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The Grizzly, February 14, 2008

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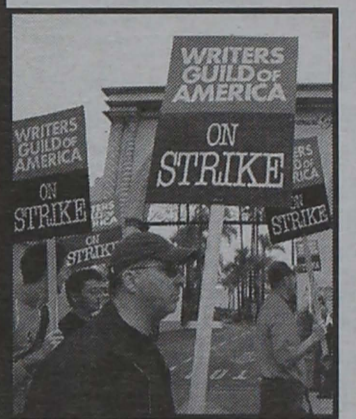
Matt Flyntz, Lane Taylor, Katie Callahan, Terry Kelley, Juliane Katz, Ryan Tole, Serena Mithboakar, Roger Lee, Kristin O'Brassill, Alex Ernst, Michael Silber, Danielle Langdon, and Ashley Drogalis

The Grizzly

Thursday, February 14, 2008

The student newspaper of Ursinus College

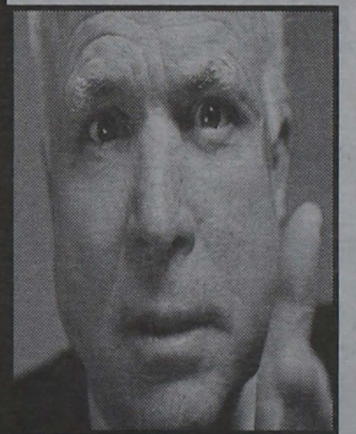
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Ellison Exhibits Artistic Prowess

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Writer's Strike May See a Silver Lining

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The Writer's Guild Strike is proving to hold strong as of now but a compromise may be in the near future. In a previous issue of *The Grizzly*, Megan Helzner wrote on issues concerning how television and movies are being affected. But what about the basics of the actual strike?

According to wga.org, on Oct. 31, 2007 the Writer's Guild of America's Minimum Basic Agreement expired. This contract covers approximately 10,500 members of the Guild in both the West and East sections of the country (this statistic does not take in account about 2,000 members that joined as a result of the expired contract). The writer's went on strike at midnight on Nov. 5, 2007, three days after notification of the strike, arguing for higher pay. As of now, about 31 interim agreements have been signed with companies like Spyglass Pictures, Lions Gate and 2008 NAACP Image Awards.

Hollywoodunited.blogspot.com tells readers that getting agreeable terms for the contract is the most important part of the process. With that, WGA strikers need to have depth to help with their cause; without the strikers their argument looks weak. If the lawyers can negotiate, the writers look like they will be going back to work very quickly. The site also says that the presidents of the WGA, Patric Verrone and Michael Winship leave it up to the members of the guild to decide if the contract is what they want. However, according to *Wikipedia*, AMPTP negotiator Nick Counter does not plan on negotiating while the strikers still stand.

What is the AMPTP? The AMPTP, the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers is footing the bill for the WGA's demands. AMPTP is a trade organization representing nearly 400 American film and television producers. There are eight key production companies within this alliance: NBC Universal, Metro-Goldwyn Meyer,

News Corps/FOX, Paramount Pictures, Sony Pictures Entertainment, Warner Brothers and the Walt Disney Company.

Helzner mentioned the WGA Strike of 1988 in her article. That strike cost production companies \$500 million dollars, \$870 million in terms of currency in 2007. As of Jan. 13, 2008, the loss of income already hit \$1 billion (*Wikipedia.com*). The strike of 1988 focused on DVD residuals. This year's strike is proving to be no different, except that there are added issues. One of these issues focuses on "new media," which deals with compensation from airings on the internet of television and movies. The writers, as of now, are not getting compensated for those sales. This includes money coming in from media sites like iTunes, along with sites like nbc.com and abc.com that replay shows and make money off the advertisements.

The latest hustle and bustle is whether or not the writers will picket the Oscars. While *Vanity Fair* cancelled their biggest party of the year—over 600 people included—the writers remain firm on their decision to stand strong and picket the award ceremony. With this, it is said many guests will be skipping the Oscars because they do not want to cross the picket line. Although somewhat devastating for the 80th Anniversary of one of the biggest events in Hollywood, it would easily be avoidable if negotiations would come to an agreement.

On Feb. 9, 2008 there was a general membership meeting concerning the MBA (minimal basic agreement that contracts the WGA for three years regarding its current writers) negotiations in Los Angeles, Calif.. The meeting was for current members only, where they discussed the progress the WGA made in terms of agreements with the AMPTP. As of now, negotiations are still pending and reruns of our favorite shows are still running.

For more up-to-date information, visit www.wga.org—the official site for the writer's strike. Photography on cover courtesy of *NYTimes*.

Ellison Unveils Art Exhibit in Berman

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Rob Ellison, a senior Art and Business major here at UC, most notably known for his ever changing red hairdos, is the first student to be invited and accepted to partake in the Curatorial Initiative program here at Ursinus in the Philip and Muriel Berman Museum of Arts. Ellison started college as a business major but declared art as a second major due to his passion for studio art and art history. He was inspired by a high school art history teacher. As part of the Curatorial Initiative program Rob has had the opportunity to work with the permanent collection in the vault at the Berman as well as conduct his own research to curate his own exhibit which opened on Feb. 2, 2008.

The process has taken over a year for Ellison to complete beginning with the initial ideas, research as part of the Summer Fellows Program researching the ethics behind moving the permanent collection at the Barnes Foundation, multiple visits to the Barnes Foundation and an in depth study of the permanent collections of the Philip and Muriel Berman Museum of Arts. Ellison describes his work as the following: "My exhibition draws on the permanent collections of the Philip and Muriel Berman Museum of Art at Ursinus College. The included objects are paintings, sculptures, and Pennsylvania Dutch pieces. This exhibition aims to foster a better understanding of

Albert Barnes' educational principles and methodologies by displaying objects in ways that reflect upon those demonstrated in the famous Barnes Foundation "ensembles." The display of objects from the Berman collections in this manner draws on Barnes' legacy."

The Barnes Foundation, located in Marion, Pa., has been a hot topic of interest in the past few years because Dr. Albert Barnes requested in his will that none of the artwork be moved. The Barnes Foundation's "scientific method" for studying and experiencing art provided a way for students to reach their own hypotheses and conclusions about pieces of art and their compositions. Barnes asked students to observe the aesthetic qualities of a piece by looking at the placement or arrangement of the elements of art in a work.

Ellison's exhibit can be viewed in the Upper Gallery of the Berman Museum on campus until Apr. 6, 2008.

News in Brief

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Thursday, February 7, 2008

Mitt Romney dropped out of his presidential campaign last Thursday, effectively sealing the Republican presidential nomination for John McCain. "I must now stand aside, for our party and our country," Romney told conservatives. Romney stated that "if I fight on in my campaign, all the way to the convention, I would forestall the launch of a national campaign and make it more likely that Sen. Hilary Clinton or Barack Obama would win. And in this time of war, I simply cannot let my campaign, be a part of aiding a surrender to terror," Romney told the Conservative Political Action Conference in Washington. This was a remarkable turnaround for McCain, who was out of cash and losing cash a mere seven months ago.

Friday, February 8, 2008

His face-to-face lobbying efforts not quite complete, Roger Clemens was back on Capitol Hill on Friday with two lawyers. The seven-time Cy Young Award winner began a second day of informal sit-downs with members of the congressional committee looking into the Mitchell Report on drug use in baseball. They were also looking into Clemens' denials of allegations by his former personal trainer, Brian McNamee, about injections of steroids and the use of human growth hormone. The world gets a chance to hear what Clemens will say under oath Wednesday, when he, Brian McNamee and New York Yankees pitcher Andy Pettitte are to testify at a House Oversight and Government Reform Committee hearing. Until then, the committee is investigating.

Friday, February 8, 2008

A 23-year-old woman killed two students in a classroom at a vocational college in Louisiana on Friday, and then took her own life. The students apparently were shot in their seats in the second-floor classroom at Louisiana Technical College. About 20 people were in the room at the time of the shooting. Officers ran into the building within four minutes of the first 911 call which was made at 8:36 a.m. "There was mass pandemonium, people running," one officer said. "One officer — the first into the classroom — told me he could still smell gunpowder." Police withheld the names of the shooter and the victims, ages 21 and 26, until their families could be notified.

The Grizzly

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Relief for Students?: College Endowments Skyrocket

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The numbers are setting all-time records. No, I am not talking about the Super-Bowl viewing audience. Instead, I am talking about college enrollments around the United States. According to Karen W. Arenson's article, "Endowments Widen a Higher Education Gap," featured in the *New York Times*, Harvard's endowment at the end of 2007 was \$34.9 billion, while Yale's had grown to \$22.5 billion and Stanford stumbled into the finish line in third with a mere \$17.2 billion in their endowment. Furthermore, a record 76 colleges and universities achieved endowments of \$1 billion or more in the previous fiscal year. Clearly, Ursinus' endowment of approximately \$130 million does not seem so large anymore. Ursinus' endowment, however, is not small. Fewer than 400 colleges and universities had an endowment of \$100 million or more out of 4,500 schools.

Harvard's endowment grew by \$5.7 billion last year alone. The \$5.7 billion dollars in growth was larger than all but 14 universities total endowments. Yale's endowment grew by 25 percent from 2006 to 2007. As a result, Yale receives \$1.2 billion in revenue a year from their endowment, which is about 45 percent of the yearly budget. These ultra wealthy schools are only getting richer while most other colleges are scrambling to build endowments that can matter. Phenomenal growth and extremely large funds have mostly taken place since 1990. Today star money managers were hired and took on riskier investments, which caused endowments to grow at large rates.

Heath Demaree, a Case Western Reserve University professor, commented on these large endowments by saying, "The widening gap of wealthy universities and rest of the education institutions has stratified the higher education system." The disparity between colleges is causing problems. Wealthier universities are able to give aid to families making up to \$180,000 or more, lure the best professors with large salaries and nice apartments and build

new research facilities. For example, Robert J. Birgeneau, chancellor of the University of California, Berkeley, states, "It will cost less for a student from a family with an income of \$180,000 to go to Harvard than for a student with a family income of \$90,000 to go to the University of California, Berkeley, a public institution." Moreover, public institutions are now relying increasingly more on endowments these days. Also, it is becoming increasingly more difficult for public institutions to stay affordable to low-end middle income students. It is clear these wealthy universities have significant advantages over universities with small endowments.

Consequently, colleges and universities raced to build their endowments as the advantages of having a large endowment became clear. In the past though, colleges and universities have not spent much of this new wealth. On average, colleges spend less than 5 percent a year from endowments. Harvard and Princeton have spent portions of their endowments that are larger than other schools over the years. On average, however, they have only spent about 4.8 percent to 5.2 percent of their endowments a year. Although people are donating to college and university endowments at record rates, not much of the money is being used for the students. Princeton's president, Dr. Shirley Tilgham, defends spending small percentages of an endowment by saying, "The last 30 years have been extremely prosperous. It would be irresponsible to spend more because we won't see the same level of prosperity in the next 30 years."

Lawmakers do not see the current spending levels the same way as Dr. Shirley Tilgham. As a result, the Senate Finance Committee demanded information last month from the nation's 136 wealthiest colleges and universities on how they raised tuition over the last decade, gave out financial aid and spent their endowments. Sen. Charles Grassley of Iowa commented by saying, "Tuition has gone up, college president's salaries have gone up, and endowments continue to go up and up." Grassley continued saying, "We need to start seeing tuition relief for families to go up just as

endowment value rise by 21 percent over the previous year and spent on average only 4.4 percent of the endowment. In response, the committee threatens to force colleges to use at least five percent of their endowments each year, as foundations must.

Presidents of wealthy schools have responded to the threat with plans of financial aid for low income and middle class families. For example, Yale's plan calls for a new financial aid program, which will cut student's tuition bill in half for low and middle income students. Student's with as much family income as \$200,000 per year will now qualify for financial aid. Moreover, Yale, which has had increases in tuition from 4.5 percent to 5.5 percent over the last five years, will limit tuition increases to 2.2 percent. Harvard also enacted a new financial aid plan targeted at middle class students. Harvard's new plan targets families earning \$120,000 to \$180,000. The school will cut costs to 10 percent of family income for families who fall in this bracket.

Presidents of not so well endowed schools have objected to the committee's threat. The president of Northwestern University, Henry S. Bienen, stated, "Universities are not like foundations. They have operating budgets, which can't be adjusted to upturns and downturns in the market."

For example, an economic downturn decreases endowment earnings but increases demand for financial aid. Clearly, schools will be affected by the Committee's possible mandate differently. Wealthy schools can easily oblige to the mandate while other schools may struggle to pay for their operating budgets. Record endowments have brought about some financial relief for students at some wealthy schools while raising many more questions for families putting their kids through less wealthy colleges.

Look for the follow up to this article, which will discuss the impact of Harvard and Yale's new financial aid programs on smaller school, such as Ursinus. In addition, the article will examine the paradox of rising tuitions even as endowments grow to record numbers. To read Arenson's article for more information on visit NYTimes.com.

Ursinus Designs New Certificate for International Studies

SERENA MITHBAOKAR

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It is nearly a cliché these days to say that the world has become a smaller place. But then, it has quite become the fact of life. We do not need explanations about how our world has become more interconnected than ever before. New state-of-the-art technologies seem to have dissolved nation-state boundaries and have improved the dynamics of international communications. And we, denizens of this global world, are keen to understand peoples and cultures different from us. Keeping this in mind, Ursinus has initiated the Certificate of International Studies Program in the fall of 2007. Upholding the liberal arts tradition that emphasizes critical thinking across many disciplines, Ursinus has created this special interdisciplinary program to internationalize students' college experiences.

The Certificate for International Studies has also been built upon enhanced study abroad and independent learning experience programs. The Certificate of International Studies is not quite a major or a minor, but is intended as a complement for students of any major who wish to add a learning experience that is international in its scope. The goal of this program is to foster an understanding of different nations, peoples, cultures and issues of global importance that affect different nations and the relationships between them.

Being an interdisciplinary program, students are required to take diverse courses covering global topics. Students are required to take 28 credit hours, with no more than eight credit hours taken from one department, program or in the student's major. At least two must be "G" courses.

There are three aspects to the Certificate of International Studies. The first aspect is that all courses are internationally focused. All of the qualifying courses are already listed in the course catalogue, and include "Peoples of Africa," "International Trade Theory and Policy" and "International Relations of Asia." The second aspect deals with taking four credits of courses that address global issues, such as human rights and environmental ethics. Students are also required to do an independent learning experience to obtain the certificate, meaning that they must complete either a study abroad program or an internship at an international site or at an organization that deals with international issues. Students may also take special topics when abroad and apply for credit.

There are many benefits to this certificate, especially after graduation. Ambassador Joe Melrose, Department Chair

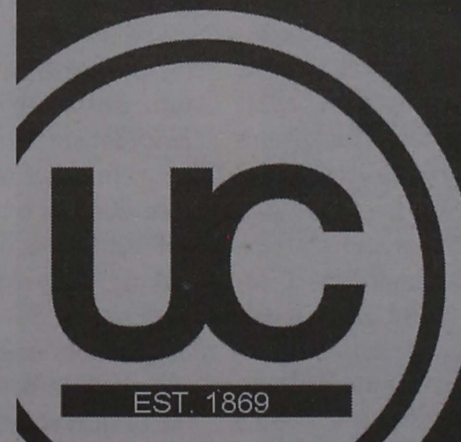
of International Relations Program, says, "This certificate is a wonderful addition to a student's experience especially those seeking to go to graduate school or applying for certain kinds of jobs." On a more intangible level, it makes students better and more effective global citizens, with a broader lens through which to look at the world.

Ursinus College
JOB & INTERNSHIP FAIR

February 27, 2008

12:00 - 2:30

Floy Lewis Bakes
Field House



www.ursinus.edu/career

Is Everybody Really Doing It?: The Indictment of the Greek Community at Ursinus College Surprises Many

Had this been another week, an article entitled "Is Everybody Really Doing It?" would have referred to the relationship between sexuality and social pressure; however, this week we have a far more pressing issue threatening the Ursinus Community that forces me to put sexual health aside. Now, that is a statement that I thought I would never have to write. Yet, recent administrative action against the Greek Community has forced me to reif only to educate the rest of the UC Community as to why New Member Education (or "pledging") has been cancelled. Of course, for me to explain it, I'd have to understand their actions myself.

On Monday evening, Dean Nolan informed the campus that President Strassburger ordered an immediate end to all New Member Education (NME). She explained that "the reports are troublesome and indicate that our current New Member Education System has veered from its intended place on our campus." The language was vague and the message simplistic; but in spite of this, the email blindsided the members of the Greek community and the campus not in attendance at the meeting with President Strassburger, during which the



LANE TAYLOR

Everything You Never Knew You Wanted to Know About Sex

Greek leaders were informed of the decision. At this meeting, discussion occurred, but the attendees were informed that the decision to end NME was non-negotiable. What could have triggered this drastic decision? We (the members of the Greek community not in attendance) wondered as we lay in waiting for our leaders to report back. Awful and dangerous NME activities must have occurred, we thought.

Apparently, this was indeed the case. One student undergoing NME reportedly vomited uncontrollably, another contracted Hepatitis A, while still others were missing class, informing their professors that this was due to pledging. All three of these cases (if I am accurate in my reporting) are simply inexcusable. The organizations responsible for these students should be held responsible for these alarming actions. I am not writing to acquit guilty parties, or even to deny that further investigation is needed. In fact, that is exactly what I am charging; further investigation is needed. Angry parents and professors are calling? With whom in the Greek community are their children/students associated? Generalizing the actions of the few with the actions of the many is irresponsible and

absurd. Yet, this is what has been done. Every Greek and potential Greek is being punished under the presumption that we are all guilty. A presumption, that as Americans, we strive against making.

What are the implications of this decision? One-third of the campus belongs to a Greek organization. We run organizations, participate in athletics and events, and promote the college through our collective, outstanding record of community service, specifically (but not limited to) Relay for Life.

Some would argue that this is simply the latest attack on the Greek Community (painting over our murals in Reimert is considered by many to be another), and the Greek Community is often used as a scapegoat for campus problems. Is it not the Greek community that promotes a safe atmosphere for alcohol consumption by undergoing social host training and registering parties? Also, Greek alumni contribute to the college financially annually; how will this affect their contributions?

As a member of the Greek community I am devastated by this decision because it has punished our potential new members, whose only crime was participating in NME to become part of a community that has contributed so much to the college. And, for what, the application of a target on their chests where their letters would rest had they completed NME? I am also devastated as a member of the UC community, because I understand the tremendous, positive impact that the Greek community has on this campus. In other words, NME has been cancelled, but at what cost?

Ursinus Community Shares its "Dirty Little Secrets"

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In many instances, people carry secrets with them to their graves. Some would argue that in today's society, we are more open to sharing our deepest secrets with friends, family, and the entire world. With the implementation of the "Dirty Little Secret" campaign at Ursinus, students were able to read hundreds of secrets and tell some of their own.

"Voice your opinions, stand up and be heard!" says Jared Rodrigues, Resident Director (RD) at Ursinus. Rodrigues gives all the credit to the seven RA's who stepped up to the plate making "Secrets" a reality for Ursinus. They got together and planned everything from advertisements to postcards, drop box locations and even designed the Facebook events page. Jared mentioned that "It was nice working with cool group!"

This group was inspired by PostSecret, the popular website that allows viewers to anonymously post secrets online for the entire Internet world to view. The site became so popular that creator Frank Warren turned the secrets into a book. Inside lies over 300 pages of secrets from all over the world. The Residence Life staff at Ursinus picked up on the trend and developed the "Secrets" campaign for a campus audience.

During its two week run, the event has seen an overwhelming student response. There are hundreds of secrets posted in Wismer Lower Lounge where large crowds often surround the decorative confessions. Junior Spencer Jones says, "I think the whole idea behind the "Secrets" campaign is clever and that it enables us to learn a

great deal about each other without actually knowing who did or wrote what."

That is the beauty behind "Secrets." Its anonymity makes it easy for students to post their secrets without worrying that people will find out. Besides, some of the secrets are all in good fun. Just ask sophomore Collin Commiskey. "Some of the secrets are just funny," he said, "especially when you know they are coming from people on campus. One or two I would take seriously, but the rest of them seem like jokes."

However, these jokes may not have everyone laughing. Some students may be disturbed by the more seriously-themed secrets. When asked how they felt about some of the postcards, a few students were turned off by them while others embraced them with open arms.

In either case, everything gets posted. This is to ensure freedom of speech on campus while promoting political wellness and creativity. Whether light-hearted or tear-jerking, it is hard to deny the unique artistic quality found in each secret. Some are typed and elegant while others sport edgy colors and an even deeper message. A sophomore stated, "I think people view them out of good fun. I think the project should be continued every year or at least dur-

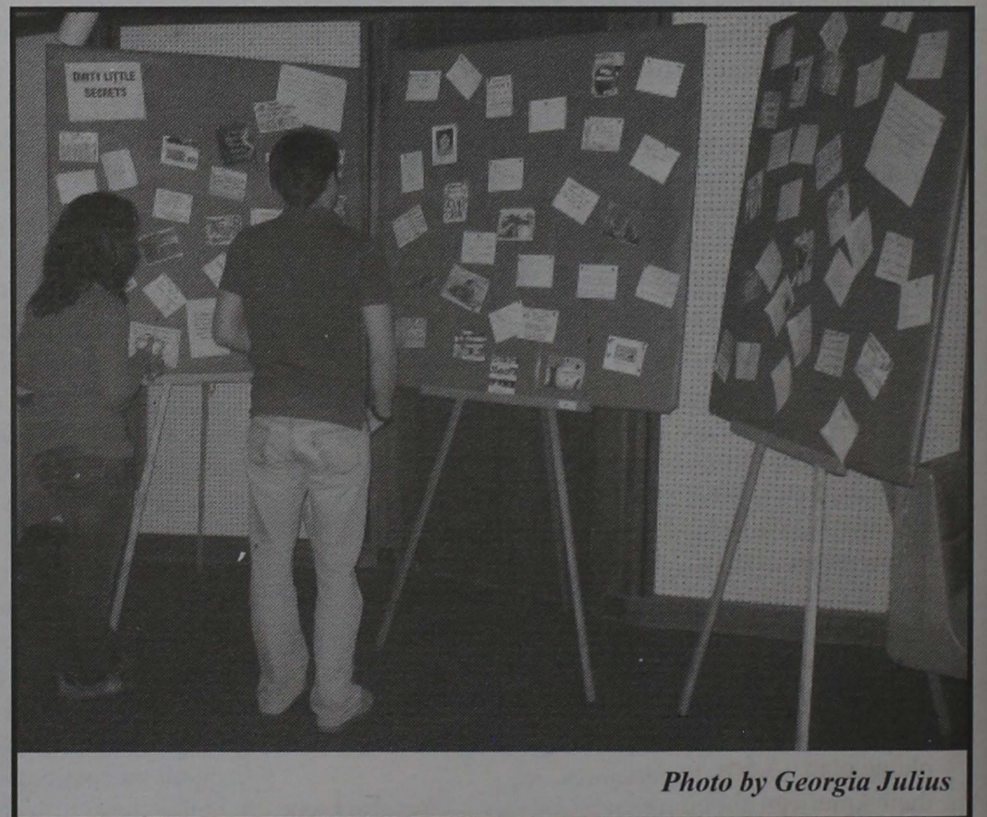


Photo by Georgia Julius

ing orientation."

With about 300 secrets posted, the campaign has definitely made a splash at Ursinus. Jared Rodrigues concludes, "I hope this has been a positive experience for everyone." As the project reaches its end, many wonder what will be done with all the postcards. Maybe they will form a beautiful mural or be pasted into a photo album. Only time will tell what will become of Ursinus's "Dirty Little Secrets."

FTN & Environmentalism: "No longer just for hippies"

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Ursinus College joined over 1000 other institutions this past week in discussing the most pressing issues concerning environmentalism and how it affects every individual. Focus the Nation is a widely publicized event that is an educational civic engagement initiative which is intended to help "people perceive that climate change is not simply another environmental issue to be considered or ignored, but actually a matter critical to the future of our society's affluence, and thus to our quality of life, both societally and individually," said conference co-chair Rich Wallace. "I hope the conference provided attendees with insight about why we should seek to balance our desire for a high quality of life with our concerns for the well being of future generations."

Wallace and fellow Environmental Studies faculty member Leah Joseph have been planning this event for over a year. It was Joseph's idea to bring it to Ursinus originally, and the feedback from attendees has certainly been in grateful tones.

Ursinus student Joseph Joyce stated that "I always hoped as a college student I would have the opportunities to meet and hear such great experts in their field...it was humbling, yet inspiring and rewarding to have the opportunity to listen to these presenters."

Many aspects of the issue of climate change were addressed in matters of urgency, but the presentation of

facts did not stop there. The information crossed over many boundaries, providing educational data of the effects of climate change for every demographic.

"There were a lot of beneficial examples of what good is being done in the fight against global warming," said student Sierra Guerin. "I thought that was really important because it shows the progress that is being made."

Here at Ursinus, numerous speakers and activists were brought in to share their own knowledge and ideas that will help the college as well as local communities strengthen progress toward environmental preservation. Among these guests were Richard Alley, Sara Steele, Heidi Cullen, musicians Dar Williams and Andrew Revkin (who is also a columnist from *The New York Times*), as well as State Representatives, Senators and Congressmen. All ends of the spectrum were represented in these lectures; writers, scientists, artists, and government officials joined together to bring important informative materials and perspective to the issues that affect us all.

"I was surprised to see so much interest from the community, but I thought it was great that there were many non-students attending the lectures," said student Laura Faith. "I think it definitely made everyone more aware."

The events primarily focused around global warming, pollution and clean technology investments. Issues such as the effects of climate change on animals, the economy, and the moral implications it has in the government were all addressed.

Student Martina Dzuna stated, "The addressing of

the moral implications that climate change brings about for the government and other institutions was very important, and brought the scope of the issue into clear view."

While personal opinions were important in presenting the perspectives of the activists who spoke on campus, many events were very educational. Most speakers allowed time for dialogue after their lectures so that a conversation could be established and attendees could voice their concerns and perhaps gain some answers from the experts.

"Overall, I thought it was great because it seemed like people really walked away with a lot," said student Gwen Gundrum. "People asked a lot of good questions that really opened things up."

The arts are distinctly involved in acting as a voice in support of awareness about climate change. Artist, feminist, and environmental activist Sara Steele offered a visual representation of how individuals can help keep the planet clean and out of danger.

"A lot of points Sara Steele addressed really got me thinking about how every bit that we can do counts for something," said local Christopher Kulfan. "Her presentation brought the issue close to home for me."

Overall, the event at Ursinus was deemed a success by the committees that set it into motion as well as those who participated. There are more initiatives continuing within the community and Montgomery County. For information concerning local farms and land preservation, visit mclt.org.

UC Study Abroad: Helpful Hints

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Study abroad applications are due this week, and while going abroad is an exciting experience and one definitely worth taking advantage of, many seniors wish they knew a little more before arriving to a foreign country.

The first tip is to go abroad no matter what the time frame is because it is worth the experience. There are a lot of different ways to study abroad, so if going away for a few months is intimidating or you have to stay on campus for sports or to complete your major, you can still study abroad during the summer or winter interim.

One of the things that I really wish I knew before going abroad is that whatever tuition you pay to Ursinus, you pay to study abroad. If you have a good financial aid package it could most likely work in your favor, but if your program costs only a couple thousand dollars and you pay full tuition to Ursinus, then you still pay full tuition to go abroad. If you're going on an Ursinus program then this makes sense, but because I applied through a different University I thought that I would be saving money. When the tuition bill came, I found out otherwise.

I also wish I was more cell phone savvy about phone systems abroad. Before we left for Japan, we had no guidance as to how to go about getting the most affordable cell phone plan. A few students in the program had converted their American phone chips with a Japanese one while others had purchased phones on eBay so they were set as soon as we arrived. Still others of us were scammed into renting ridiculously expensive phones with horrible plans and wasting a whole lot of money.

Other seniors who have studied abroad during their Ursinus career have some advice for underclassman as well. Meghan Helzner, who studied abroad on the UC Florence trip said that "When you're abroad, you can change your plane reservation (for a fee), but you can't change your

status as a tourist. If you have the tiniest idea that you might want to stay longer, you *must* apply for a visa before leaving the US. When I was in Florence, Italy, I got the idea to stay longer, went to the US Consulate, and tried to file for an extension to stay in Italy over Holiday Break; virtually impossible."

Frank DiMeglio, who also studied abroad in Florence, wishes he had been more prepared as far as what he packed. "I wish I knew ahead of time that European clothing sizes are much smaller than ours. I was planning on buying clothes in Florence...didn't work out too well. Also, I wish I knew to pack good walking shoes."

Erin Pollard, who studied abroad at Oxford in England through a program independent from Ursinus, had a jarring experience with regards to the different academic structure. Erin said the biggest thing that she wishes she knew was that schools overseas have a completely different philosophy. She commented, "Here were are paying customers and feel entitled to certain things (like not waiting in line for three hours); there, it is a privilege to attend school so we do things the school's way. Similarly, over there we are treated as adults and fellow scholars, and here we don't have the same type of respect. You would never dream of asking for an extension abroad." Pollard also raved about the extensive academic resources while studying at a larger institution, so while the academic structure was more challenging it was also a lot more rewarding.

It is unlikely these few tips answered all of your questions about going abroad, but hopefully it will get you thinking about some questions you may have about going abroad. Unless you want to go into the program blindsided, ask lots of questions to students that have already studied in these programs. While the study abroad office can help you with the technical stuff and your application, the student body holds the answers to the questions about the experience.

Career Corner

CAREER SERVICES

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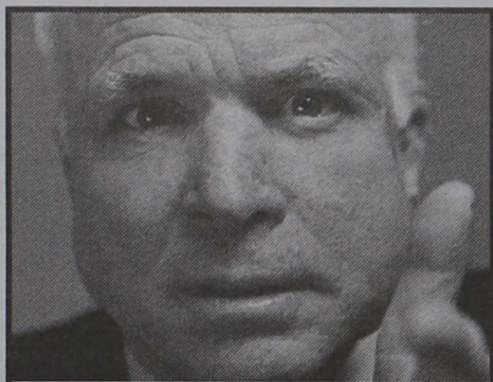
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Lessons from Super Tuesday

MATTHEW FLYNTZ

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Super Tuesday was an awful day for Republicans. This may seem a strange thing to say; after all, McCain, who practically emerged as the nominee, is likely the most "electable" Republican. In terms of picking the best candidate, they did a good job. Kudos, Republicans. However, they didn't do it in style; Democratic voters almost doubled Republican voters on Super Tuesday. Roughly 14 million Democrats voted, compared to roughly 8 million Republicans.



John McCain: GOP strongman or a sign of weakness within the party?

Democrats are very excited this election cycle. Given the lukewarm feeling many conservatives have toward McCain (Ann Coulter said that she favors Hillary Clinton over McCain – apparently

Hillary is "more conservative"), I'm not sure that the legendary Republican get-out-the-vote machine will be able to counter the enthusiasm of Democrats and Independents who are fed up with Republicans. Perhaps more importantly, though, I think Super Tuesday put on display the fractures emerging within the so-called "Reagan Coalition."

I view the Reagan Coalition as a strange grouping of three distinct political species: the Hawks, the Businessmen, and the Jesus Freaks. The first are all about national security; the second are all about low taxes and corporate hand-outs; the third are so-called "values voters." Ronald Reagan and George W. Bush (I'm not so sure about Papa Bush) both succeeded at keeping these groups together. They both made efforts to represent all three all at once. The Republican field this cycle simply did not have a "one size fits all" candidate (which may speak to the ridiculousness of such a notion, but that's another article). John McCain is loved by the Hawks (he's a war hero!), hated by the Businessmen (he voted against Bush's tax cuts!), and slightly mistrusted by the Jesus Freaks (I dun herd that Ann Coulter don't like this feller...). Mitt Romney was adored by the Businessmen (he saved the Olympics, yay!), shrugged off by the hawks (this guy doesn't have any military experience...), and hated by the Jesus Freaks ("Don't Mormons think that the Devil is Jesus' brother?" – Mike Huckabee). Speaking of Mike Huckabee, he was revered by the Jesus Freaks (All politicians should be Baptist ministers who want to tear down the high wall of separation between Church and State!), mistrusted by the Hawks (Christians can't be pro-war... I hate this guy!), and loathed entirely by the Businessmen (a populist Republican!? Who does this guy think he is, Teddy Effing Roosevelt?). So, no matter who the Republicans chose, they would have been faced with a candidate who two-thirds of their coalition didn't like.

That seems problematic to me. And I think polls can be misleading. Recent polls have suggested that an Obama v. McCain or Clinton v. McCain election would be very

Valentine's Day on the Campaign Trail

Saint Valentine's Day is always a magical time, but every four years it transcends the ordinary and is made extraordinary by the love (and lust) that surrounds the Presidential campaign. Each candidate is spending his or her special day differently, and we at *C/D* were able to get a sneak peak of the plans of some of the front-runners.

Hillary Clinton, we are told by a high-level aide who wishes to remain anonymous, will be celebrating Valentine's Day like she always does. She will first light some candles and sprinkle some rose petals around her bedroom. She will then bring Bill in and undress him, at which point she will step outside and bring in a high class hooker. She will pay the hooker very well to pleasure her husband, but here's the catch: she will be sitting in a corner, solving the *New York Times* crossword puzzle, glancing up every so often to make sure that Bill actually *isn't* enjoying himself. At the slightest hint of pleasure, she will maniacally beat him over the head with said *New York Times* crossword puzzle (The Arts section can be pretty hefty sometimes). Given that Valentine's Day falls on a Thursday this year, solving that puzzle may take a while; it looks like Bill's in for a rough ride.

Oh, and as a side note, since this ritual began in 1998 after the Monica Lewinsky scandal broke, Bill's record of making it through Valentine's Day without a flogging is 0-10. You know what they say, though: eleventh time's the charm!

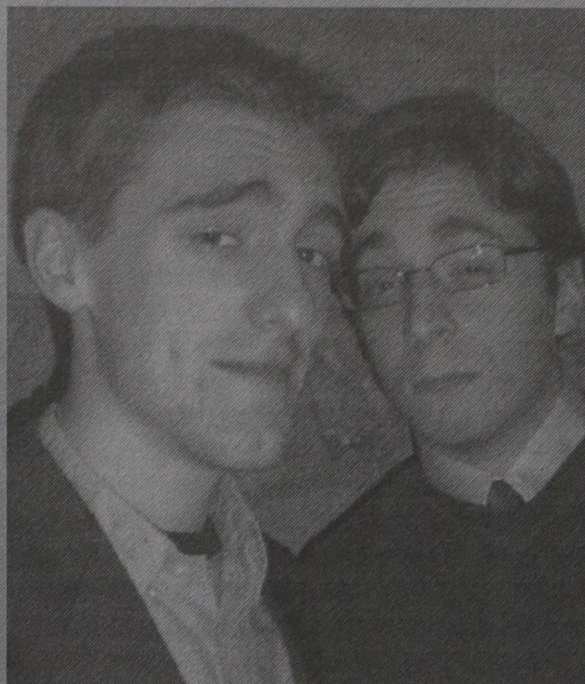
We were unable to get in touch with the Barack Obama Campaign, but we have heard rumors that one of Mr. Obama's top aides was recently told to pick up a bottle of Dom Perignon and a copy of Marvin Gaye's Greatest Hits.

In an interview with Mike Huckabee, we asked him how he would be celebrating St. Valentine's Day. He responded, "I do not celebrate this supposed 'Saint' Valentine's Day. This is nothing but Catholic nonsense masquerading as wholesome family fun. But you know what? Catholics, like Mormons, believe that the Virgin Mary was a crack whore and that she tried to have an abortion!

close, but I'm not so sure. Democrats are far more excited about their candidates than Republicans are about John McCain. Sure, John McCain can win over some Independents, but so can Obama (and Clinton, who I am convinced would have Obama on the ticket as VP). So, here's my theory: polls simply present a question: if the election were today, would you vote for Candidate A or Candidate B? They can't predict (especially this early in the cycle) the

This is not wholesome. When I'm President, I'll amend the Constitution to ban Valentine's Day celebrations in public schools, along with abortion, gay marriage, Darwinism, atheism, and pornography involving more than three people – because that's just excessive."

Last, we were able to get in touch with the John McCain Campaign. He stated that he would be celebrating what he called a "Valentine's Veepstakes." Yes, he would spend his Valentine's Day trying to court a Vice Presidential candidate. Through poetry, no less. Some of his poems were leaked to the press.



**MATTHEW FLYNTZ
DANIEL SERGEANT
Communism for Dummies**

"Courtin' Huck"

Dearest Mike Huckabee
You're as cute as a mouse.
It'll be you, Chuck, and me,
Chillin' in the White House.

Sure, your views are different than mine,

But hey, that's okay,
As long as you'll be my Valentine
On this Election Day.

"An Ode to Pawlenty"

Hey Tim Pawlenty,
No one knows who you are.
But I know you plenty;
You're the conservative Republican
governor of Minnesota'r.

I want you on my ticket.
You'll be my special guy.
Together we'll kick it;
Our limit's the sky!

The campaign released this last poem noting that it would only be used as a last resort, should all other plausible options fail.

"A Poem of Last Resort"

Hey man, how's it going?
I'm doing alright.
So, the stakes are growing
As we approach election night.

I need a VP,
And one with street cred.
So please be my Valentine,
Please, won't you, Jeb?

If you'd like to confess your adoration for Matt or Dan, please e-mail them at maflyntz@ursinus.edu or dasergeant@ursinus.edu.

level of excitement that will be felt on Election Day. I think that the excitement factor will favor the Democrats, allowing them to get many more voters to the polls.

So, Super Tuesday really showed the fragility of the Republican Party. Perhaps the Reagan Coalition can regroup in four years, but I don't see them coming together in November and celebrating a John McCain victory. I really don't.

Does *The Times* Need Bill Kristol?

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The New York Times is undeniably one of the largest and most respected newspapers in the world. The Times is generally perceived as having a liberal slant, especially on social issues. More notably, it is quite known for a wonderful line-up of op-ed columnists, and some subscribers read The Times only for them and their opinions. Most of these columnists seem to lean toward the liberal side of politics, although they all belong to different “camps” of liberalism, like popular best-seller Tom Friedman, a more hawkish liberal to an almost hippie-ish Nick Kristof. All of them vaguely help to define the liberal stance taken by the *New York Times*, which, for obvious reasons, does not wish to say that outright.

But near the end of last year, The Times announced that it would add another columnist, William Kristol. Honestly, I had never heard that name before, but the announcement article (very objectively written) explained in its first sentence that Mr. Kristol, “one of the nation’s leading conservative writers and a vigorous supporter of the Iraq war,” would become an Op-Ed page columnist for the *New York Times*, starting January 7 of this year. Well, there’s more to him. The article also mentioned that Mr. Kristol has been a fierce critic of The Times. In 2006, he said that the government should consider prosecuting The Times for disclosing a secret government program to track international banking transactions. He is also the editor and co-founder of

The Weekly Standard, an influential conservative political magazine. His father, Irving Kristol, was one of the founding intellectual forces behind modern conservatism.

Now he kind of stands out, doesn’t he? He used to be a columnist for *Time* magazine until he cut his relationship with the magazine in December 2007. The Times has never made it clear why they hired him, but the most appealing reasoning for his addition to the wonderful line-up of columnists seems to be that *The Times* wanted to diversify itself by having writers with all sorts of viewpoints, especially now that it has made available its op-ed columns for free online. That seems legitimate enough, but does the *NY Times*, in its probable haste, wish to lose its identity? Some might argue that it is fundamental for a democratic society to protect unpopular speech (as may be the case with Kristol’s direct verbal attack on the Democrats in a recent column), but it is not as if, without *The Times*’ help, Kristol’s opinions were being banned absolutely. Being an editor of a political magazine, Kristol does have a rather prominent platform from which to voice his opinions. But, then it is not entirely fair to its readers who seek to hear expert opinions from more liberal minded writers to see an extreme right-wing writer in the reams of the *NY Times* tradition. Maybe *The Times* is trying to maintain greater symmetry of political viewpoints; but readers need to learn from opinions as well. Just as there are conservative magazines, it is just as fair to have magazines focused entirely on liberal outlooks. The *NY Times* is not *wrong* in appointing Mr. Kristol, it just really seems out of place, and hence, bewildering.

Lessons from the Hormuz Strait

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Over the winter break, one of the scariest naval encounters in recent memory took place off the coast of Iran. On Jan. 6, five small speedboats reportedly belonging to Iran’s Revolutionary Guard approached U.S. Navy warships in the Strait of Hormuz and threatened to “explode” them. The coolheaded commander of the USS *Hopper*, a missile destroyer, trained guns on the attackers and they diverted their course a mere 200 meters away from the convoy. The small vessels left many questions in their wake, but I believe the most important question is: what should we learn from this?

Much has been made of this confrontation in our mainstream media, and why not? The story is packed with sensationalism. From “Remember the Maine!” to the *Lusitania*, nothing starts wars like mainstream media coverage of naval conflicts. And with the looming memory of the USS *Cole*, speedboat attacks still strike a very raw nerve in the American consciousness—and the military’s.

For the Navy’s part, the reaction has been vigilant pragmatism. They remember the *Cole*; they also remember the 2002 war games in which a simulated speedboat attack in the Persian Gulf decimated our surface fleet. Big ships are not great at defending against multiple small craft. This tactical truth led Germany and Japan—and the United States—to employ dive-bombing techniques against aircraft carriers in World War II.

Many in the armed forces believe the Revolutionary Guard was testing our rules of engagement. I personally think Iran is just trying to flex its naval muscle, and this event was another in a long series of boasts made against the considerable U.S. presence in Middle Eastern waters. Luckily, nothing happened to the *Hopper* on January 6, and

we’ll never be sure if the aimed guns or prudence of the Revolutionary Guard kept her in one piece.

Despite that uncertainty, we civilians can learn two important lessons from the events in the Strait of Hormuz. First, we must remember that when the mainstream media reports on military actions, they are trying to create a story—a war story. If nobody died, so much the better. That gives the journalists license to play up the drama, because no mother’s child’s sacrifice will be cheapened for the exaggerated narration. If you want to learn about military actions, don’t listen to civilian journalists. As much as I respect them, and *am* one, we just don’t know jack about what goes down or why.

The second lesson is less clear these days, and harkens back once more to the *Lusitania*. You don’t need WMDs to start a war. Conflict spinning out of control—that begins a war. Many in Washington would have us believe that the nebulous status of Iran’s nuclear program is cause for concern, but I am much more concerned with what one angry Revolutionary Guardsman might do with a speedboat and a homemade pipe-bomb. One ship damaged, one missile launched in retaliation—that could be all it takes. After all, we have based declarations of war on the *possibility* of a nation having weapons, to say nothing of actually using them against American military personnel. And while we are not on the bridges of those cruisers and destroyers, we still have a role to play: to not let war stories throw fuel on a fire. At the time of our invasion of Iraq, public support for the war was overwhelming. The support came largely from the rage we felt as a nation, a rage aimed at some faceless monster that lived in the desert. Our hatred was too big for just bin Laden—it spread across the region. A hawkish administration focused it into Operation Iraqi Freedom, and we let them.

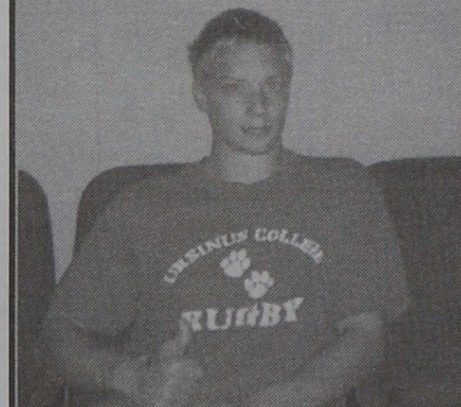
We cannot let ourselves be hoodwinked again.

“Juno” (2007)

Every few years, a pair of movies comes out with shared themes, but very different takes on that theme. Think “Armageddon” and “Deep Impact,” or “Volcano” and “Dante’s Peak.” Interestingly, in both pairs the movies did premiere in the same year. The flick this week is another case of a shared theme, paired up with “Knocked Up.” But again, despite sharing teen pregnancy with “Knocked Up,” the film manages to bring a very different

experience and message. With that I give you “Juno.”

Teenager Juno (Ellen Page) finds herself pregnant after having sex with her best friend Paulie (Michael Cera). She decides to give her baby away to a rich, seemingly perfect couple (Jennifer Garner and



ALEX ERNST
The Back Row

Michael Bateman), but as her due date approaches, Juno finds nothing is as simple as it seems at first glance.

If the above plot summary seems a little vague and oblique, it’s because watching this movie is much more about the journey than the destination. Ellen Page’s Juno is a character who hides her vulnerability behind her cynicism, and you can’t help but root for her and hope that she will find happiness as she navigates the already perilous labyrinth that is high school with an added handicap.

Simply put, Ellen Page is nothing short of fantastic as Juno. She is one of the most believable and identifiable teen characters put to screen in a long time. Michael Cera continues to deliver outstanding understated performances, coming through here as Juno’s confused best friend and father of her child. Also of note is the great chemistry between Michael Bateman and Jennifer Garner. The pair manages to portray a marriage that seems perfect on the surface, yet has deep underlying issues, no easy task.

Atmosphere is everything in a film, and Jason Reitman seems to have nailed it. From the movie’s semi-animated opening to the rockin’ indie soundtrack throughout, Reitman sets the tone in a way that captures the audience and draws it in. This fringe quality is maintained throughout, be it in the snappy dialogue, references to obscure horror movies, or even weird Anime comics about pregnant heroines. The bottom line is that “Juno” is a film with a lot of heart, and absolutely deserving of its Academy Award nominations.

For the pick of the week, I’d like to recommend a choice that will most likely disturb the bejeezus out of you, but is absolutely worth seeing as the other great showcase of Ellen Page’s talents; I’m talking about another independent flick known as “Hard Candy.” In the film, Page plays a 14 year-old girl who attempts to expose a potential pedophile. It is one intense movie, and another great example of why Ellen Page is an actress to watch in the future. That’s it for this week; until next time.

Alex Ernst wants to give props to Michael Cera for his golden short shorts. Now never wear them again. You can reach him at alernst@ursinus.edu.

UC Indoor Track Teams Make Big Moves, Heat Up Competition

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It might still be chilly outside, but that is not stopping the Ursinus Men and Women's Indoor Track and Field Teams from heating up the competition this season. With four meets under their belts, the teams geared up for some intense competition on Saturday, Feb. 2 at the Frank Colden Invitational held here at Ursinus. Athletes and fans packed the Floy Lewis Bakes Field house to watch UC take on the other 17 men's and 15 women's teams from around the area. The Frank Colden Invitational marks UC's highest placing meet for both teams so far this season.

Action on the track was exciting for UC men, with senior Brandon Evans taking second in the 55-meter dash with a time of 6.62. Another senior, Matt Granteed, took a first place finish in the 55-meter hurdles at 7.88 while freshman Jon Dickson placed third with a time of 8.22. The men also showed off their speed in the 800-meter run with freshmen Brendan Gifford placing third with a time of 1:59.28, and senior Ben Schumacher taking fifth place with a time of 2:02.10. A big accomplishment of the day for the men was placing second in the 4x200-meter relay with a time of 1:35.05.

Flying high, the Ursinus men remarkably captured third in the pole vault as well as third, fourth, and sixth places in the triple jump. The high jump was also a strong event for the Ursinus men's team. Evans took fifth place in the event, managing to hoist himself over the bar at 1.82 meters.

Our own "Dubble Vision" columnist, senior Jason Davis, placed tenth clearing a bar height of 1.77 meters. Teammate and sophomore Travis Youngs placed eleventh in the event with the same mark as Davis.

Not to be outdone, the Ursinus Women's Team put up a noteworthy performance as well last Saturday. UC captured a big win with the women taking a victory in the 4x800 meter relay with a time of 10:07.76.

The one-mile race was also a fantastic women's event, with Ursinus junior Christa Johnson placing third, freshman Alison Nolan taking fourth, senior Sarah McNally in ninth, and freshman Deb Yanessa rounding out the top ten. Yanessa and Johnson would both go on to place again later in the meet with a seventh place finish in the 800-meter run and a ninth place in the 400-meter dash, respectively.

Senior Jill Proniewych really excelled in the field events where she was ninth in the long jump and sixth in the shot put.

UC men finished in third place overall with a score of 73 points and the UC women came in sixth overall with a final score of 34. After their performance here, the men's team was ranked 19 in the Men's USTFCCA Division III Coaches Power Ranking. Junior Vinny Di Meglio shared his thoughts on the outlook for the rest of the season: "We have a strong freshman class on the track for both men and women, and some new throwers who should be able to pick up some valuable points for us this year."

Look for the Bears in their upcoming competitions on Monday, Feb. 11 at Haverford and on Friday, Feb. 15 at the Lafayette/Rider Games at NY Army.

Ursinus Wrestlers Clinch Dual Meet

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The UC wrestlers have had a booming season thus far and are only looking forward to continuing their success in the Centennial Conference Championships. "The season is going well although we had a setback with USMMA and Stevens but moving into the conference tournament we are looking better each day and working hard to make it six titles in a row," explains senior wrestler JJ Weltler.

The Bears pinned down both McDaniel (4-12, 0-6 Centennial) and Washington & Lee (4-5, 1-5 Centennial) in their dual meet this past Saturday afternoon. The wrestlers geared up for the CC Championships taking their record to 12-2, 5-2 Centennial. UC defeated the Green Terror 38-9 taking eight of the ten bouts before ending the afternoon with a 28-9 victory over Washington & Lee (W&L).

Chris Kearns, a 125 pound freshman on the team, kicked started the day with a 18-10 major decision win over Tim Hall. 133 pound junior, Steve Kingsland also joined in on the action picking up a forfeit win. Sophomore James Bloom racked in another win after a technical fall over Tom Boehm 18-3 at 141lbs. Chris Springer, a junior wrestler, then scored a 13-3 victory over Randy Neaton at 149lbs.

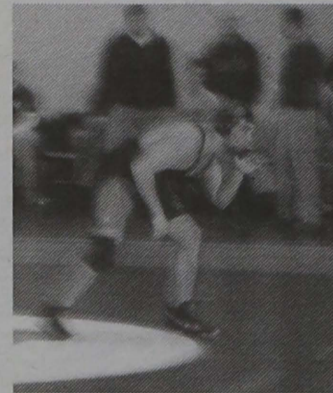
During the McDaniel meet the underclassmen made their moves as sophomore Michael Schwager (165lbs), freshman Luke Benko (174lbs), and freshman Nate Murren (184lbs) all pinned their opponents helping the Bears bring home a victory. Senior Harry Keyser then showed off his experience as a four year wrestler with a 20-11 major decision at 197lbs over Ferris Bond.

"The seniors are all trying to help and set the tone for the rest of the team by wrestling tough in every match. This year it took a little while for the freshmen to catch on to the team philosophy but they have begun to understand everything as the season has progressed. The team is fairly young this year but with the help of the seniors they should be set for the next few years," says Weltler.

The Saturday meets were only half over after the McDaniel de-

feat. Next came the W&L matches, which started with a forfeit at 125lbs as junior Lorenzo Salcedo, and a pin from Kingsland over David Shubick at 133lbs. This brought Ursinus to a 12-0 lead that only increased as the meet pressed on. The Bears increased the spread to 15-0 as Bloom won 13-11 over Sammy Brusca at 141lbs. W&L then gave us a run for our money as they won back-to-back-to-back matches decreasing the Ursinus lead to 15-9. But it was going to take more than that to defeat the Bears. Senior Josh Sabol picked up the first of four straight wins to end the bout defeating Robert Terrin 8-3 at 174lbs. Murren won 7-6 at 184lbs, Keyser won 18-8 at 197lbs, and senior Matt Williams pinned Zak Colangelo at 285lbs.

"Our team is a real tight unit as we have always been. We'll have a few bad days here and there, but when we are united as a team, I believe that we are very difficult to beat. That's going to be the key when we wrestle at the conference championships in two weeks. If everyone shows up and does the best that they can to win, we should be able to reach our goal and win the conference again," says Keyser. Ursinus will continue the action on Saturday, Feb. 23, as we host the 2008 CC Wrestling Championship.



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