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The Grizzly, March 27, 2008

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The Grizzly

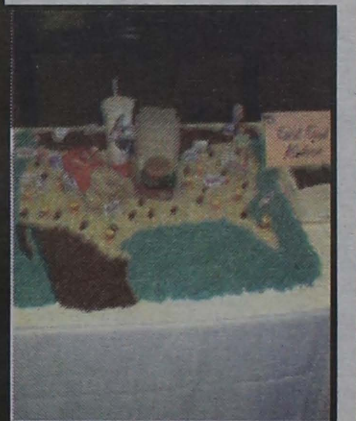
Thursday, March 27, 2008

The student newspaper of Ursinus College

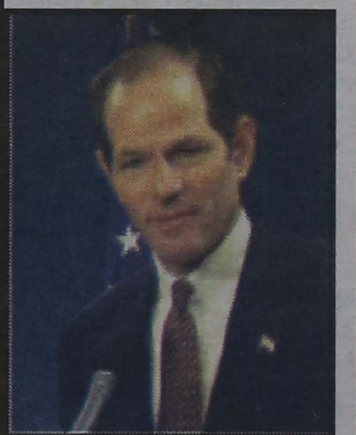
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A Season to Remember

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Escape Velocity Dance Troupe Gets "Fully Loaded"

ROGER LEE

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It is "lights, camera, action!" as the curtains rise on the set of Escape Velocity. Starting tonight the student-run dance company opens its two-day run with an all-new show titled "Fully Loaded."

Escape Velocity's goal is to bring student dance works to a wider audience. The company wants to get Ursinus students engaged in dance. This can mean different things to different people. Whether it is through an emotional piece, an upbeat crowd pleaser or an intricate work, the goal is to engage and motivate audiences to think about dance.

The catchy title best explains the theme of this semester's show. It has the widest range of dance genres Escape Velocity has ever produced. The concert is "Fully Loaded" with African, Modern, Lyrical, Jazz, Hip-Hop, Contemporary and classical Indian dance pieces.

For over a month, the executive board and company

members have been working hard to advertise and promote the concert. From a new Facebook group sends online reminders to students, faculty and staff to the flashy e-mails, it is difficult to forget the upcoming performances. There are even promotional banners hanging in windows all across campus. Many students are excited for the upcoming performances. Sophomore Mike Chavones said, "If EV is anything like what it has been in the past, then I can't wait for this show!" Chovanes is not the only one anticipating the highly publicized dance concert.

"I'm excited to see what Escape Velocity has in store for us this time," said Michael Thomas. "I never know what to expect when I attend an EV event. I'm always amazed to see what our Ursinus dancers can do."

Ursinus dancers have proven that they can do more than just dance. They learned the technical aspects of the theater, time management and how to be a part of a performance company. The dancers had the challenging task of transforming an empty black box into a full-functioning performance space filled with lights, sound and seating. None

of this would have been possible without the help of a dedicated staff of students from the Theater Department.

Escape Velocity Vice-President Marianne Conway said, "The theater crew has done a magnificent amount of work to help setup and educate the dancers." This experienced dance major loves being a part of Escape Velocity. "It's really inspiring to see a group of students come together to produce an entire concert from scratch. I am proud to be a part of an event that is completely student run and is able to attract fellow students," said Conway.

Tonight's opening performance of "Fully Loaded" begins at 7:30 p.m. inside the Kaleidoscope Black Box. The show will also run tomorrow evening after the Earth Day Celebrations. Both performances have nine innovative dance works choreographed by students. The lighting is designed by junior Karin Swartz. She created the lights for this Escape Velocity concert as part of an independent project. The Escape Velocity company is proud to present to you "Fully Loaded." Come out and support Ursinus dance and the inspiring creativity on the Ursinus campus.

News in Brief: Stingray Death, Bin Laden, AIDS Vaccine

TERRENCE KELLEY

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Wednesday, Mar. 19, 2008

A 75-pound stingray killed a Michigan woman last Thursday when it flew out of the water and struck her face as she rode on a boat in the Florida Keys, officials said. Judy Kay Zagorski, of Pigeon, Michigan, was sitting in the front seat of a boat going 25 mph when the spotted eagle ray, with a wingspan of about six feet, leap out of the water.

The 57-year-old woman's father was driving the boat on the Atlantic Ocean side of Vaca Key. The collision knocked Zagorski backward onto the floor of the boat.

The impact likely killed the woman, and she did not appear to have puncture wounds from the ray's barb. An autopsy is planned. Zagorski's sister was standing next to her when the stingray appeared but she was not injured. The stingray died from the impact.

Thursday, Mar. 20, 2008

Osama bin Laden accused Pope Benedict XVI of helping in a "new crusade" against Islam and warned of a "severe" reaction to European publications of cartoons of the Prophet Muhammad that insulted many Muslims. Bin Laden's new audiotape message raised concerns al-Qaida was plotting new attacks in Europe.

Some experts said Osama bin Laden, believed to be in hiding in the rugged Afghan-Pakistan border area, may be unable to organize an attack himself and instead is trying to fan anger and inspire his supporters to violence.

Last Thursday, Al-Jazeera television aired an audiotape it attributed to bin Laden criticizing Palestinian negotiations with Israel and urging holy war on behalf of the Palestinians. On the recording, the man identified as bin Laden says, "Palestine cannot be retaken by negotiations and dialogue, but with fire and iron."

The Vatican spokesman, the Rev. Federico Lombardi, said bin Laden's accusation that the pope has played a role in a worldwide campaign against Islam is "baseless."

Lombardi said that the pope has on several occasions criticized the cartoons, first published in several European newspapers in 2006 and republished by Danish papers in February.

Friday, Mar. 21, 2008

Flooding from rainstorms, which has already caused at least 16 deaths, is threatening to worsen. Many Midwestern rivers are rising over their banks for more than a day and the water level is still climbing. To the north, a fresh snowstorm blew into the Chicago area, prompting authorities to cancel airline flights. Forecasters said the storm left as much as nine inches of heavy snow in the region.

A blizzard warning remained in effect in northern Maine, where fierce winds have already scattered a foot or more of snow. "Even though it was spring yesterday, we still have winter on our doorstep," said spokeswoman Ginny Joles of Maine Public Service Co., northern Maine's major electric company.

Thursday, the first day of spring, brought much-needed sunshine to some flooded communities, but many swelling rivers were not expected to crest until the weekend in Arkansas, Missouri, southern Illinois, southern Indiana and Kentucky. The worst flooding happened in smaller rivers across the nation's midsection. Major channels such as the Mississippi, Missouri and Ohio rivers saw only minor flooding.

Friday, Mar. 21, 2008

The two decade search for an AIDS vaccine is in crisis. After two field tests, the most promising contender not only failed to protect people from the virus, but may actually have put them at increased risk of becoming infected. The results of the trials, which enrolled volunteers on four continents, have spurred intense scientific inquiry and unprecedented soul searching as researchers try to make sense of what happened and assess whether they should have seen it coming. Both field tests were halted last Septem-

ber and seven other trials of similarly designed AIDS vaccines have either been stopped or put off indefinitely. Some may be modified and others canceled outright. Numerous experts are questioning both the scientific premises and the overall strategy of the nearly \$500 million in AIDS vaccine research funded annually by the U.S. government.

Interested in writing for *The Grizzly*?

Then please attend our weekly meetings at 5:15 PM in Olin 103.

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The Grizzly

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Habitat for Humanity: Community Service with a Tan

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Many students go someplace warm to vacation for spring break. Some go with sports teams and others go with friends. Parties, drinking and dancing are the main focus of many students' spring break trips, but for those whom this does not appeal to, there is an alternative plan. Two groups of Ursinus students chose to go on a spring break trip where they were able to help others. These students participated in Habitat for Humanity projects.

According to their website, "Habitat for Humanity International is a nonprofit, ecumenical Christian housing ministry. HFHI seeks to eliminate poverty housing and homelessness from the world, and to make decent shelter a matter of conscience and action." Habitat does not give away houses. A down payment and monthly mortgage payments are made by the family who will live there. Also, homeowners must put hundreds of hours of their labor into building their house or assist on other houses.

Abby Walthery, Brenden Shaw, Mark Dennis, Liz Luk, Tim Frey, Candice Esparra, Josh Steinhouse, Alex Morris, Brittany Perry, Chris Wierzbowski, Frank Rothenberger, Jen Norton, Tracey Smith, Stephanie Rogman, Jenny Kostishion, Nina Graham, and Karen Boedecker were part of a group who went to Huntington, WV to participate in a "Collegiate Challenge" which is a program designed to last only for Spring Break. Although this diverse group of people did not really know each other from the start of the trip, they have since then built bonds and friendships to last a lifetime.

The students spent one week in Huntington and after five days of working on the site, built the porch, put OSB boards up for the roof, put down the tar paper and shingles to finish the roof, put up foam insulation, installed the windows and doors, built and put up the interior walls and

started on the siding. They also worked on painting another Habitat house that was next door.

When asked if anyone sponsored the trip, Boedecker said, "We sold Wawa coupons and did most of the fundraising ourselves...dining Services also chipped in \$1 for every person who completed their mid-semester survey." Boedecker said that a memorable moment of the trip was when, the mayor of Huntington issued a proclamation making Monday, Mar. 10, 2008 Ursinus College Appreciation Day in Huntington, West Virginia. "We were also on the news and in the paper so many times that the lady at one of the gas stations on the way back to PA recognized us," she said.



There were many reasons why students decided to do Habitat for Humanity. When asked what inspired her to choose a community service trip, Boedecker said, "A lot of people see organizations such as Habitat and say 'I'd like to do that some day.' Very rarely do people actually get the opportunity to volunteer for it, and spring break is a really good time to just go." When asked if there was anything else people should know about your experience, Boedecker said, "I knew it was going to be a good time, but it was much better than I could have ever imagined. It was amazing to see how much we could all get done on a house and how well we were all able to cooperate with one another when we were mostly strangers in the beginning. But even beyond the building part, it was really fun to hang out with Ursinus people I'd never seen or never talked to before."

Another group of students including, Jen Fargo, Chelsea Lutts, Katie Morello, Melissa Stratton, Andrea Magnolo, and Brooke Garwood participated in a Habitat for Humanity "Collegiate Challenge." Because the trip through Ursinus College was full, Magnolo decided to become group leader of her own group. This Habitat group went to Raleigh, North Carolina for a week. They did not fundraise,

but each person in this group gave \$100 contribution to the Mill Brooke Baptist Church who hosted their stay. When asked what projects this group did, Magnolo replied, "The first day we volunteered to do deconstruction. We were working on a house that was repossessed by the county in order to build a shopping complex on the land. Habitat was authorized to take apart the house and use any of the materials such as wood and copper. The useable wood was then placed on pallets to be used in the building of habitat houses. The rest of the week we worked on a house that had been in the process of being built since October. It was in a neighborhood of 16 other habitat houses. We worked on priming and painting all of the rooms, putting flooring throughout the house, caulking, putting cabinets in and fitting molding for the house."

Magnolo was inspired to do Habitat for Humanity for spring break because "helping others and giving back to the community are things that I want to spend the rest of my life pursuing. I knew that Habitat would be an awesome way of doing that especially for the hard-working people that they build houses for. Plus nothing could beat spending spring break with your best friends." These students worked from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. everyday and lunch was provided for them. The students met some amazing people at Mill Brooke Baptist Church where they stayed. The members of the church made dinner for the Ursinus students every night and made them feel very welcome in the community.

When asked if there is any advice to give someone who is thinking about participating in a Habitat for Humanity event, Magnolo says, "Just like every other experience, it's what you make out of it. We were extremely lucky to have stayed at a church where the members were more concerned for our well being than their own. They provided us with anything and everything we needed. Before you book a trip just make sure to make as many contacts as you can in order to have the best experience."

To get involved or learn more about Habitat for Humanity visit <http://www.habitat.org/> and click on "get involved". Enter the zipcode and see the local habitat chapters in your area.

Ways to Prepare for Fall Housing and Room Selection

ASHLEY MCCOMESKEY

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The annual housing lottery is underway: each student has received his or her lottery number, RAs are preparing information sessions and the deadline for SPINT housing has passed. However, some students are still in the dark. According to Melissa Sanders, the Assistant Director of Residence Life, "Confusion comes from learning how the lottery system works." It is actually simple, but it all depends on chance and class standing.

For as long as anyone can remember, the lottery system has been used for housing selection here at Ursinus. The lottery system is set up so that every returning student will receive a number at random. This year, the numbers range from 1-1300. Each student receives a unique number: no number is repeated, so there will only be one number 1, but it could be from any class.

Selection then begins with the junior class, beginning with the lowest number. Once every junior has signed up for a room, the sophomores select, again starting with the lowest number. The process is repeated and ends with the freshmen class. Using this process, the lowest numbers are still best to have; however, class standing has priority.

According to Sanders, "It's the best way to ensure that the process is fair and equitable." Rules against squat-

ting in Richter-North and New Building were made to help ensure that things stay as fair as possible. "Because they're considered the 'best' rooms on campus, we want them to be available to the whole campus, every year," said Sanders.

For students with low numbers, and especially freshmen, there are also other options. Firstly, Sanders advises that freshmen find a roommate. By the end of the selection process, single rooms are very rare. To choose a room, a student has to be able to fill it. For those without a roommate, there is the option of a roommate pool. "This way, you can fill out a form, say a little about yourself and look through the binder for other students that are also looking for a roommate, that maybe you didn't know about," explained Sanders.

If that option is not appealing, there are other buildings on campus that are often overlooked. On Main Street alone, there are 29 houses that offer residence for students. To make the best decision, Sanders advised, "Explore a little. Go down 6th Avenue and 9th Avenue. A lot of the houses have really great rooms. Look at all of your options."

Even though the application deadlines have passed for SPINT, open beds will most likely be available. A master list of all rooms will be posted on March 28 outside of Wismer Parents Lounge. Students are advised to check the list and keep SPINT rooms in their list of options.

Also, sophomores and juniors have the option to

"squat," or reserve their current room. However, squatting is not an option for freshmen buildings, New Building or Richter-North. To squat, a room must be filled to capacity, and the deadline for the application to reserve a room is due tomorrow, Mar. 28, 2008.

Residence Life has made a few other changes this year. To accommodate the incoming freshmen class, the second floor of New Building is going to be strictly freshmen, to continue the tradition of keeping all freshmen clustered. "It's better for the freshmen to be around those going through the same transitions," said Sanders. It also helps to keep the environments as alcohol-free as possible.

Residence Life will also offer Sprinkle as a substance-free house to provide an alternative for upperclassmen seeking a dry environment. Anyone interested in living there will be expected to sign a contract of commitment to keep all substances off the premises and to "exercise prudence when partaking in the consumption of substances at outside venues," according to the 2008 housing packet.

For those students who are still unsure, or have questions, there is still time. RAs are hosting meetings to go over the process and to answer any questions. If you cannot make your meeting, do not hesitate to contact an RA or your Residence Director. You can also refer to the Room Lottery and Selection 2008 packet, which is located on Blackboard under Housing and Residence Life.

Religion on Campus: Hillel, MSA, IV and More!

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According to the recently released report titled "U.S. Religious Landscape Survey" by the Pew Forum of Religion and Public Life, more than a quarter American have left the faith of their childhood to join either another religion or no religion at all. If shifts among Protestant denominations are included, then it appears that 44 percent of Americans have switched religious affiliations.

The report shows that every religion is losing and gaining members, but that the Roman Catholic Church has experienced the greatest net losses as a result of affiliation changes while the unaffiliated group has had the greatest gain. More than 16 percent of American adults said they are not part of any organized faith, making the unaffiliated America's fourth largest "religious group."

In the Pew report, 7.3 percent of the adult population said they were unaffiliated with a faith as children. That segment increased to 16.1 percent of the population in adulthood, the survey found.

The survey reported that the rise of the unaffiliated does not mean that Americans are becoming less religious. Contrary to assumptions that most of the unaffiliated are atheists or agnostics, most described their religion "as nothing in particular." One of the professors associated with the foundation said that it is not quite a decrease in religion, but instead a decrease in organized religion, as people felt the need to make religion more personal.

Can any parallels to this report be drawn to the religious life at Ursinus? Ursinus may be a secular institution, but at the same time it also guarantees to its students the freedom to practice any religion.

According to the Student Handbook, the main objective of the Religious Life Policy at Ursinus College is to provide students with a means to express their faith, if they wish to do so, in a safe, respectful and open manner.

The current student groups on campus include the Protestant chapel program, Hillel chapter and program, Newman Apostolate, Inter-Varsity group, Muslim Students' Association and a newly formed Buddhist Meditation Group.

Reverend Charles Rice, who overlooks all the religious life on campus, agrees that religion is becoming more personal and our generation is becoming more spiritual.

Junior Noelle Romero, Senior Assistant to Reverend Rice said, "Students are interested in the expression of their faith. For instance, last year we started the Buddhist Meditation Group, which has seen an immense increase in people interested in meditation. When students join a religious group on campus, they are not obligated to join the faith; they can just observe and learn about a practice that is different from theirs. For some students, religion is a personal issue and many students often borrow many ideas from many different religion to form this own personal religion".

Reverend Rice confirms this saying, "The Chaplain's Office ensures that the freedom to express one's faith is important to ensure diversity on campus. And all religious organizations on campus are open to everyone, which ensures no one is left out. The Protestant Chapel program which meets every Sunday in Bomberger Meditation Chapel has some regular attendees, but sometimes few curious students do attend the service."

The Pew report mentioned how people were drifting away from their religion of childhood, since college is the transition stage when people enter the real world.

Students at Ursinus were asked about the relationship between college and religion. Senior Stephen Buss,

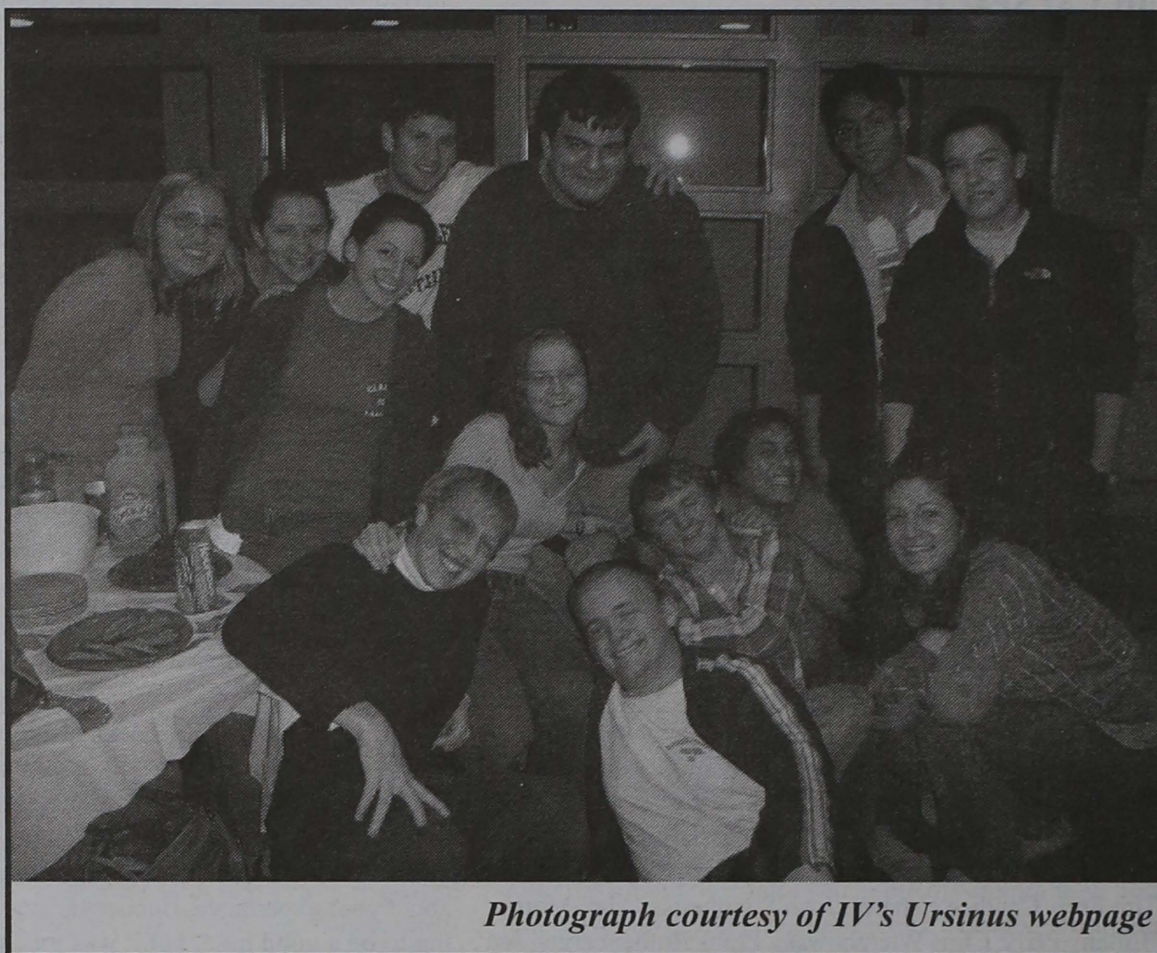
President of the Protestant Chapel Service, says "When students go to college, it is like a vacation from religion for them. Often times, religion has been imposed upon them by their family or their culture, and college gives them a chance to break away from that. And there are students who feel more connected to religion on campus, but it is not quite a force rebellion of the counter-culture of the 1960s."

Mohsin Ali, President of the Muslim Students Association, offers a different perspective: "College is the time for tremendous self-exploration. Also, students come into contact with a variety of different religious and cultural experiences. College is also a period where there students may experience great changes in their personal lives and possibly face serious challenges. All these things may prompt students to ask deeper questions and delve into spiritual traditions looking for answers. So, in this way, college years can be a tremendous driving force towards religion and spirituality for many students. On the other hand, many college students who are searching for more liberty and freedom may find the self-discipline required by certain spiritual and religious paths to be too restrictive, maybe even ridiculous and backward."

Sophomore Ryan Collins, who started the Buddhist Meditation Group last year, offers a broader viewpoint on religion on campus: "In our society, 'religion' usually implies deference to a higher power, the acceptance of a philosophical framework that has been created by someone else, and probably 'belief' in the sense of accepting a doctrine with or without experiential evidence for it. This can be an incredibly narrow view; if one loves oneself and one's fellow beings more; if one becomes more selfless and earnestly wants to alleviate the suffering of one's fellow beings; if one can see one's own light and goodness, who is to say that that person is not religious? I hope every religion is acceptable to everyone. I know many people who have had their minds expanded, their sense of morality and understanding deepened, and their spirituality tapped into by their experiences at Ursinus, and it has more deeply fulfilled them as a human."

The Buddhist Meditation, which meets Monday evening, has seen a popular following recently. "People have different reasons for attending. Meditation lets people be content in their body and mind, and find peace in day-to-day life. Also meditation is appealing, because it can have the traditional idea of religion divorced from it," explains Collins.

Some religious groups on campus have also initiated an interfaith dialogue. The Muslim Students Association



Photograph courtesy of IV's Ursinus webpage

(MSA), along with Ursinus Hillel recently organized some interfaith activities such as the STAND up for peace stand up comedy show related to the Arab-Israeli conflict. Ali believes that Ursinus does need more interfaith cooperation. He explains, "Currently, MSA serves many purposes: Muslim students on campus feel more comfortable talking to like-minded people about their spiritual journey while other students are intrigued by Islam, especially post-9/11, and are interested in knowing more about Islam. But for some students who keep it too personal, there might be some stigma attached to being religious, hence they might be afraid to express their religion. Perhaps interfaith cooperation can be an instrument by which some of the spiritual apathy on campus may be remedied. Religious organizations also need to make a more serious effort to reach out to the general student body and participate with other clubs. In other words, they need to step out of their bubbles and begin working with those of other faiths and backgrounds. They also need to be more involved with social justice, activism, and the arts on campus."

Megan Helzner, co-president of Hillel, agrees. "Last fall, we organized a fasting event with MSA, where we talked about what fasting meant in respective religions. We had a great turnout. I think interfaith dialogue is a good way to bring people together. Personally, I learned a lot about Judaism with my involvement in Hillel. But it takes a brave and an open-minded student to learn and attend activities from a religion different than their own."

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The Herpes Hindrance: Part One

Over the past three and a half years, I've reviewed and written about several sexually-transmitted infections



LANE TAYLOR

Everything You Never Knew You Wanted to Know About Sex

(STIs) and other medical issues that may hinder one's sex life. In the process, I have made sure to avoid herpes as a topic of discussion due to the complex and controversial nature of the infection. In other words, I have been afraid to conquer herpes in an article because I was concerned that I was not fully grasping the intricacies of the infection. Well, no more. Today I conquer my Everest and share with you the important information regarding an important issue; herpes. Sorry for the delay.

One of the problems when attempting to understand herpes is finding a reliable source of information. Many sources are vague on certain aspects of the infection such as transmission and prevention. The Center for Disease

Control in Atlanta (CDC), for instance, is an excellent resource regarding most medical issues, but because it is governmentally-funded, it is influenced by the political ideology of whoever is in office at the time their information is published. Currently, this means that the CDC has been forced to advocate abstinence as the best preventative method of sexually-transmitted infections (including herpes). While it is important to stress abstinence as a preventative measure, especially considering the fact that it is the only 100% effective method of STI and herpes prevention, it is simply unrealistic to emphasize abstinence over other preventative methods. Ergo, it is extremely important to be critical of public health information sources in order to insure that you're getting the best and most accurate information possible.

According to Planned Parenthood, there are two herpes viruses: herpes simplex virus one (HSV1) and herpes simplex virus two (HSV2). Herpes simplex virus one typically affects the mouth (oral herpes) while herpes simplex virus two typically affects the genitals. It is important to note, however, that both viruses can affect both the mouth AND genitals, meaning that if one has oral herpes, it can be transmitted to the genitals. Herpes is extremely prevalent; it is estimated that 80% of Americans have oral herpes, and 25% have genital herpes.

Oral herpes is marked by cold sores or fever blisters that appear on, around, or inside the mouth. The majority of individuals infected with genital herpes show little or no symptoms; however, a cluster of sores on the penis, vagina, anus, buttocks, vulva, and cervix, is the most commonly reported symptom. Itching, pain and burning (during urination) are also associated with genital sores, as well as difficulty urinat-

ing in the case that swelling blocks the urethra. During the first outbreak (also known as the "first episode" or "initial herpes"), an infected individual may experience fever, headache, chills, body aches, swollen glands and other flu-like symptoms.

Usually, symptoms appear two to 20 days after initial infection, but this period of time can vary; it may take years for symptoms to develop in some individuals. The first episode may last two to four weeks, and if and when the virus reoccurs (the virus does not always reoccur), the episodes are usually less severe and may last 10-14 days. Unlike many infections, both herpes viruses remain in the body even when symptoms are not present. The frequency and severity of outbreaks or episodes is often dependent on the integrity of the individual's immune system, meaning that the symptoms are more severe in individuals with HIV/AIDS or other illnesses that weaken the immune system.

Both viruses are transmitted through sexual contact (including casual contact such as kissing and touching) and are most easily transmitted when open sores are present, moist, open, and/or leaking fluid. Unfortunately, herpes can also be spread when there are no symptoms present (a phenomenon known as "viral shedding") during which herpes exits its dormant stage and begin to multiply. This is more common in herpes simplex virus two (the majority of genital herpes cases) (Dr. Brannon at About.com).

Next week, I will continue with the herpes hindrance by discussing prevention, treatment, and other pertinent issues. Stay tuned!

Fox and Hound Pub and Grill: Which One Are You?

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After leaving the confines of Collegeville, I decided to begin my journey at the far off metropolitan center, King of Prussia. For those of you unaware of it (of which I imagine there are few), it is easy to reach from Ursinus; follow 29 to 422 East on which one can simply follow the signs to King of Prussia. After entering the town, you're on your own; it would take me three pages to explain the road signs and one way streets in the mall itself. Just follow the signs and hope for the best.

For those of you who do manage to make it through the confusing signs and one way streets that make up this Megatron of a mall (I'm running out of adjectives that include mega). One will find a wealth of dining opportunities ranging from the cheapest of the cheap to prying out gold fillings to pay (yep, sometimes one has to go that far for a good meal).

As for the Fox and Hound, it's located in the middle of mall, but is its own building unattached to the rest of the mall. The pub itself is an English pub/sports bar which translates to a building where everything that is not English has been covered with television screens playing whatever is in season (currently march madness GO UCLA, all the way!). Surprisingly, it works out quite well. Fox and Hound has a nice pub atmosphere: moody, dark, and all contained inside of a rustic old fashioned building. I almost expected to see someone light up a cigar and have a pile of elderly chaps come in having just finished managing their factories or various businesses, looking for a chance to relax away from the Mrs. The fact that it is a smoke-free environment coupled with the piles of flat screen televisions does shatter these visions before they can material-

ize, but they help modernize the bar. It is kind of annoying though, that no matter which way one looks, they will be staring at a television, but I suppose some people enjoy that convenience (Appearance: 9/10).

As for the service, I have no complaints, but no particularly glowing recommendations either. I would like to compliment the chefs though for the timely manner in which the food was prepared. I can't remember the last time I got served that fast (Service: 7/10).

As for the meal, I started off with some of their famous tortilla soup, which sadly lost on the counts of being too chunky and not being crunchy enough. What I normally look for in a tortilla soup is a nice light broth with some crunchy (soon to be soggy) tortilla chips floating on top. This was a thick bean and pepper soup with tortilla chips on top. Not a bad soup (plus it was cheap), but mislabeled. As for the main course, I chose a little slice of heaven (and a large slice of calorie-infested hell): the French dip. It was a specialty item, so it won't be there forever, but I wish it could be. Everything that was bad about the soup was made up for by the sip: a nice side of roast beast (that's right, beast) stuck between two slices of bread and slathered with horse radish. To complete it, it came with two sides Au jus (for those of you not up on your culinary vocab, it means meat juice) and a horseradish sauce. What made the meal for me though was the fries. I like to think of myself as "culinarily advanced," but I still love a place that can make some good French fries and would travel back to it just for some more of them (Dining: 24/30).

To conclude, I would like to add two notes: first, the Fox and Hound has many events planned, so look at their web site to see what is coming up at www.fhrg.com, and second, after 10:00 p.m. they will not allow you onto the premises if you are not 21, so those who are underage should look somewhere else to eat after 10:00 p.m. Overall, Fox and Hound

Pub and Grill is a nice restaurant that I would not mind visiting again, and prices are right in the middle range so it's affordable but perhaps not an everyday treat (Total: 80% Rating: A low Great).

Attention all politically-minded UC students, faculty and staff!

Gov. Kathleen Sebelius of Kansas, a supporter of Sen. Barack Obama, will be coming to campus on Monday, Mar. 31, 2008. Sebelius will be speaking in Bomberger Auditorium.

Pay attention to e-mails for more information and a specific time.

Ursinus Sororities Participate in Community Service

JILL ALSPACH

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Before spring break, *The Grizzly* ran the overview of the community service performed by the fraternities on campus. This week, take a look at the community service from the sororities of Ursinus College.

Alpha Sigma Nu performed about 220 hours of community service last semester. The activities ranged from a rush where they decorated Trinity Church on Main Street for the Advent party to adopting a family for the holidays. Alpha Sigma Nu also raised money for and participated in Phi Alpha Psi's powder-puff game and collected over \$130 for the Perkiomen Watershed Conservatory. The sisters volunteered for the 10,000 Villages Sale and completed individual projects, such as helping at spaghetti dinner fundraisers. Each year the sisters volunteer at the Trinity Church for a spring clean. Alpha Sigma Nu will represent two teams for Relay for Life and many members participated in the Alternative Spring Break trip to build houses for Habitat for Humanity.

Kappa Delta Kappa (KDK) has held a variety of fundraisers to raise money for Youth AIDS. They have also raised money for one of their alumnae who recently lost her husband and now has to raise three children as a single parent. Sisters have held weekly bake sales in the library, coin collections outside of Wismer and parties and have also raffled off a video iPod Nano for charity. The sisters of KDK also helped out with the 10,000 Village Sale and KDK has already formed a team for Relay for Life.

Omega Chi hosts two blood drives a year, one in the fall and one in the spring. This fall, Omega Chi's blood drive accumulated 112 hours of service for the sorority. For

homecoming, they raised \$120 for United Cerebral Palsy over about 10 hours of service. There was need for an emergency blood drive and the American Red Cross had a very low supply. Omega Chi was asked to plan an emergency blood drive in two days and was able to get 90 donations. They will be having their second blood drive in April, which usually brings in 140 donations.

This past fall, Phi Alpha Psi (Phi Psi) held a jeans party which had a great response from the Ursinus community. \$400 was raised from the jeans party and donated to the Kyle Quinn Memorial Scholarship. A jeans party in the spring is going to be held with proceeds going tentatively towards the Linda Creed Breast Cancer Foundation. Last fall, Phi Alpha Psi also held a powder-puff football tournament where they raised over \$200 for the Linda Creed Breast Cancer Foundation. Alpha Sigma Nu, Tau Sigma Gamma and Phi Alpha Psi all participated in the powder-puff event. Phi Alpha Psi is planning another powder-puff event for this spring, and they are hoping to donate the money to a charity that is close to the heart of a faculty member. From helping with the Perkiomen Creek clean-up, to raising money for the Make-A-Wish Foundation, to giving blood, to tutoring students at Gring's Mills, the sisters of Phi Alpha Psi are always busy making the community they live in a better place.

Sigma Sigma Sigma raised \$100 for their national charity, the Robbie Paige Memorial Fund, which ensures that children in hospitals receive much-needed play therapy. They also volunteered at the Columbia Cottage home for the elderly and at Catholic Social Services' Food Pantry in Norristown. Sigma Sigma Sigma also helped with the 10,000 Villages Sale for set-up as well as staffing. The sorority completed about 60 hours of community service. Sigma

Sigma Sigma plans to continue raising money for the Robbie Paige Memorial Fund and volunteer at Columbia Cottage. They will also have one or two teams in Relay for Life and will work on the Adopt a Soldier program.

This fall, Tau Sigma Gamma raised money for the Breast Cancer Walk. There are three sisters on the planning committee for Relay for Life and the sorority plans on forming a team, too. Tau Sigma Gamma volunteered at the Columbia Cottage and participated in Philly Cares Day. Sisters also participated in charity soccer, basketball and field hockey games sponsored on campus, as well as tutoring psychology students and volunteering in the library. Tau Sigma Gamma also planned and facilitated an alcohol awareness program on campus. Many girls have donated blood and several have donated their hair to Locks of Love. This semester, Tau Sigma Gamma will be visiting Columbia Cottage and several sisters will also be volunteering at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children in Philadelphia on the weekends.

Upsilon Phi Delta participated in five different service projects this fall. They caroled during the holidays around the Collegeville community as well as made holiday cards. The sisters made blankets as well as hats for the prenatal unit at a local hospital. On Halloween, the girls trick-or-treated for UNICEF. All of these projects totaled over fifty hours of community service. They raised money for ASPCA and UNICEF as well as around \$150 for the Beto Family in January. In the spring they plan on participating in Relay for Life.

Community service is a huge part of Greek life at Ursinus College and on any given day one will see fraternities and sororities donating their time and money toward good causes throughout the Collegeville area and beyond.

A Scientific Look at the "Truth is Beauty" Equation

KRISTIN O'BRASSILL

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When I picked up Daniel Levitin's *This is Your Brain on Music: the Science of a Human Obsession*, I was expecting a clever approach to music reviews or something along the lines of *A Natural History of the Senses*. I certainly got more than I bargained for. This book is a science read (more specifically, the neuropsychology of music studies). That shouldn't turn away the rare, non-science Ursinus student; though, there is some intriguing information hidden beneath the high-flying terminology. And, Levitin is great in offering definitions for it all and making the language rather accessible.

The premise of the *This is Your Brain on Music* is an explanation of the why and how of humankind's relationship with music. Levitin runs the Laboratory for Musical Perception, Cognition, and

Expertise at McGill University and compiled much of the research conducted there within this book. He offers scientific explanations for the emotional effects that listening to music causes. Of course, that brings about endless references to classic songs, both actually "classical" as well as classic rock. Contemporary music listeners might feel a little lost; one page alone mentioned Schonberg, the Sex Pistols, The Beatles, Cream, Tchaikovsky, The Eagles, Peter Gabriel, Mussorgsky, Pink Floyd, and Elvis Costello. Even if none of that is your thing, rest assured; he does mention Eminem.

Levitin is completely enthusiastic about all the minute details, getting excited about the nuances of Sting's basslines in "Spirits in the Material World" like only a scientist-turned-musician like himself could fully appreciate. The first chapter or two of the book is full of name-dropping, as Levitin begins anecdotes with "When I met Fleetwood Mac..." or "As Paul Simon once said to

me..." and the stories are enjoyable.

The introduction is a bit misleading, though, because the tone of the book takes a complete turn when Levitin really begins to layer the science terms on thick. And though this made it less enjoyable for me personally, it would certainly be excellent recreational reading for say, a music therapist. The meat of the book is still fascinating, though. Levitin was able to actually prove and explain that an individual's music preferences actually do begin to develop in the womb. "The environment – even when mediated by amniotic fluid and by the womb – can affect a child's development and preferences...the seeds of musical preference are sown in the womb," he writes.

Furthermore, he offers scientific evidence that musicians really do have bigger, and more capable, brains, using both the left and right sides for music. He even goes so far as to validate the claim that all songs that are heard by an individual in their lifetime are encoded into that person's memory. "We can hold onto our record-keeping theory of memory by saying that we are encoding specific timbre values in memory." For a music lover, particularly of the classics (meaning both Mozart and the Beatles), these sorts of connections of music to everyday life can bring even more appreciation to the songs you've always enjoyed.

Overall, this book is well-informed and extremely intelligent. Keep in mind, it's not exactly a beach read. But, what's important is that you'll learn to understand your own musical preferences and the entire process of listening to music better, and maybe regain a sense of awe at the power it can contain.



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A Quick Glance at Upcoming CAB and RHA Events

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Spring break is over and everyone is bogged down with massive amounts of school work, but there are quite a few things on campus to keep us entertained. CAB (Campus Activities Board) and RHA (Residence Hall Association) both have extensive calendars of activities including an entire week of Spring Fling events. For a full schedule of events, contact either one of the offices or read your e-mails from the organizations which are sent out closer to the date of the event (below are some highlighted events and activities that will be happening until the end of the semester).

Tomorrow night, Mar. 28, 2008 is the Mr. Ursinus Pageant, which is the male beauty pageant for seniors. The show, per tradition, is mimicked off of the Miss America contest. The gown portion is optional. The event will take place in Wismer Lower Lounge, and check your e-mail for the start time. Another exciting annual CAB event that is just around the corner is the Laser Tag Adventure on March 30.

Also, almost every weekend CAB hosts a movie in either Olin Auditorium or Wismer Lower Lounge. The up-

coming movies are:

Mar. 29-30: P.S. I Love You

Apr. 11-12: The Great Debaters

Apr. 25-27: Cloverfield

May 9-11: National Treasure 2

From Apr. 13 until Apr. 20 there are activities every day of the week as part of CAB's Spring Fling. On Sunday, the comedian Julian McCoughlah will be performing in Bomberger at 7:30 p.m. Mike Super, the magician, will shock and keep you wondering on Monday in Wismer Lower Lounge at 7:00 p.m. Don't miss his performance. The Coffee House will be back on Tuesday night in Wismer Lower Lounge for Jessica Sonner's acoustic guitar performance at 7:30 p.m. Thursday night's performance will take place at 7:00 p.m. in either Wismer Lower Lounge or Bomberger. The Adult Circus, which is an illusionist performance, is bound to blow your mind with their illusion and mind reading abilities. The final planned event will take place on Friday of that week with comedian Ronnie Jordan performing in Wismer Lower Lounge at 7:30 p.m.

To cap off Spring Fling, RHA will be hosting their annual Blacklight Volleyball Tournament. This is the second largest RHA event of the season following the Wing Bowl. The tournament will take place behind Reimert in the

volleyball court complete with a DJ and BBQ. Each competing team has an opportunity to receive a gift certificate to the restaurant of their choice.

Other events to look out for are the Three Legged Fox performing their rock reggae sound on Apr. 26, and Black Violin, a version of hip hop and DJ remix, performing on May 1. During exam week, be sure to look out for exam breakers provided by each organization to help ease the stress of finals season.

A lot of planning goes into these events from each organization, and in the past they have proved to be a good time. Take advantage of these great opportunities that are happening right here on campus!

Career Corner: Jumpstart to Graduate and Professional Schools

CAREER SERVICES

career@ursinus.edu

Juniors who are graduate school bound should be jumping straight in to the graduate school search and application process now. Start by searching for programs and developing criteria you can use to evaluate the programs you are considering.

Filter through program materials online. Use online tools such as gradschools.com and Petersons.com to research specific facts such as: location, faculty research, funding options, etc. Develop your own standard of locating the "right" program for you by talking with your faculty. Let them help you narrow down your choices and share their perspective on programs.

Begin investigating what admissions tests are needed in your discipline (GRE, GMAT, MCAT, or LSAT). Register and determine how you will be preparing and studying for the appropriate standardized test. Make sure to carve time out to study this summer and, if possible, take the test you need before returning to campus in the fall. If you need information on prep courses or study guides be sure to check in with the advisors in Career Services.

Senior year will go smoothly if you take time before returning to campus to narrow down the programs you are interested in applying to. You can even begin to prepare your "statement of interest" essay. This essay, sometimes called a personal statement, will be required by most graduate schools. It is a critical piece of your application package as it will be evaluated by all admissions offices and faculty in your program of interest along with your test scores, recommendations, and transcripts.

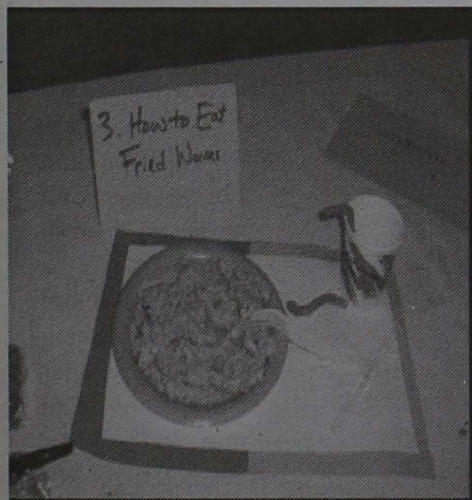
Make sure you develop your ideas and review your essay with your faculty. Take advantage of the writing center, and certainly get help in Career Services. There are several books in the Career Services office to help you get started.

Myrin's Edible Books Festival: The Battle of the Most Literate Foods

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Today, Thursday Mar. 27, marks the fourth annual Myrin Library Edible Books Festival. Participants create an edible representation of a book and submit it for judging. All edible books should be inspired by or depictive of something "bookish." Baking, frying, molding, and most anything else are all fair game.



Entries can be submitted as an individual, a team, a club or a department, and are to be dropped off in the library between 9 a.m. and noon, and will be judged at 3 p.m. All are welcome to participate and even if you don't submit, you can still attend the reception at 3 p.m.,

when the winners will be announced, and yes, eaten. The first place winner will receive \$75, the second place winner will receive \$50 and the third place winner \$25.

Ursinus began to participate in this international event in 2005. This year's festival was coordinated primarily by students Abby Raymond and Lindsay Sakmann. More information is available at the official Edible Books website, <http://www.livremangeable.com/livremangeable/index.html>. This will be the festival's ninth year running.



Good Riddance, Geraldine

Every once in a while, something enrages us at CfD so much that we forgo the satire shtick (and word limits) in order to get directly to the point. This is one of those times.

Geraldine Ferraro, after a 23-year hibernation, decided to flex her political muscle while we Ursinians were carousing with Spring Break hotties (or not-so-hotties), creating any number of regrettable (and hopefully forgettable) moments. Ms. Ferraro is most known (perhaps only known) for her (also regrettable/forgettable) candidacy for Vice President of the United States in 1984 – or, as Maureen Dowd noted: helping Walter Mondale lose 49 states.

Now, I don't mean to completely discredit Ms. Ferraro; her Vice Presidential run, while a miserable failure and possibly a few steps in the wrong direction for female politicians, obviously wasn't the cause of Democratic failure in 1984. After all, Walter Mondale. I know this is a sentence fragment, but I think it gets the point across. Plus, despite popular sentiment, I'm not an English major.

So, back to modern times: Ms. Ferraro has been an outspoken supporter of Hillary Clinton and held a post on her finance committee. The problem is that she has not done so very gracefully, perhaps taking female politicians back another few steps (I sense a pattern).

On Feb. 25, she made a Bush-league argument in the *New York Times* supporting the right of superdelegates to ignore the will of the public. Ms. Ferraro has a number of reasons to support this undemocratic feature of the Democratic Party. First, bitch-slapping democracy is the only way Hillary Clinton can win at this point. But perhaps hitting closer to home, Geraldine Ferraro *created* superdelegates.

Well, sort of. Despite what she may have you believe, she is not Yahweh, and she did not actually "create" superdelegates, but she was the chairwoman of the Hunt Commission, which so gracelessly (I'm sensing another pattern) brought superdelegates into the process. The first election to test out this new system? 1984. Geraldine's conclusion?

"It worked."

Yes, winning those 13 electoral votes was a resounding success for the Democratic Party. Kudos to you, Geraldine! You done fixed everything!

More frightening than her clear case of dementia is her complete disregard for democracy. She states, "the superdelegates were created to lead, not to follow. They were, and are, expected to determine what is best for our party and best for the country." Now, she is stating the truth here. Democratic party elites did create superdelegates for this reason. Some op-ed columnists have railed against writers like me who suggest that superdelegates should not reverse the will of the public. They say, "The rules allow it!" or "That's what they're there for!" Again, that's *true*, but perhaps this truth is disconcerting. I mean, here I thought we were expected to determine what is best for the country.

Now, some will say, "Mr. Flyntz, she is simply arguing for *representative* democracy, you dolt!" But the problem is, rank-and-file Democrats didn't choose to institute

superdelegates. This was a choice by the elites to give *themselves* more power. If everyday Democrats had said "Sure, this seems like a good idea, Geraldine," her argument might hold some weight. But they didn't. For representative democracy to be democratic, the people have to agree to the powers they are handing over. I guess we overlooked that step, eh Geraldine?

She goes on to argue that Barack Obama got many of his delegates from open primaries – those that allow members of any party to vote in any primary. In other words, his delegates have been tainted by

nasty *Independents* and *Republicans* who are more excited about Democrats than their sad sack of choices. She calls for all Democratic primaries to be closed – open only to Democrats. What's more, she thinks that Democrats should have to prove their true Democratic-ness by being registered for a certain length of time. So, let's say you realize your state's primary is rapidly approaching (hey, Pennsylvania's is!) and you're not registered yet. Sorry, you can't vote according to Geraldine! You're not a true Democrat!

...

Sorry, I had to go vomit. So, here we have Geraldine Ferraro, the undemocratic Democrat. This isn't even the contro-

versy, though. Here it is: she said that Barack Obama wouldn't be where he is today if he weren't black. An odd claim, coming from a Hillary Clinton supporter. After all, let's imagine what things would be like if Hillary were a man (*insert "Hillary is a man" joke here*). Well, unless she had some unbelievably powerful tools of persuasion, I get the feeling that she wouldn't have married Bill Clinton, and thus she wouldn't have been First Lady (or Man, or whatever), and thus she wouldn't have had the name recognition necessary to run for Senate, and thus she wouldn't have had the "experience" necessary to run for President. Of course, perhaps she would've found her own way through the murky depths of the world of politics, but without a charismatic spouse, I think she would've been a flop.

With the hypocrisy of the claim aside, it sounds slightly racist. Sure, I've suggested that race has a lot to do with Clarence Thomas being on the Supreme Court (scholarly research backs the theory up), so I'm willing to admit that race can have a big impact on politics. But, it just isn't clear that Obama's success is attributable to his race. Sure, it is hard to ignore the fact that African Americans overwhelmingly support him, but what about young and/or affluent white voters? Are they really voting for him because of his race? If that were true, why didn't Al Sharpton and Jesse Jackson rise to prominence when they ran for President?

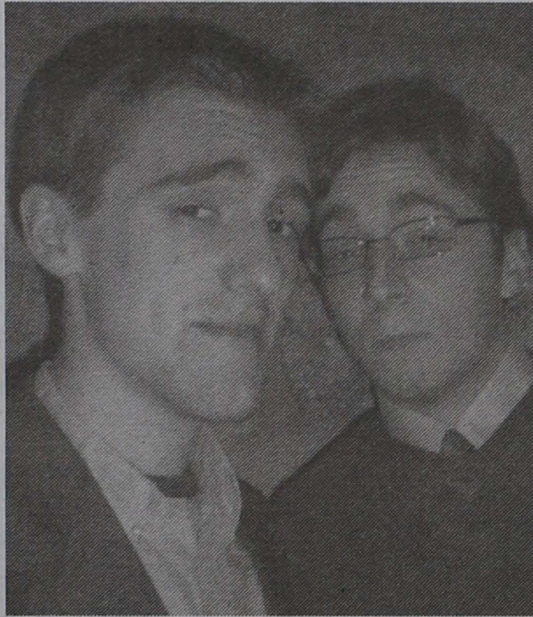
This story has a happy ending, though. Ms. Ferraro, humiliated, disgraced and remorseful, resigned her post and slunk back into obscurity!

Oh wait, I lied. In reality, she, sounding like a six-year-old who just got called out for picking her nose, accused the Obama campaign of playing the race card on her.

Shame on you, Obama campaign, for suggesting that Geraldine brought up race when she said that the only reason your candidate has succeeded is because of his race.

Oh, I almost forgot, after all this, she called Michelle Obama a "nappy headed ho." (I had to put a speck of satire in there).

If Matt and Dan were alive and of voting age in 1984, they probably would've voted for Mondale/Ferraro, but they sure wouldn't have been happy about it. But Hell, if we were old enough then, perhaps it would've been Flyntz/Sergeant in 1984. Send your counterfactuals to maflyntz@ursinus.edu and dasergeant@ursinus.edu.



**MATTHEW FLYNTZ
DANIEL SERGEANT
Communism for Dummies**

Hey Bill, You're Not Alone

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Kryptonite was Superman's only weakness. Was Kryptonite really women? No one really knows the answer to that question. Fidelity, however, appears to be the kryptonite of popular politicians of late though.

First, we had Bill Clinton. A man riding high atop the presidency, as the economy soared in the 1990s. Much of his popularity came to a screeching halt, once the infamous blue dress was discovered and the Monica Lewinsky scandal blew up. A decade later, a similar situation has arisen. On Mar. 12, Governor Elliot Spitzer of New York, an extremely popular politician, was forced to step down from his political duties because of a prostitution scandal.

Federal authorities had discovered Governor Spitzer to be a client of a high-end prostitution ring when breaking up the ring in the first week of March. Federal Prosecutors charged four people with opening a prostitution service, Emperor's Club V.I.P. During the investigation of this ring, a federal wiretap discovered Governor Spitzer discussing payments and arranging to meet a prostitute in a Washington hotel room last month (*The New York Times*).

An affidavit filed by Federal Prosecutors detailed Spitzer's involvement in the prostitution ring. A prostitute named Kristen had met with a man described as "Client 9", who was identified as Mr. Spitzer. Governor Spitzer traveled to Washington, where he testified to Congress about the bond insurance crisis. Apparently the night before he testified, he got himself into a crisis of his own. Another wiretap conversation had Kristen, the prostitute, calling her booker to inform him that the session has gone well, and she did not find the client "difficult," as other prostitutes had in the past. The prosecutors indicated that Spitzer used the service more than once (*The New York Times*).

Once the allegations were discovered by the *New York Times*, Spitzer made a public statement. Governor Spitzer stated, "I have acted in a way that violates my obligations to my family and violates my, or any sense of wrong. I apologize to the public to whom I promised better." Governor Spitzer did not address his involvement with the prostitution ring.

Continued on Pg. 10

“Armageddon” (1998)

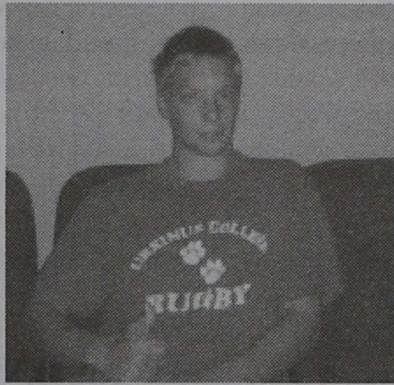
Every once in a while, a flick comes along that despite everything it has going against it, and beyond all reason, logic and natural laws, it comes out extremely entertaining. It's like a cake; there's no reason putting all those random parts together and heating them should make something delicious, but it does. And just like a cake, if this week's flick had been missing just one of the ingredients, it would have ended up a disgusting dud. For this recipe, take an ensemble cast, complete with requisite A-list stars and backup character actors, a director known for overblown special effects and a completely ridiculous premise, mix together and bake for 150 minutes. Tadaa! You have this week's flick, “Armageddon.”

As a massive asteroid hurtles toward Earth, NASA head Dan Truman (Billy Bob Thornton) is forced to send up a crack drilling team led by Harry Stamper (Bruce Willis) that just happens to include half the working actors in Hollywood (Michael Clarke Duncan, Steve Buscemi, Ben Affleck, Owen Wilson, and a few others). It's up to them to destroy the asteroid and save Earth, all to a kickin' Aerosmith soundtrack.

Not since “Con Air” the year before had such an insane amount of talent been roped into a Hollywood blockbuster. At the same time, it's this talent that helps sell a collection of scenes that would otherwise leave you shaking your head and muttering to yourself, “Did that really just happen?” This includes, but is not limited to, Ben Affleck-Liv Tyler animal cracker sex, Steve Buscemi's space madness and Bruce Willis ripping Affleck's suit IN SPACE while Affleck magically holds it closed with his hand and

lives. Billy Bob Thornton is famous for openly admitting to regretting just doing this flick for the paycheck, but sometimes you feel like you can't blame him.

That being said, “Armageddon” still manages to be really entertaining. A Hollywood blockbuster inevitably means a huge budget, so the effects work is top notch, particularly the space scenes on the asteroid. As much crap as I like to give Michael Bay (For every “The Rock,” there's a “Pearl Harbor” or “The Island”), he does a good job on this one, constantly shifting the action to the next set piece before the audience has a chance to ponder the improbability of what just happened on screen. He even manages to deliver a nice little tearjerker moment at the end, which is one more than most action movies have. All in all, “Armageddon” is definitely one of Bay's better works, and the perfect popcorn movie for a Friday night.



ALEX ERNST
The Back Row

For the pick of the week, I'm going with that *other* asteroid coming to destroy Earth movie of 1998, “Deep Impact.” More than anything else, the one selling point I'd give “Deep Impact” over “Armageddon” is that Morgan Freeman would be a pretty damn good president. Otherwise, the two function as different sides of the same coin, with “Deep Impact” focusing a bit more on the emotion and the human aspect that comes with such a catastrophe, rather than the explosions and action. Put the two together, and you've got a great double feature.

Alex Ernst fully blames the producers for the introduction of the scourge that is animal cracker sex fetish. You can join his class action lawsuit at alernst@ursinus.edu.

That's Sooo College

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It's a real shame that I'm so close to graduation when I have just recently mastered what it means to really *be college*. I'm not really sure how my expertise on what it means to be really college will assist me as I go forward, so I have decided that the most generous thing to do would be to pass it on to all of you, in hopes that you can put everything I have learned to good use.

Whenever I go home, everyone assumes that because I'm in college I eat absurd amounts of pizza; it is a commonly held belief that people in college love pizza. This is partly true; pizza is a critical ingredient if you want to be college, but there is so much more to it than that. After all, everyone eats pizza. It's even served at children's birthday parties and children's birthday parties are so not college! What needs to be addressed are just how old is the pizza and when are you eating it? There is nothing more college than waking up at the crack of noon and reaching for the old pizza box that's been on your floor for three days and grabbing a slice for breakfast. When you start dining like this, you are well on your way to being college.

If you really want to be college, you need to dress the part. I defy anyone to think of an occasion you'll face at college where a hoodie sweatshirt is inappropriate dress attire. Mornings, evenings, dinner parties... they all lend themselves nicely to the hoodie. When choosing which hoodies to own, try to get ones that have any sports team or greek organization you are affiliated with on them... that's sooo college. Another critical piece of attire is the backwards

hat. When wearing a hat, remember this simple rule: backwards hat = sooo college, forward hat = giant tool. If you want to further accentuate your collegeness, you can also accessorize with any assortment of hemp necklaces or bracelets.

Tattoos are very college. The tough part is deciding just what tattoo to get. In order to find the perfect tattoo that is just college enough try this simple exercise. When looking at images, try imagining that tattoo on your parents; if this mental image is one of the most ridiculous things you've ever thought of, you're on the right track! A quick note, after you get the tattoo, make sure to show it off at every opportunity. Take your shirt off even though its 30 degrees outside. No point in having a badass tattoo if no one will see it, right?

There comes a point in everyone's college career when they need to take a long hard look in the mirror and ask themselves, “Have I played nearly enough Frisbee?” When is enough Frisbee? Generally, you want to spend roughly twice the amount of time you have spent in class tossing the Frisbee. Acceptable variations of this are footballs and of course wiffleball... but Frisbee is the quintessential.

If you really want to be considered college you need to make sure that your music play lists always have at least six songs by Dave Matthews, Phish or some other jam band. I'm pretty sure everyone will agree that jam bands are most necessary if someone's trying to be college. If you really want to put on a display of collegeness, I recommend you blast some jam bands while sitting around a hookah with your friends; that would be sooo college of you.

Pledge to Darfur

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The pledging [New Member Education] controversy was on everyone's lips. Everyone knew. Everyone had an opinion, whether Greek or non-Greek. At the same time this happened, the crisis in Darfur came back in the news. No one said a word. Our campus has a strong Greek life and a pervasive sense of brother and sisterhood. Yet, this bond does not seem to carry over into any greater sense of obligation to our fellow man. Where is our true sense of kinship? When we hear about genocide in Darfur, we are genuinely upset, but these greater concerns are quickly replaced by our immediate responsibilities. We forget about the power that we have over our own lives. Our obligations should not become so all-consuming that we forget to take a breath. Trapped by an invisible box that extends from our dorm to class, we are only fleetingly aware of the suffering taking place halfway around the world.

Darfur has been pushed aside in favor of the everyday. The scorched earth campaign is being reimplemented as a tactic for the annihilation of the people of Darfur. It involves complete destruction of human dignity, life and creation. It has destroyed communities, torn apart families and caused untold individual anguish. It is the worst of offenses. It is complete disregard for the beauty and depth of humanity and life. Yet, we sit here safe and secluded and do not move.

It seems the situation is too big, of too large a scale and scope for us to make a difference or to even fully comprehend. We must recognize it. We must bring it to the forefront of our minds. We must look at the lives of the Darfuri people and attach theirs with our own. Invest yourself in their plight. Feel what they feel. We can no longer overlook genocide and find time only for the fleeting gossip of the day. Honor our duty to our fellow man. Remember every strong sentiment, every moment of passion, every energy and power you possess and use it. Take control of your life. Remember what really matters. A test, a paper, a lab, a party, an initiation- refocus yourself. Find true perspective.

College is one time in our lives when we can be loud, opinionated and passionate. We can make change. We are the change. When we become so blindly consumed by our daily chores, we throw away our opportunity to be more. Everyone here is smart, capable and talented. Why waste who you are as a unique and powerful individual? We choose to turn on the TV instead of getting up to go to that meeting. We choose to sleep an extra hour instead of getting up and reading the newspaper. These choices define who we are, and these choices can change the world for the better or just reinforce the status-quo.

Everyone has the ability and power to make a difference. We all have something in us that burns for more than the everyday. Instead of quelling that fire in our hearts, why not step out of the world behind our eyes that has trapped us for far too long and reach out.

Be a part of the community; recognize your fellow man. Maybe then we would be in a world where genocide is not shrugged off and overlooked. You are here for more than a degree. You are bigger than a GPA. We willingly pledge ourselves on campus to various Greek organizations, but what if the pledge was to more? Would it inspire as much talk as our own community's Greek pledging? Would you fight for it? Would you make a pledge to Darfur?

Vice Presidential Possibilities: Let's Start the Speculation

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With John McCain finally overcoming his Republican rivals and the Democratic race seemingly about to enter the home stretch, now is as good a time as ever to start trying to answer the most important question of all: who will the candidates choose as their respective running mates? Normally this decision would be based on who would be the best person to round out the ticket, but things may be changing a bit. Our current Vice President seems to have given the office a new meaning and that may play into who we see chosen as a running mate this year.

I see the Republican candidate John McCain in a particularly tight spot in selecting his running mate. He's already being demonized by right-wing pundits, which shouldn't matter but could hurt him in the long run. A candidate looks pretty weak if he can't get his own party behind him. McCain's choice will be a strange one as he should pick someone who will balance the ticket for the Republicans. Usually the VP position will be used to court moderates and undecided voters, but McCain is able to do that well enough on his own. His choices still seem limited, especially when one looks at the rest of the field from the Republican primaries. Mike Huckabee is someone who I

would not be happy to see on any presidential ticket and I think someone like him would turn away a lot of McCain's base. Rudy Giuliani is another man who would have that affect since his broken record talking point on 9/11 became a running joke from the primaries. Fred Thompson is right out useless for anything. I think McCain could choose a piece of drift wood and it would be more impressive than Thompson. I think that the most likely candidate to run with McCain will be Mitt Romney. Conservatives seem to like him and that could really help McCain unify the party behind his campaign. Also, remember that he dropped out of the race before Huckabee. Romney was second in the polls but dropped out before a candidate

who was doing worse than him. It hints at some kind of backroom deal between McCain and Romney that would garner Romney the vice-presidential spot.

It is much harder to talk about potential Democratic running mates since neither Hillary Clinton nor Barack Obama has secured the party's nomination yet. However, we know it is going to be one of these two. The pair we have heard some speculation about was a "dream ticket" of

some combination of Obama and Clinton running together. I can't even say this is a long shot, because there is no way we will see this ticket from the Democrats. This rumor was started by the Clinton campaign to suggest that Obama run as Clinton's vice-president. Generally speaking the one behind in the delegate count does not offer a vice-presidential position to the leader. It was a very backwards proposition and many saw it as an attempt to distract voters from seeing that Obama was winning. After all the bad blood that has been stirred up because of this campaign a joint ticket between the two is just too unlikely. Had the primaries played out a different way it could have been possible and I do think that a "dream ticket" could have won the election.

So where does this leave the Democrats? They seem to be even worse off than the Republicans were in terms of possible running mates. John Edwards is probably on the short list, though he hardly proved to be effective in the 2004 election along side John Kerry. The man couldn't come off as more sincere than Dick Cheney and I don't think he would do any better against McCain and his running mate. Despite that I think Edwards could get the call if Clinton wins the nomination. Obama was recently endorsed by the governor of New Mexico and former nominee for the Democratic candidacy, Bill Richardson. Richardson is also one of the most prominent hispanics in national politics. His presence on the ticket with Obama could help garner votes with this demographic, which Obama has had difficulty doing so far in the primaries. Richardson is suddenly in a good position to run alongside Obama.

Whatever happens, I can't say I'm too confident in the vice-presidential candidates. Despite what Dick Cheney has done to the office, I still find it hard to see the position as little more than just a way to balance a ticket. It will be interesting to see how it all plays out at the conventions, but as for now all focus is on the presidential candidates themselves. And that's how it should stay for the moment.



The speculation begins: Obama/Richardson '08?
Photo courtesy of *The New York Times*

Spitzer: Continued from Page 8

The former governor of New York has not been charged with a crime but still could be charged. As a result of the scandal, Eliot Spitzer resigned from the governor's office and Lt. Governor David A. Patterson will assume the position for the remainder of the term (*The New York Times*).

Spitzer was elected Governor of New York in a landslide in 2006, after gaining fame from prosecuting prominent people on Wall Street, as attorney general of New York. His action as attorney general garnered Spitzer the nickname, "the Sheriff of Wall Street" (*The New York Times*). Moreover, he became recognized as the nation's dominant regulator. Spitzer forced the re-engineering of the financial services and insurance industries in the name of protecting consumers. The attorney general's tactics were questionable but yet successful. Instead of taking cases to trial, Spitzer would instead exploit the threat of stock declines and financial losses to force industries to change.

For example, in 2002, Spitzer issued a press release detailing the betrayal of trust by Merrill Lynch, which caused a \$5 billion loss in market value. In a few short days, the firm settled with the state. Other financial firms weary of similar actions settled with the state and agreed to change industry practices and standards instead of feeling the wrath of Spitzer.

In another famous case, Spitzer prosecuted New York Stock Exchange Chairman Richard Grasso after Grasso received a \$187 million pay package. Spitzer believed the amount of money was too grandiose for a not-for-profit

organization (Slate.com). Last, Spitzer oversaw the prosecution of two high-end prostitution rings. The former governor had 16 people arrested and then stated, "This was a sophisticated and lucrative operation with a multitiered management structure. It was, however, nothing more than a prostitution ring." (*The New York Times*)

It is clear from his past; Spitzer is a bipolar liar. During the day he was prosecuting prostitution rings and by night he was entertaining himself with high-end hookers (apparently they exist). Moreover, he broke the trust of his family and the people of New York, who elected him to office on a campaign that vowed to bring higher ethical standards to the Statehouse.

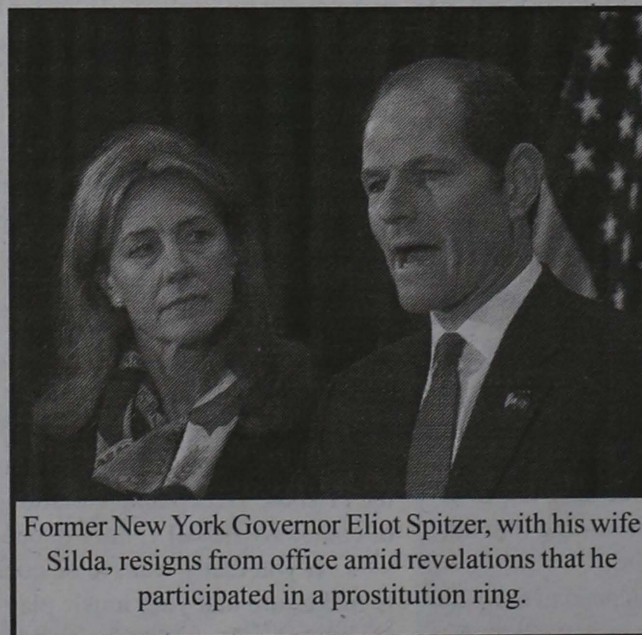
Despite Spitzer's egregious personal actions, he did do a lot of positive work for New York and the country as attorney general. Without his work, the current financial

scandals could be worse than they currently are (if that is really fathomable). Should Eliot Spitzer be remembered for the significant positive changes he helped bring about in many industries or for the personal crime of infidelity with a

prostitute, which exposed him as a hypocrite? Just as Bill Clinton is remembered, it will probably be a mixture of both. One thing is for sure, Bill Clinton now has company in the extensive club of popular politicians who broke the public trust.

This is just another case showing us that every person has a flaw. Even when it appears a person is morally sound, a person just can never know. Hopefully, we can get politicians with Eliot Spitzer's commitment to protect the common people in the future without having yet another scandal, which ruins all of their credibility. After examining the past, however, it looks like that may be nearly impossible.

Just like the Phillies' favorite saying, "Hey, maybe next year?" Let's hope in the future (say the 08' elections) that the politicians who are bringing about good for people can stay away from their personal kryptonite and revive the trust in government.



Former New York Governor Eliot Spitzer, with his wife Silda, resigns from office amid revelations that he participated in a prostitution ring.

Dubble Vision: A Magical Season

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Well, it's all over Ursinus. Our beloved Bears finally lost. It took 25 games, but we finally went down. We hadn't even lost once in the year 2008 until this past weekend. But, a great man once said, "All great things must come to an end." Not exactly sure who it was, but gosh he must have been a jerk. The last few weeks I've felt as if I was reading a fairy tale. I was even nervous to write about Men's Basketball this season due to my new found superstitious nature (see earlier column).

I would be lying to you if I said I saw this coming, because in no way, shape or form was I even close to foreseeing this. Losing two starting all conference big men and converting to a new four guard set I was questioning conference playoffs, let alone making the NCAA tournament.

And I also don't believe I'm the only one who can say that. I can recall two conversations I had this summer. The first was with senior captain Sean Butkus during warm-ups for a summer league team we both play on. I asked Sean how the school's summer league team was looking. He responded by saying something to the likes of "Not too good Dubb." Now I initially didn't read too much into it. However, later in the summer when I came back to school for football's training camp, I ran into Coach Small. I asked Coach how the team was looking minus our two big men. He responded saying something like, "Well, based off how we're playing in the summer league...this could be a long season Dubb. But we'll see what we can do."

Apparently Coach saw something he could do. Because not only did this team go farther than any Ursinus team ever since 1981 (before any of us were even born), but, in case you didn't notice, they also just closed the book on what has probably been the greatest four year stretch in Ursinus Basketball history. Including what may have been the greatest individual career in the program's history with senior Nick Shattuck.

If I did my math correctly (which is a slim chance, but what the hell) Coach Kevin Small in eight years here has 146 victories. That's ten more than the previous winningest coach at Ursinus Warren Fry had in 17 years with the program. 85 of Coach Small's victories came in the past four years, not to mention three of the team's four conference championships. Before these four years began the programs career win percentage was .425, beginning in the 04-05' season, Ursinus has won 73% of its games.

All that makes you wonder about the players. And in the past four years we were lucky enough to have watched

first hand two of it's very best. Mike McGarvey graduated two years ago as a two time All-American, holding the career assists mark at Ursinus as well as being fifth all time in scoring and helping to usher in the first two CC Championships over the past four years (BTW, Mike now owns a cheesesteak shop in Manayunk called *Duff's* where they pump out All-American quality sandwiches. Check it out, very delicious).



Photo courtesy of Jason Davis

Then along came Nick Shattuck. I can remember back freshman year to the CC Championship game against F & M. We were down one under a minute to play when Nick received a pass in the corner and nailed a somewhat contested three to put us up two with 45 seconds remaining. He had something like 21 points in the biggest game of the year as a freshman. Right after that three, and yes I'm going to gloat a little, I turned to my room mate and said "Ya know, I bet he beats Dennis' career scoring mark before it's all said and done." Well what do you know?

But it's not like those two did it by themselves. Over the years we've seen some very good players at this Ursinus program who may have gone a little less heralded but contributed a great amount to its success. These players include Will Furey, Brian McEvily (Both of whom are now assistant coaches) and Matt Fabian. Two more recent players who I couldn't have felt more proud of during this past NCAA tournament are Mike Shema and John Noonan.

I always used to hear how you can witness players mature over the years, and for the life of me I always wondered what that meant. Well, over the past two weeks, Shema and Noonan showed me. With Nick Shattuck playing on two wobbly ankles, I watched John and Mike literally evolve into game changers. Something they deserve with how hard they have worked.

So while I would like to congratulate the 07-08' Bears on a truly magical season, I could go on for days as to how fun this was for me (I even took time out from my spring break in Florida to listen in), I'd also like to shine the spotlight



Photo courtesy of Ursinus website

on something bigger. Seniors we witnessed history here the past four years. Juniors and Sophs, it's like you walked in right in the middle of a great sports movie that may only be shown once in a lifetime. Freshman...well at least you caught the end.

Ya know, over my time here I've had people ask me if I had any regrets going to a small school. I would always tell them the one thing I think I missed out on was that big school athletic hype come bowl or tourney time. But now if somebody were to ask me that question, I'm pretty sure I could simply say "None." Thanks guys.

Bears Dominate ECAC Championships

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With a whirlwind season behind them, the women of the Ursinus Gymnastics Team are flying high after an impressive victory during the ECAC Division III Championship held in Springfield, MA on Saturday, March 15.

The Bears placed first out of eight teams with a final score of 187.675. The team's win at ECAC's qualifies all members to compete in the National Collegiate Gymnastics Association Division III Championships.

Such a remarkable end to regular season action was a welcomed turnaround for the Bears. The ladies started off their season on a high note with two first-place finishes. These wins set the bar for the rest of the team's performance, and they struggled to keep their momentum up to this level mid-season.

Their toughest challenges came during the final two meets of the season where the Bears placed fifth out of five teams at both competitions. Not to be defeated, the UC gymnasts shrugged off their disappointments and stayed focused on the task at hand: ECAC Championships. Knowing their performance here would be pivotal in advancing the team further to Nationals, the team trained rigorously for weeks to prepare.

Senior Emily Marques commented on the strength of this season's team: "This is the most talented gymnastics team I have been on so far at Ursinus. We are tight-knit, focused and we can pull together when we are under pressure."

And that's exactly what the Lady Bears did: stayed focused and came out on top. A stand-out competitor for the team was Senior Bree Morrissey who not only placed second in all-around competition, but was also named 2008 Division III Co-ECAC Gymnast of the Year. Morrissey earned her highest score of the day with her floor exercise, tying for first place in the event with a 9.800.

Other noteworthy performances came from Sophomores Kira Oldham-Curtis and Olivia Oller. The two women tied for second place on bars with a score of 9.600. Oller also placed third in all-around competition for the UC team. UC Freshmen also contributed to the win with teammate Danielle Chmielewski scoring a 9.525 on the bars at the meet.

The UC gymnasts must keep their celebrating to a minimum, however, as they gear up for competition at Nationals held this weekend at SUNY-Cortland on Friday and Saturday. Teammates feel confident that their hard work and momentum from their ECAC victory will lead to success in New York.

"I am very confident in our team. We have a lot of girls that have been to Nationals before that know how to perform well under the pressure. I really think that we are at a great point in our season to peak at the right time," Marques said.

Congratulations to the Ursinus Gymnastics Team on their ECAC victory. Show 'em who's boss at Nationals!

Ursinus Tennis Teams Hope to Rack Up a Good Season

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Men's Tennis:

First things first...the Men's Tennis team has a new Head Coach! Pete Smith, a 1991 graduate of Ursinus College, was inducted into the Ursinus College Athletics Hall of Fame in 2001. While Smith attended UC he not only earned more than 50 wins as a singles player, but he also won the 1990 Middle Atlantic Conference Singles Championship.

He shared his athletic skills with other UC teams as well; he was a member of the football and basketball squads. He ranked fifth all-time in scoring with 1,443 points in basketball and served as the punter for his senior season on the football field.

"It's very exciting to be back at my alma mater. I'm looking forward to the challenge of turning this program into a winner. I love tennis and I love Ursinus and I think that are two things you need to do this job," explains Smith.

Coming from a struggling season last year with a record of 3-14, 0-8 CC the Bears are looking to rebuild dur-

ing 2008. The men are confident and looking forward to finding success on the courts with a lot of fresh faces.

Freshmen Kevin Dean, Greg Lewis, and Phillip Ricci have been working hard to help the men's team improve their record. With leadership from senior Ryan Metcalf, assistant coach (and 2007 graduate) Ray Clark, and the new head coach this year's Men's Tennis team is looking to not only do well but become a real contender for the Centennial Conference Playoffs.

The team has already defeated Gwynedd-Mercy 7-2 and PSU Berks 5-4. The Bears will continue their season against Franklin & Marshall on Saturday March 29, 2008.



Photo courtesy of Jill Alspach

Women's Tennis:

Unlike newcomer Pete Smith the women's head tennis coach, Sue McDonough, enters her sixth season here at Ursinus. She has over ten years of experience with USTA volunteer and playing time in both New York and Pennsylvania. She is not only a tennis coach here, but

also shares her time and knowledge with children ages 3-14. McDonough has won the District and Sectional Championships in women's singles, doubles and mixed doubles. She is also the 2004 champion of the Upper Gwynedd mixed

doubles tournament and is a team member of the three-year champion women's Box-Mont and Middle States League.

She graduated from Gettysburg College with a Spanish degree and uses her teaching experience in language to further understand the needs of college athletes. McDonough understands the determination and commitment it takes to balance academics, personal life and athletics.

With her experience and leadership from senior players Jill Alspach, Gracie Gallo, Lindsey Kunkel and Rachael Sussman the team is looking forward to improving their record from last year (which was 3-16 and 1-9 CC) and having an uplifting 2008 season.

The girls have already defeated Alvernia, Oxford College of Emory and Drew University. They will be continuing their season playing against McDaniel on March 29, 2008.

Bearly Reminders

Men's Golf

3/25 @ Gettysburg Invitational

Women's Golf

4/2 @ Muhlenberg Spring Classic

Men's Lacrosse

3/29 vs. McDaniel

Women's Lacrosse

3/27 @ TCNJ

Men's Tennis

3/29 @ Franklin & Marshall

Women's Tennis

3/29 @ McDaniel

Track and Field

3/29 Goucher Invitational

Baseball

3/28 vs. Franklin & Marshall

Softball

3/29 @ Susquehanna

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