country. The number of would-be terrorists who these two men help to “see the light!” is simply immeasurable. Every American citizen is indebted to these two brave souls.

If any1 wantz 2 talk u can email us... maflyntz@ursinus.edu and dasergeant@ursinus.edu. tfn!!!!

Alex Ernst is glad Jennifer Connelly's whininess peaked at 15 and has been in steady decline since. You can reach him at alernst@urinus.edu.

Have an opinion?
Write for The Grizzly!
Email dasergeant@ursinus.edu.

Dubble Vision: Superstitions

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The other day I woke up on the wrong side of the bed. I went into the bathroom, slipped and broke a mirror. After I cleaned that up I put my clothes on and started to class. As soon as I left North, a black cat winked at me and walked right across my path. I eventually got to Helfferich where facilities happened to be fixing a ceiling light, and in my early morning stupor I walked right under the ladder. That's got to be like 50 years of bad luck. But it's all good; I just knocked on some wood and threw some salt over my shoulder. Good thing I'm not superstitious.



Everybody knows the standard superstitions: see a penny pick it up all day long you'll have good luck, step on a crack break your mother's back, etc. But when it comes to sports, as I'm sure most of you know, superstitions become somewhat of an art. I once heard that ex-Phillies pitcher Turk Wendell used to brush his teeth and eat licorice before every inning he pitched. And then there's Michael Jordan wearing his North Carolina shorts under his Bulls shorts for every game. Sports psychologist Richard Lustberg said, "Athletes begin to believe, and want to believe, that their particular routine is enhancing their performance." Hey, maybe when Barry Bonds gained 50 pounds and his shoe size increased two sizes, all he did was start eating 756 ding dongs a month.

But anyway, with all that in mind, this week I decided

to ask some of our own Ursinus athletes if they have any weird game day superstitions. Some of what I found out is really fascinating, and it's definitely stuff you can look for at different sporting events around here. Some of them are simple, some are weird, some may seem kind of gross, and others I just simply can't print in the paper. But here are the more interesting ones that I discovered.

On game day you may want to ask Jill Alspach, a senior volleyball player, what she ate for breakfast, because according to her she just won't feel ready unless she eats peanut butter with bread and full cup of apple juice. Or if you are at a Lacrosse match, during the National Anthem, take notice as to where senior Kevin Wallace is standing, because according to him he absolutely has to be on the end. Then there's Senior James Sproule, wide receiver on the football team. See, James apparently can't be alone in his bed the night before a game. But sorry ladies, Mr. Sproule has no room for you...it's just him and his football. James's teammate Senior Ryan VanWright also practices a strange superstition. He told me he needs to receive a new mouth guard from the Senior trainer, Jill Proniewych, or he's in for a bad day. But probably the most prominent superstition I heard is from senior Nick Shattuck on the basketball team. He really stressed the importance of him making his first warm up shot, and then went on to tell me the story of the McDaniel game last year. For those of you who don't remember we lost on a last second buzzer beater. Nick's first shot? Knocked out by a shot from Junior team mate Eric Burnett.

Like I said earlier, I'm not really a superstitious person, but when you have these talented players claiming rituals work, I'm inclined to try some myself. Don't be surprised to see me in the back of the Gymnastics introduction line sneaking a good luck kiss from their "princess" at the next meet.

UC Hosting 07' Field Hockey NCAA Championship

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Between lengthy conference calls, scouting reports, and planning drills for a daily practice, head field hockey coach Laura Moliken adds more to her plate by organizing the 2007 Field Hockey NCAA Championship. That's right, Ursinus College is hosting the event this year, which will take

place on November 16 and 17.

Contrary to belief, just because Ursinus won nationals last year does not automatically mean that our school must host the following year. "We placed our bid to the NCAA two or three years ago," stated Moliken. "We originally asked for 2008, but due to lack of response we were offered to host this year and we are so excited," she added.

The process of hosting is a joint collaboration between athletic director Brian Thomas, the President's office, and the field hockey coaches. Behind the scenes this group must work to organize a multitude of tasks such as accommodations for the teams, photographers, a banquet with entertainment, gifts for the players, tents, concessions, seating for at least 1000 fans, a community service activity for the participants, and the list goes on and on.

While Moliken and her husband, the assistant coach, spend all free hours planning this complicated event, they work just as hard with the field hockey team. When asked if there is added pressure due to hosting this year and being the defending national champions Moliken will simply say no. "Although it would be nice to be in the championship, we must take our games one at a time. The expectations are always the same: to compete at the highest level. But with each season, the team is different and should be viewed that way. Our current team is young but has been showing great promise. With a little luck and hard work, the road just might lead to the championships," Moliken said.

Bearly Reminders

Women's Soccer
9/29 vs. Gettysburg

Volleyball
9/27 vs. Rutgers Camden

Football
9/29 vs. Gettysburg

Men's Soccer
9/29 vs. Dickinson

Field Hockey
9/29 vs. Gettysburg

Cross Country
9/28 Paul Short Invitational @ Lehigh

Welcome To The Family: UCXC

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Family n—Two or more people who share goals and values, have long-term commitments to one another, and reside usually in the same dwelling place (dictionary.com).

One Invitational per week, plus eight practices per week, plus running six days a week, for twelve weeks straight, equals The Men's and Women's Cross Country Team at Ursinus College. Seem impressive yet? That's just the beginning.

Sara McNally (now a Senior captain with co-captain Christa Johnson) started off her Freshman year with about fifteen people total on the Cross Country team (including both males and females). That number has grown dramatically to a total of twenty-one female runners and seventeen male runners for the 2007 season. During invitationals, the average team Ursinus runs against has roughly ten runners per gender. Why the dramatic increase in the last four years? It might have to do with Coach Chris Bayless' marking his fourth year as the head Men's and Women's Cross Country Coach (along with Track and Field), or it might just be the amazing team itself.

So what's the big deal about running around on the Perkiomen Trail day after day, and sprinting up hills twelve times over? I'm not sure any cross country runner can give you any other reason than that he or she just loves it. It's about the sweat and sacrifice of muscles, ankles, knees, and shins. It's about having one common goal and literally running right through it. There's a fine line between running

and running cross country. Each one of these runners has to feel something inside of him or her in order to keep going. It is not about running just to keep in shape; if that were the case, many would have dropped by now. It is about this family that each class has built upon. The parents that come out, the friends, the alumni runners, the coaching staff - every aspect has allowed this family to breathe and surpass competing teams. Any team can tell you how hard they work, but not every team can tell you they have formed a family. Cross Country has managed to do just that.

Last year the Bears worked hard to tally up a significant number of wins. This year has not been much different as the Lady Bears have been cleaning up at invitationals these past few weeks, balancing first or second place as if it were nothing. Captain Ben Schumacher has led the Men's team to many successful meets; they are close behind the Women's success and are still growing in strength.

"We have very young teams on both sides, and we still have a lot of work to do but we have definitely opened a lot of eyes in the region with our early season performances. If we can keep everyone healthy we should have a strong finish come Conferences and NCAA's," says Coach Bayless just a few weeks in to the season.

The team is hungry, eyeing up every runner on the starting line. Practices prove to be demanding, as runners come back with soaked through shirts and shorts alike. Their hard work is proving to be worth it week after week with first place trophies in hand. The team appreciates the UC community support; so keep coming to meets and actively cheer on UCXC!