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## The Grizzly, April 8, 2010

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# The Grizzly

The student newspaper of Ursinus College

Collegeville, Pennsylvania

Thursday, April 8, 2010

Vol 34, Iss 22

## First Annual Backwards Beauty Pageant held

By Ashley McComeskey  
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On Wednesday, Mar. 24, Sigma Sigma Sigma held their First Annual Drag Show to raise money for terminally ill children to receive play therapy. The 10 male contestants, dressed as women, participated in three categories: the talent contest, the question-and-answer session in their sleep wear, and formal wear.

According to Anna Larouche and Michelle Tetla, sophomore Sigma Sigma Sigma sisters who organized the pageant, "so much work went into this show." Planning began in February, after the idea was proposed by sophomore Abigail Robinson. Besides securing the venue, advertising, and selling tickets, male participants also had to be found and clothed.

According to Larouche and Tetla, "Our mass e-mail didn't seem to recruit anyone except for one man... so we sent out personal emails to the men we knew."



Men of Ursinus participated in the First Annual Drag Show sponsored by Sigma Sigma Sigma. The money raised was donated to terminally ill children so that they could receive play therapy.  
Photo by Audge Thrasher.

Meaghan Reid, a senior sister of Sigma Sigma Sigma said, "Each sister had to try to find a guy who was willing to put his pride on the line for the night!"

Hosted by Cydney Vandyke and Toni Quintilian, the Drag Show, or Backwards Beauty Pageant, started at 7 p.m. in Bomberger Auditorium. The guys first

showed off their talents, which included cart-wheels, dancing,

"Backwards Beauty" is continued to News, page 2.

## Ursinus senior to travel abroad for a year with Watson

By Caitlin Dalik  
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Ursinus senior Andrey Bilko has been awarded the prestigious Watson Fellowship for 2010-2011. The Thomas J. Watson Fellowship is a one year grant for independent study and travel outside the United States awarded to college seniors nominated by participating institutions.

Ursinus College is one of 40 participating institutions who can nominate graduating seniors.

Bilko will spend his year exploring the rich Jewish tradition of the post-Soviet world, which is making a strong resurgence. He will visit the Czech Republic, Hungary, Germany, Latvia, Kazakhstan and Russia.

Bilko explained that he became interested in applying for the Wat-

son Fellowship his freshman year at Ursinus. He said, "After attending Watson presentations during my freshman year and learning about Watson for the first time, I decided to apply for this once-in-a-lifetime, unique opportunity."

Bilko explained that it was his personal experiences with rediscovering his lost Jewish heritage that pushed him to choose to study the Jewish revival in post-Soviet countries. Bilko grew up in Ukraine before moving to York, Pa.

Those who practiced Judaism in post-Soviet countries faced a period of harassment and persecution which caused many families to stop practicing for their own welfare. Bilko experienced

"Watson senior" is continued to News, page 3.

## Kappa Alpha Psi and Seismic Step emerge on campus

By Jarod Groome  
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The annual Minority Overnight program held here at Ursinus aims to expose perspective students of color to several aspects of the Ursinus campus life.

They experience the food that they may eventually have to eat daily, see the students that they will potentially mingle with daily, sleep in the dormitories that they anticipate sleeping in, and most extravagantly experience the night life of our campus.

Always well-organized the perspective students are assigned to an Ursinus student, who is in charge of delivering the "inside scoop" on campus happenings and whereabouts.

By night's end, there has always been an event for the perspectives to enjoy. The event

that these High School students experienced was different from the events in pass years as two new organizations on campus performed in Bomberger auditorium.

Seismic Step, the new and only step team on campus, performed intricate steps and dances for perspectives, awing many members of the crowd.

Started by junior Leticia Walston, Seismic Step has now performed a couple of times, and their buzz is becoming louder and louder as they show a dedication to African-Rooted dance tradition.

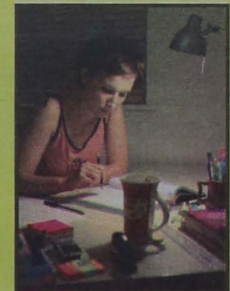
There goals are to become a team of close-knit performers who can always be relied on to deliver crisp steps, original dances, and a

"Kappa Alpha Psi" is continued to News, page 3.

### INSIDE:



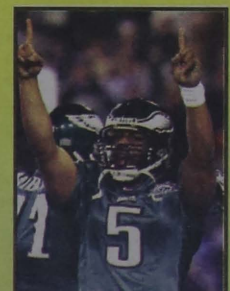
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International News with Lisa:

Sandstorms hit Beijing, New nuclear arms reduction treaty

By Lisa Jobe  
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Saturday, Mar. 20

**BEIJING, China** – While Ursinus students enjoyed warm, sunny weather on Saturday, sandstorms blasted the Chinese capital of Beijing, causing authorities to give the air quality a rating of 5, or hazardous.

The sand came from desert areas of Mongolia, and is an example of the environmental concerns

that analysts say will constrain China's growth in the long term.

Environmentalists say that the sandstorms are caused by deforestation and other human activities, and that rising global temperatures and "increasing pressure on water resources" are only making the problem worse. The Chinese government has spent millions of dollars on programs to reverse the damage by planting trees and protecting remaining plant life. (Reuters.com)

Monday, Mar. 22

**UNITED NATIONS** – According to a new report from the United Nations, contaminated water kills more people than all forms of violence, including wars.

The report, written by the United Nations Environmental Program, says the world faces a crisis in terms of the quantity and quality of available water, due to "continuous population growth, industrialization, food production prac-

tices, increased living standards and poor water use strategies."

The report calls for better management of wastewater, which it defines as a "combination of fertilizer runoff, sewage disposal and other animal, agricultural and industrial wastes." The report also suggests that better wastewater management is an economic opportunity, citing lower fertilizer costs, management positions, and incentives for companies that work to conserve wetlands and marshes. (CNN.com)

Thursday, Mar. 25

**The VATICAN** – According to newly released church documents, Vatican officials refused to defrock a priest who molested as many as 200 boys between 1950 and 1974 while working at a school for the deaf in Milwaukee. Letters between Wisconsin bishops and Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, the future Pope Benedict XVI, suggest that the ultimate goal was to protect the church from scandal.

The documents have come to light as the Pope faces other, numerous accusations that he and his subordinates failed to alert law enforcement officials in sexual abuse cases or discipline errant priests "when he served as an archbishop in Germany and as the Vatican's chief doctrinal enforcer."

The Wisconsin case involves an American priest, Rev. Lawrence Murphy, who was still a priest when he died in 1998.

According to the documents, then-Cardinal Ratzinger did not respond to letters from Milwaukee's archbishop regarding the Murphy case in 1996. (NYTimes.com)

Friday, Mar. 26

**WASHINGTON** – President Obama and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev have reached an agreement on a new nuclear arms reduction treaty. The treaty would limit both countries to 1,550 nuclear warheads, and replaces the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, which was signed in 1991.

As of now, the new treaty is scheduled to be signed in Prague on April 8. The treaty has yet to be ratified by the US Senate and the Russian Duma.

While both sides agreed to reduce their nuclear arsenals last year, there have been months of negotiations on elements of the treaty.

The agreement was made via telephone, and will reduce the American arsenal by about 25 percent, and the Russian arsenal by about 30 percent, because the United States' current arsenal is somewhat smaller.

Analysts are calling the move crucial in terms of timing and symbolism, because it allows the United States and Russia to "claim some moral high ground" in a summit next month on nuclear security. Both Obama and Medvedev hope that the move will increase pressure on Iran to "abandon any ambition to develop nuclear weapons." (BBC News Online)

"Backwards Beauty" is continued from page 1.

poetry readings, and even some singing. Then, the "ladies" changed into their sleepwear for the question-and-answer session.

All of the questions were different, and were not given to the participants in advance.

Quick thinking was apparent as the men answered questions like: "Pads or Tampons?" "What is the best advice you've ever received?" and "What's your favorite feature on a man?"

Finally, the contestants changed into their formal wear, and the judges deliberated. Ryan Sullivan won the competition,

with Ron Stranix as First Runner up. Justin Avery and Jason Mullins tied for Second Runner-up.

"The guys were wonderful sports about [the show]; they all got really into it and had a lot of fun. It was a joy to watch and we were really pleased with all those who participated and really appreciated their enthusiasm," said Tetla and Larouche.

"[The show] turned out well... plenty of people showed up, around 70 or 80."

While proceeds have not been counted yet, Larouche and Tetla estimated about \$300 was raised for the Sigma Sigma Sigma Philanthropy Foundation.

The foundation will donate the money to terminally ill children, so

that they can receive play therapy.

According to Reid, the Philanthropy Foundation that the proceeds are donated to was founded in the 1950s, when the sisters chose a permanent philanthropy to help out a fellow sister.

Sigma Sigma Sigma was the first and only national sorority to have its own Philanthropy Foundation.

Originally, all proceeds went to polio research.

Reid explained that since a cure for polio has been found, "All of our annual proceeds now go to play therapy for terminally ill children."

In addition to raising money each semester for their Philanthropy, the sisters of Sigma Sigma Sigma also make cards and gifts

for the children every month.

Reid said, "It's nice to know that we can have an impact on something much larger than ourselves and actually see that our efforts are being felt by those who are in need of a little sunshine in their lives."

Tetla and Larouche encouraged, "Come out next year so we can help more children!"

Comments sought for tenure review

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

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

Dr. Nzadi Keita (English)

Your feedback is strongly encouraged and will assist the committee in its review process. Letters should be sent to Dean Judith T. Levy, Office of the Dean by April 9, 2010.

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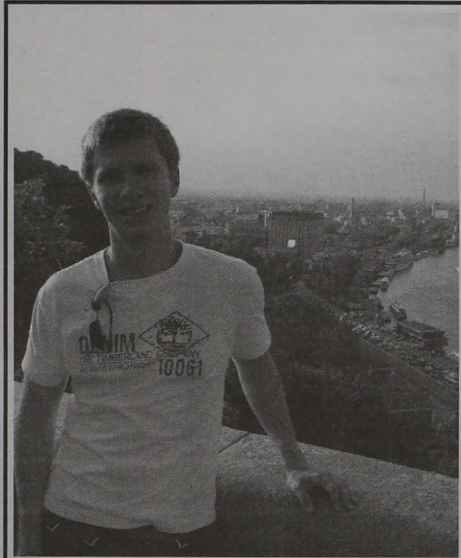
*"Watson senior" is continued from front page.*

the revival and was able to attend a Jewish day school and religious services as a child in Ukraine.

While Bilko is traveling through his chosen countries, he hopes to learn from elderly Jews who lived through the period of harassment in the Soviet regime and learn how the return of Judaism has affected them.

He also hopes to hear from the younger generation to see how their Jewish studies have affected their lives, much like his own.

He said, "I wish to see what makes some Jews come back to Judaism after so many years of not practicing and to look for reasons why other Jews are not involved within their Jewish communities, still hiding their identities."



Senior Andrey Bilko received the Watson Fellowship. Photo courtesy of Andrey Bilko.

According to a press release from the Ursinus College Communications Dept., Bilko has been an active member of the Ursinus community, serving for

ical track, wishes to be a doctor. With the opportunity to study for a year abroad, Bilko said, "Through the Watson, I will prove to myself that I can live on my own for a year in a foreign country, while meeting lots of new people and learning from them. I want to pursue my project and make more people aware of what Soviet Jews had to go through during many years of hardship."

Bilko stressed that his main piece of advice for students thinking about applying for the Watson is to, "Do it!" He explained that it is important to create a project that you are passionate about and that is important to you.

Bilko said, "The Watson Foundation's mission statement says that they invest into people not projects. If you can show that this project is important to you and convince them that you will be able to pull it off, you will get an opportunity of a lifetime!"

The Watson provides 40 selected students with a \$25,000 stipend for 12 months of study abroad each year. For more information visit the Watson Web site at [www.watsonfellowship.org](http://www.watsonfellowship.org).

AmeriCorps, participating in multiple organizations on campus, playing intramural sports, tutoring Ursinus students and students from the local schools in chemistry and math. Bilko, a chemistry major on the pre-med-

*"Kappa Alpha Psi" is continued from front page.*

flat-out performance. But these ladies do not always perform by themselves; the members of the new fraternity on campus, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, incorporated and delivered an intense performance in celebration of their new initiation into the fraternity.

Their performance included

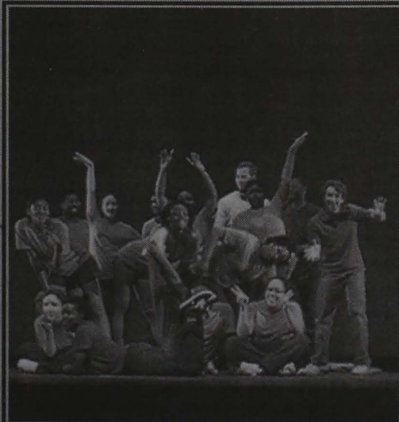
personalized performances of songs, skits, cane stepping and recitation of fraternal information. Gone since 2004, Kappa Alpha Psi is now back on campus, with new members, sophomore Jarvis Hudson, freshman Jarod Groome, freshman Luke Wagman and freshman Rodolfo Coplin.

A historically black fraternity that pushes for achievement and leadership, the restoration of the fraternity on Ursinus College

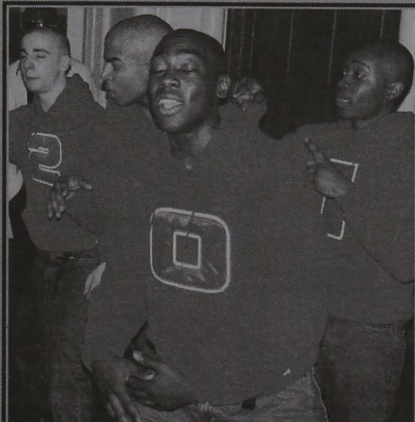
does a lot for the diversity of Greek community on campus.

Those in Bomberger on Saturday night experienced this bombardment of new culture on campus, and soon the campus as a whole will experience it.

The culture diffusion on campus, as it should be, will be one of the best qualities of our institution. What a great quality for minority perspectives to experience.



Seismic Step has been performing all over campus lately, including Airband 2010 (shown above). Photo by Katie Callahan.



Kappa Alpha Psi left campus in 1994 due to a lack of members. Here, men from the re-instated fraternity get the crowd excited. Photo courtesy of Jarod Groome.

## UC welcomes new field hockey coach

By Jessica Zatwarnicki  
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Spring sports are currently underway at Ursinus College, while fall sports are beginning their spring training to prepare their next season with bigger and better expectations. Field hockey is no exception to that, in fact this women's team is in the process of a major transition that not only shocked the players but the campus as well.

Laura Moliken, head coach of the Ursinus College Field Hockey team for 11 years, recently accepted the position as Athletic Director. Moliken had informed the team that she would continue to coach for one more year with a co-head coach

and then fully resign the following year. So, the hunt for a new head coach was on, and after interviewing several candidates Moliken announced that Janelle Benner, an Old Dominion alumnae and current

head coach at Manheim Central High School, had been offered and accepted the position.

Coach Benner, Coach Moliken, and the players know that the transition of a new coach will have its ups and downs, but most are optimistic that the change will be smooth.

"I am very excited to be working alongside Laura Moliken for this coming fall season. She is such an incredible coach and teacher. During this transition, the players will get a chance to really get to know me, which will allow the transition for the following year to go very smoothly," states Benner.

Many of the players feel the same way such as junior Michelle Wimmer who will be a part of the senior class during this transitional year.

"Since Coach Moliken is staying one more year I think the transition will be a lot smoother than just having a new coach take over right away. I am sure there will still be some difficult spots along the way

because Coach [Moliken] is leaving, but the team is good at adapting to new situations, so hopefully everyone settles in well with the change," says Wimmer.

Coach Benner has been coaching at the high school level for a few years but has no previous coaching experience at the collegiate level. Benner knows that there will be differences between the two but is excited to take on the challenge.

"There will definitely be an adjustment as I move from coaching at the high school level to the college level. College players have more experience, are more focused, and have greater intensity. When you decide to

play a sport in college, you are making a commitment to take your skills, work ethic, and competitiveness to the next level," admits Benner.

The transitional year will definitely be a testament to the field hockey team, and even though there will be many

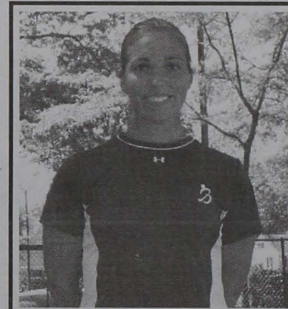
adjustments to overcome, the team and the coaches still have the same and even higher expectations as they do for each season.

"I think this coming season will be a strong one, and I believe we will all, as a team, help Janelle understand and see how our team works during practices, games, and overall our style of play. The first year Janelle takes over I feel will be a big building block, but I believe the team is still capable of doing great things," states Wimmer about the future of the team.

Coach Benner could not agree more.

"I am so honored to be part of the tradition of excellence at Ursinus College. My expectation is that each student-athlete will work hard to maintain a balanced college experience."

Be sure to support the Ursinus College Field Hockey team during the transitional year and future years to come, and get a sneak peak of the action on Sunday, April 25th during the Alumni Game.



New Ursinus Field Hockey Coach, Janelle Benner. Photo courtesy of manheimcentral.org.



## Career Corner: How to play up sports in your job search

By Career Services  
career@ursinus.edu

According to the NCAA, only one percent of college athletes go on to play professionally. Although most UC athletes will be trading in the locker room for the boardroom—be sure you celebrate your experience in athletics and highlight your athletic background on a resume and in an interview.

### ON THE RESUME:

Traits that athletes possess resemble those of a good employee: dedication, punctuality, and communication skills. This is especially true if you had a leadership position on the team, such as the captain. When creating resume bullets or descriptions— it's all about the keywords and phrases you use. For example, instead of stating that you were "Punctual to all practices," you could say, "Excellent time management skills. Balanced a 40+ hour practice, training, competition, and travel schedule, in addition to academics." Other key phrases to consider using

are "coachable," "dedicated," and "team player." If you were a team captain, focus on practical skills you used as a leader; for example, "effectively managed communications between 24 team members," "served as a liaison between the team and coaching staff," and "effectively resolved intra-team conflicts."

### IN THE INTERVIEW:

Although athletics may be a big part of your life, your interviewer may not have a similar background. It is very appropriate to mention your athletic background in an interview; just do it in moderation so you don't lose your interviewer. A good time to draw on lessons learned in sports is when responding to questions. When asked, "What is your greatest weakness?" an athlete could respond with a sports anecdote: "My competitiveness. In college, I was known to be very aggressive when playing basketball. But I've really learned to channel this energy. Instead of yelling at my competitors, I'll exert my energy into the game." And then relate to the working world: "I think

this will really help me for this sales position. I've learned to really thrive in a competitive atmosphere, and I think this will allow me to exceed my sales goals."

A successful career as an athlete says you have great potential as an employee. Do you have any of these qualities that can impress your future employer?

- You're accountable for yourself and your goals, but you also are used to working in a team dynamic.
- You can balance academics and sports, and you're used to managing your time.
- You have a strong work ethic and are dedicated to your goals.
- You're used to the public spotlight, and the pressure and scrutiny that comes with it.
- You have good mentoring and leadership skills, especially as a captain.
- You're proficient with team dynamics and dealing with different personality types.
- You have mental toughness and are able to handle let-down and defeat.

Adapted from Wetfeet.com

## Volunteering with St. Christopher's Children's Hospital

By Ashley McComeskey  
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While some students are nursing their hangovers or catching up on sleep every Saturday, other Ursinus students are driving into Philadelphia to volunteer at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children.

According to junior Innocent Turner, who joined the program this semester, each student volunteer is paired up with a child who is a short-term patient at St. Christopher's. "We do whatever



Photo courtesy of stchristophershospital.com.

Christopher's "has more than 270 pediatric experts on staff, combining top-notch general pediatric care with a wide variety of pediatric specialties." With nationally recognized programs, St. Christopher's can provide exceptional care to children both locally and around the world.

Previously, the volunteer program for St. Christopher's asked students to sign up to visit the hospital three times within the course of the semester. Now, Turner drives different volunteers every Saturday, instead of just a couple times a month. Usually, about five to eight students volunteer, and the group changes each week.

"One child who sticks out the most to me was at the hospital being treated for severe asthma symptoms. He kept saying that he was going home, and he was really excited. Unfortunately, he wasn't [going home]."

Turner explains, "He didn't want to talk to the staff members, but I asked if he wanted to play or make a magnet. At first, he just looked at me, but then a few minutes later, he came over, pulled my shirt and said, 'Can you help me make magic?' meaning a magnet. It was the cutest thing ever!"

While she enjoys playing games and meeting the children, Turner says that the best thing about the program is that "the children get to see that other people care...not just people who are expected to, like their parents and doctors."

"I think the kids really like us being there, too," Turner explains, "Being college students gives us an advantage. We're able to be an adult, but not too old that we won't roll on the floor to play with [the kids]."

According to their website, St. Christopher's strives for an environment that values "reverence for life, health and independence," along with "integrity, sensitivity, fairness and justice." Each week, the volunteers strive to keep these values intact, while the children, unknowingly, inspire the Ursinus students.

## Sex on Wheels: Documentary screening

By Josh Walsh  
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Last Monday, Mar. 22, Jenny Worley screened her work in progress documentary, "Sex on Wheels," in Musser Auditorium. The film follows the trail of the Sex on Wheels tour, a Colonial Williamsburg style bike ride on the hilly streets of San Francisco, complete with actors role-playing some of the city's most infamous ladies of easy virtue dating back to the Gold Rush of 1848.

Worley describes the film as an ode to the sex worker industry that flourished in the city since the California Gold Rush. Worley, who also worked in the sex industry, wanted to explore the way that the industry developed throughout different eras of American history. For example, the first sex workers in San Francisco were Chilean women who would do the men's laundry during the day and then moonlight as prostitutes. As degrading as some undoubtedly view the world's oldest profession, "Sex on Wheels" provides a complex portrait of the sex industry in San Franciscan history which vacillates between degradation and empowerment, often resting somewhere in between.

For instance, the tour takes us to the residence of a black prostitute who started working in the sex industry to support herself in California after escaping slavery. Not only was she able to support herself, but she also ended up as the owner of a popular brothel and a luxurious mansion (of which the actress playing her was standing outside in the film). Another sex worker, whose brothel was a favorite of the police, rose to become the mayor of the city. Such anecdotal tales complicate the notion of the sex industry as a last resort of desperation.

Prostitution, however, has always had its unsavory side. Included in the rough cut of the documentary are the Mitchell brothers, James "Jim" Lloyd and Artie Jay, who birthed the tradition of the stage fee. Before the Mitchell brothers, girls

were employed at strip clubs and were part of an actual faculty. After them, more and more clubs decided that their sex workers were private agents and had to pay to work on the stages on which they performed. Now, stage fees can run upwards of \$200 dollars a night. It may seem pointless to spend so much time discussing stripper financing, but it is actually a very pressing issue. High stage fees are one of the primary forces that drive sex workers into a life of prostitution.

After the screening, Worley participated in a reception where the issue of exploitation in the sex industry was explored. Worley emphatically stated that the sex industry could not and should not be boiled down into simple adjectives like "empowering" or "degrading." She discussed her own career in the sex industry. Her club was previously owned by a female-practiced racist division of labor and was of substandard quality. Worley helped unionize the strip club, turning it into a democratically run institution. Unfortunately, like many businesses, it has undergone "Wal-Martization:" large corporations have bought up huge chains of clubs and shut out localized competition.

Although unfinished, Jenny Worley's "Sex on Wheels" has huge potential to become a controversial foray into the history, morality, and impact of the sex industry. Conservative elements will likely find the openness of the film to the idea of prostitution as abhorrent. Nevertheless, if perfected, the film will open a window into a world often swept under the rug of history and will, hopefully, let in some much needed discussion on the reality of the sex industry.



Photo courtesy of farm2.static.flickr.com.



## Feeling good in the "Skin We're In"

By Sara Hourwitz

sahourwitz@ursinus.edu

In our everyday lives, many of us experience various types of pressure. Many feel the pressures of excelling in school or achieving future goals, and some people feel the need to be perfect in every way. A lot of us compare ourselves to other individuals, especially when it comes to physical appearance. Girls see a beautiful woman in a magazine and wonder why they can't look like her. Surprisingly, many guys feel this way, too. For example, a guy working out in the weight room might see the person next to him bench pressing one hundred more pounds than he can, making him feel self-conscious. Although comparing ourselves to others in certain respects may be destructive, the competitive society in which we live makes it almost impossible not to.

Freshman Alyse Reid wanted to change this behavior. Growing up in the shadow of two attractive and competitive sisters, Alyse struggled with her self-esteem. Not liking these negative thoughts, she decided to take action. After talking with friends and other important people in her life, she realized that she wasn't the only one experiencing these feelings. Through these encounters, she recognized how important it is for others to overcome their feelings of inadequacy.

During the summer of 2009, Alyse was motivated to establish "Skin We're In," an organization that brings self-conscious individuals together and helps them acquire self-esteem. Currently, Alyse is working on bringing "Skin We're In" to the Ursinus campus. It is not yet an official campus organization, but she is trying to make it one.

Alyse has been successful in

making students aware of "Skin We're In" and its cause. On Saturday, Mar. 20, the Campus Activities Board (CAB) sponsored an event on behalf of "Skin We're In." Callie Walker, a cast member from the popular MTV series *"The Real World, D.C."*, came to Ursinus to speak about her struggle with her body image. Callie discussed the negative feelings that she was having during the filming of the show that aired on national television. She told students about how her experience on the show helped her overcome her self-doubt. Callie emphasized the importance of appreciating yourself and being confident in who you are.

The first event on behalf of "Skin We're In" was a real success. A number of students, both girls and boys, attended the event and felt they could truly relate to Callie. Freshman Grace Gennaro said that listen-

ing to Callie's speech and seeing so many other students with similar feelings made her realize that she wasn't alone in her struggle to be confident. Grace says that she plans to become involved with "Skin We're In" once it is officially on campus.

With its first event being such a hit, organizers of "Skin We're In" are inspired to bring other programs to campus to promote its cause. Alyse has already contacted motivational speakers as well as a hypnotist for possible future activities. In order to make this possible, Alyse plans to hold fundraisers to raise money to conduct these programs. Her goal for "Skin We're In" is for it to develop into a national non-profit organization. Some of her friends at other colleges, who also support the cause, have requested her help with starting "Skin We're In" on their campuses.

## The sacrifice your body makes for [better] grades

By Gianna Paone

gipaone@ursinus.edu

On a college campus, all-nighters are far from uncommon—just ask the Campus Safety officers who close the library and check classrooms at night. Whether you're a habitual procrastinator or someone who simply finds 24-hour days to be too short to accomplish your workload, the sleepless schoolwork marathons are usually no picnic. Behind the bloodshot eyes, the coffee-coated stomachs, the persistent headaches, and the endless desires for an unattainable nap, however, may be symptoms that—though less obvious—are considerably more damaging to the sleepless warrior's health.

A recent study performed at Carnegie Mellon University, for example, highlights how an all-nighter could affect a person's immune system function. While the high numbers and rapid spread of common colds and viruses on college campuses are often blamed on close living and educating environments, the study's conductors ruled out factors such as environmental or social backgrounds and still found those who slept less than seven hours nightly to be almost *three times* more likely to develop a cold than those who slept more. They concluded that poorer quantity and quality of sleep in

the weeks leading to exposure to a rhinovirus—the cause of the common cold—appear to lower the body's resistance to illness.

Beyond a mere cold, the researchers note, "Much of what we know about sleep and health derives from...studies that...suggest that the lowest morbidity (coronary heart disease) and mortality generally occur among persons who report sleeping approximately 7 to 8 hours a night." The problematic physical health impact of all-nighters doesn't necessarily sneak up on its victims, either. Junior Danielle Chmielewski is no stranger to sleepless school nights, and she recalls, "I feel like my body systems start shutting down. I feel sick...like the day before you get the flu."

Such experiences can be just as damaging in terms of mental health; findings show a clear link between sleeplessness and depression. A study featured earlier this year in *Psychiatry Research*, for example, determined that depression symptoms were particularly higher for undergraduate girls when their bedtimes—if any—exceeded 2:00 a.m. Combining a heightened risk of depression—which the World Health Organization (WHO) predicts to be the second leading cause of disease by 2020—with that of the common cold, the all-

nighter is, essentially, a recipe for how to make one's self ill.

Chmielewski recalls interesting psychological effects unrelated to depression but undoubtedly due to sleeplessness. Having been awake for over forty hours, she remembered a feeling of "losing consciousness" without actually doing so and explains, "My mind drifted into a dreamlike state and, when I regained consciousness, I saw words on my computer that I don't remember typing. I typed the dream that I had with my eyes open!"

While all-nighters alone may be unsafe, many students put themselves at further risk for harm through various stimulants. Coffee and energy drinks are continuously debated in terms of safety, but greater concern lies in the use of prescription drugs. A 2005 study from *The American Journal of College Health* found that as many or more students reported "Helps me concentrate" or "Helps increase my alertness" compared to "Gives me a high" as reasons for illicitly using prescription stimulants, which are typically obtained from peers diagnosed with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and often include methylphenidate (Ritalin®) or amphetamine and dextroamphetamine (Adderall®).

Are the tasks, papers, tests, and overall successes worth the gamble of the all-nighter's health

risks? Interestingly, students' sleepless sacrifices often result in ironically fruitless efforts. In an article featured in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, Joel J. Gold, a University of Kansas English professor, claims that he can almost pinpoint the hour at which sentences that he describes as "mushy, wandering, and chaotic" were developed. "As one idea slides illogically into another," he explains, "I can practically see a clock registering 3:45 a.m." In other words, an assignment may be complete, on time, and perhaps even decent work, but areas where a professor can detect foggy 4 a.m. brain functioning can send a message of procrastination that's probably not in the student's best interests.

Also concerned with what kind of payoff student all-nighters held, one psychology professor surveyed 120 students at St. Lawrence University and found that students who'd never pulled an all-nighter had average GPAs of 3.2 while those who had done so averaged a 2.95. Thus, if knowing that you're at higher risk for colds, viruses, and depression doesn't keep you from limiting your all-nighters, perhaps the fact that they could actually *hurt* your overall academic performance will.

## Campus Events:

**Thursday, Apr. 8**

*Our Jewelry is Tiny, Shiny, and Oh So Dirty:*

*The Work of the Artist-run Non-profit Ethical Metal-smiths*-Christina Miller  
@ Berman Museum  
4:30 PM

*The Vagina Monologues*

@ Black Box Theater  
7:30 PM

**Friday, Apr. 9**

Bone Marrow Drive  
@ Floy Lewis Bakes  
Center Field House  
10:00 AM-3:00 PM

Relay for Life

@ Patterson Field  
3:00 PM - 9:00 AM

*"Drawing the Curtain:"*

*UC Students Speak on Censorship*  
@ Berman Museum  
4:30-6:00 PM

*The Vagina Monologues*

@ Black Box Theater  
7:30 PM

**Saturday, Apr. 10**

Ursinus Jazz  
Ensemble Concert  
@ Lenfest Theater  
7:30 PM

*The Vagina Monologues*

@ Black Box Theater  
7:30 PM

**Monday, Apr. 12**

*Germany Confronts its Past*-Rabbi Ismar Schorsch  
@ Musser Auditorium  
4:30 PM

**Wednesday, Apr. 14**

Day of Silence/  
Night of Noise  
@ Olin Plaza  
11:00 AM



# "Kyleigh's Law" profiles drivers by age in New Jersey

By Caitlin Dalik  
cdalik@ursinus.edu

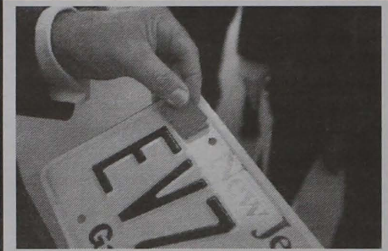
New Jersey just passed a law that will require drivers under the age of 21 to display a red decal on their license plates to identify them as young drivers. "Kyleigh's Law" will go into effect May 1, 2010. Drivers under the age of 21 who still have provisional licenses will only be allowed to drive between 5 a.m. and 11 p.m. and only have one non-family member in the car. Provisional licenses are given to new drivers once they complete their learner's permits. Provisional drivers can obtain their basic driver's license at age 18 with one year of provisional driving complete. The law is named after Kyleigh D'Alessio who died in a car accident when she was 16 years old. The decals will cost \$4 and will be placed on the upper left-hand corner of the front and back license plates. This will make New Jersey the first state to adopt such stringent rules for young drivers.

As a New Jersey resident, I have a huge problem with this

new law. First of all, it is simply profiling by age. Cops already target young drivers in New Jersey as it is. If we're going to bring attention to teen drivers with obnoxious red decals, why not have decals for everyone else? If the state wants to profile by age, why not place decals on the license plates of drivers over 70 years of age? Do they not cause a lot of careless accidents? I honestly believe that drivers over 70 should be re-tested frequently. I had a great uncle who was driving at 97 years old. I cannot even explain how dangerous that is. And why not have decals for people with speeding tickets, DULs, or multiple accidents? My fear is that if we keep placing decals on license plates in New Jersey that everyone is going to avoid driving near cars with decals for fear that they might get into accidents. However, this nervous driving could in turn cause accidents.

According to an online petition against "Kyleigh's Law,"

protestors argue that New Jersey residents can vote and die for their country at age 18, but if they have a provisional license they cannot drive past 11 p.m. How fair is this? You are telling me that we can send our young men and



As of May 1, NJ drivers under 21 will have to display a red decal (above) in the upper left-hand corner of the front and back license plates to identify them as young drivers. Photo courtesy of nj.com.

women to war but cannot let them drive when they please. When I was 17 and had a provisional license, I remember how frustrating it was to have to obey all the laws. Yes, I understand that I was an "inexperienced driver," but did I need so many restrictions? I found it very difficult to only have one non-family member in

the car. I remember my mom asking me if I could go pick up my brother and his two friends from basketball practice. I was not allowed, according to the law. I remember being asked if I could drive girls home from soccer practice so their parents would not have to come get them. Again, technically I could not. I also remember leaving work at midnight (the curfew was 12 a.m. when I was 17) and having to hope I did not get pulled over at 12:01 a.m. I think what many New Jersey residents are failing to notice is that many drivers under 21 have responsibilities. By 21, some people have children to take care of and jobs that require them to work late hours. Many of my friends make great money by bartending or waitressing late at night.

Another major problem "Kyleigh's Law" petitioners have with the law is that the decals do not only serve as a target for police, but to sex offenders as well. With an obnoxious red decal on their license plates, it will be easy

for people to follow young drivers home or stalk them in parking lots. This is a major concern for the safety of young drivers.

I understand the state is simply trying to crack down on the amount of unsafe teens driving and all of the careless accidents that occur each year. I also sympathize with the family of Kyleigh D'Alessio and all other families who have lost someone to a teen driving related accident. However, I do not think enforcing stricter laws and profiling by age is the way to bring about change. As everyone is pointing blame at teen drivers, I ask myself, where are the parents? I know my parents took driving very seriously and made sure to educate me about how driving is a privilege and a big responsibility. But perhaps, more important than dialogue about driving between parents and teens is the need for more education in schools. We need to educate teen drivers in schools about the risks of racing and distracted driving, but more importantly about how to drive safely and responsibly.

## Upper classmen off-campus living

By Stefanie Moyer  
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With housing selection here, many people have been voicing their opinions about how our school goes about this process and the guidelines as to where students are allowed to live. Unlike most schools on the East coast, Ursinus does not allow all upper classmen to live off-campus. It was not until two years ago that Ursinus offered an incentive to about 20 students to move off campus because the school did not have enough rooms to house all the students. With this incentive, students could live off campus without losing their financial aid which on average is \$8,000 and they could still purchase an Ursinus meal plan. According to the residence life office, they had an outpouring of students two years ago who wanted to take advantage of this. Because Ursinus is continuing to bring in larger and larger freshman classes without building additional dorms, the offer has been made available to a larger number of juniors and seniors. Unfortunately, not everyone that wanted to take advantage of the incentive was able

to because of the limited slots.

Why do so many people want to move off campus? Senior Katie Hunt wished she was able to live off campus the past three years because "other than New and North, the dorms are disgusting. The paint and plaster on my ceiling is peeling off, the carpet is stained, and the windows don't even fit the window frames letting in all the cold air. The bathrooms in my house just recently had soap dispensers and paper towels installed which does not make the house a sanitary place to live. I pay all this money to go to school here, the least the school could do is give us a nice dorm to live and sleep in."

Sophomore Arielle Leflar wants so badly to move off campus because of the lack of privacy she has with living in residential buildings. "I live in an all girls house and one would think that I could walk downstairs in a towel to go to take a shower but that isn't the case. Even though an RA lives in my house, the school still sends other RA's to walk through the house a few times in a night. Too many times I have been in my towel walking to the shower when a male RA walks in the door and each time I have felt

extremely uncomfortable."

Not only are students frustrated with the limited number of people allowed to live off campus but how the school goes about housing selection has also left many students disgruntled. Two days prior to when the class of 2011 is supposed to have the housing selection meeting, students still were unaware of what rooms were open for occupancy. Junior Emma Bacharach found this to be "extremely frustrating because I have less than 42 hours to come up with a list of back-up rooms in case my first choice is no longer vacant. And with only 42 hours, I don't have a chance to go and check out the various vacant rooms that are of interest to me. If the school is not going to give us adequate time to look at the open options, then they should at least provide us with pictures or dimensions of each room available so that we know what room we are signing up for."

Even though this is a stressful time of the year, hopefully everyone is able to get the room of their choice for the 2010-2011 school year.

Wow, there sure is a lot of school spirit at the Ball at the Bellevue.



Yeah, maybe a bit too much.



Michael Delaney 4/8/10

Interested in getting your opinion in the Grizzly?  
Contact Opinions Editor Zach Shamberg  
at [zashamberg@ursinus.edu](mailto:zashamberg@ursinus.edu).



# Hollywood relationships as a metaphor for what?

By Carly Siegler  
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And the Oscar goes to...Jesse James for his heartrending performance in the role of devoted husband, complete with genuine tears streaming down his face as he watched his wife, Sandra Bullock, accept her award for

Best Actress. By all rights Ms. Bullock should still be riding on high from her big win, should still have that post-Oscar glow. Alas, a lot can change in a month. SB is still America's sweetheart but what about her husband who "Entertainment Weekly" has deemed "The most hated man in America"? Nobody wanted to believe the girl in the Nazi paraphernalia when, just days after the Oscars, she came out and said that she had had an affair with James while his wife was off filming "The Blind Side." I, myself, would have liked to believe that stripper Michelle McGee was just looking for a quick fix of fame, but then Bullock backed out of the London premiere of her movie, the other women started lining up to tell their stories, and somewhere Tiger Woods breathed for the first time in months.

It is not my business to know what may or may not have gone sour in this picture perfect marriage that Mr. James felt the need to exercise such a gross lack of indiscretion. To be honest I have developed near immunity to the same sort of shock that most of America seems to feel over this recent instance in a string of high-profile breakups that include Reese Witherspoon and Jake Gyllenhaal (although these two were not married) and Kate Winslet and Sam Mendes. Don't half of marriages end in divorce these days? What are people so surprised about? That a spouse would cheat or that a spouse would cheat on Sandra Bullock? Women have always loved SB because they see themselves in her, so perhaps people are taking this so hard because if the girl-next-door cannot make it work, then who can?

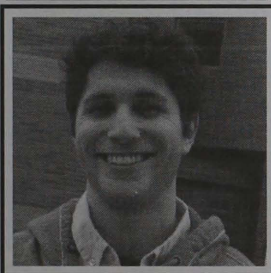
I was nine years old when Brad Pitt and Jennifer Aniston got married. By the time I was 15, Brad had three children with Angelina Jolie. Two boys and a girl later, Brangelina has been breaking up at least once a week, pregnant at least once a month, and if you are really following the tabloids closely, Jolie is currently engaged in an affair with costar Johnny Depp, while filming "The Tourist" in Italy. Despite all these rumors, it appears to be amore for Brad and Angie. Sure, their whirlwind romance beginning when Pitt was still married to Aniston provided more than enough fodder for the press, but after five years and all parties involved having seemingly moved on, why does the press still insist on picking apart this couple's every little unconventional-ity? How about Tomkat? Despite regular reports of blow-

ups on film sets, their sofa-jumping bliss does not appear to have worn off. So what if it all happened in a matter of months? So what if their baby daughter was a guest at their wedding? Nobody ever said that there was a norm to how love is supposed to happen.

Tabloids are so busy trying to slander couples who do not necessarily meet societal norms of what a relationship should be that they completely miss it when America's Sweetheart is being quadruple-crossed. Of course, at this point, they act as if they have been privy to these problems all along. Maybe that is representative of humanity as a whole. We worry so much about presenting ourselves to the world as normal that we forget that it is our quirks that make us interesting. It is when life loses its unconventional-ity that we should begin to worry.

# Shamerica: The end of acting and a word to all seniors

By Zach Shamberg  
zashamberg@ursinus.edu



All good things must come to an end, right? Have you ever really thought about that expression? Well, faithful readers, that's what the Grizzly editors pay me to do.

When you think about it, "All good things..." may just be the saddest expression we use on a daily basis. It implies that the things we've done for a certain period of time or for the completion of a certain task must, at some point, conclude. It is like saying that all the work we've done or all the positives we've created and established must irrevocably end. And we have absolutely no choice in the matter. German pop group Alphaville, creators of the song "Forever Young", asked, "Do you really want to live forever?" In other words, wouldn't you want to go out on top? Wouldn't you want things to end when you're living at an all-time high? It's why football players like Barry Sanders and Jim Brown retired. And it's why Michael Jordan, arguably the best athlete to ever play organized sports, retired in

the prime of his career to pursue an ill-fated attempt at baseball. All good things come to an end because, if they didn't, our memories might not be so great. I, for one, am glad all good things come to an end. And I'll tell you why.

This past weekend, my theater career at Ursinus College came to a satisfying yet heartbreaking end. On Saturday night, I walked onto the Black Box Theater stage for the final time. In front of what seemed like my entire extended family and many of my fellow classmates, I took a deep breath and spoke my first line of dialogue. And for the first time in my four years of performing at Ursinus College, I was terrified at the thought of leaving the stage.

I've spent the better part of my last four years in the studios and on the stages of the Kaleidoscope, rehearsing scenes, memorizing monologues, or performing for my friends and family. I still remember nervously walking to the Black Box Theater as a freshman to audition for "Two Gentlemen of Verona." I can picture myself now: I was far too thin, my hair hadn't been groomed in months, and I performed my monologue in a horribly comic British accent (which, as I found out, did not fit with director Domenick Scudera's vision for the play). In short, I was a mess. I also told both Professors Scudera and Beverly Redman that my major was "pre-law," to which I was politely informed, "Umm... we don't have a pre-law major

here." But even with my horrendous appearance, my ignorance of the Ursinus curriculum, and my very-"Monty Python" audition, the directors took a chance on me and cast me in "Two Gentlemen" as one of the lead characters. And I never looked back.

Four years later, I was speaking in a fairly refined British accent as Dr. Frederick Treves, personal surgeon to John Merrick in "The Elephant Man." The play, which went absolutely wonderfully, is about normalcy, acceptance, and the humanity within us all (check out John Moriarty's review and critique for a much more thorough plot explanation). In the previous three performances of "The Elephant Man," I simply entered and exited, spoke my lines, and bowed when the play was finished. All in all, I did my job.

This time, however, was unlike any theatre experience I've ever had. Everything I would do would be for the very last time. Before the play began, I walked through the halls of the Kaleidoscope and took notice of the places I'd stood years earlier and the corners I'd found to recite lines just minutes before a show. I recalled pre-show warm-up exercises from previous plays: The freestyle rapping from "Picasso." The voice training from "Seeing Double." The group huddle from "Sexual Perversity." And the endless reciting of the song "I'm on a Boat" from "Anne Frank" (yes, you read that correctly). It all assisted me in one way or

another. It all helped to create some of the best shows I've ever been a part of, and that includes my fourth grade production of "The Wizard of Oz" (I was a Tony Award-worthy Scarecrow).

Sitting in the dressing room, moments before entering onto the stage, I looked around the room at the underclassmen who were so vital in bringing "The Elephant Man" to life. And at once, I was both jealous and extremely saddened. These men would have years before they would find themselves in my position. To those cast members: enjoy your time on stage at Ursinus, guys. It doesn't get much better than this. Standing on stage for those final few scenes, I took time to look out into the crowd and really take in the magic of theater. Nothing else on Earth can bring a group of strangers together quite like a compelling story and actors willing to tell it. When the story was over and we walked out to take our final bows, I was overcome with joy. And sorrow. And regret. And anticipation for what's next. But mostly, I was happy to have been a part of something truly good for the last four years. And like all good things, my theater life at Ursinus came to an end. Just like that.

I could potentially dedicate this article to many different people, but I really want this message to reach the seniors of Ursinus College. Seniors: please, please read this and understand that, very soon, you'll be leav-

ing this institution and entering grad school programs, places of work, or the front doors of your local unemployment office (I'll see you there). But I beg of you: instead of worrying about what lies ahead, relish the final moments of your college career. Take a walk around campus and admire the blooming flowers and truly bizarre statues. Stop and take a good look at the buildings you enter and exit every day, the paths you walk to and from, and the places on campus you frequent more than others. Most importantly, savor the time spent with fellow club members, team members, colleagues, and close friends. Theatre would not have been theatre without the amazing directors, designers, and cast members who worked with me on each and every show. Stop and remind yourself why it is you do what you do: the activities, the classes, and the time spent with friends that you love. I'll miss Ursinus theater for the wide variety of shows I was able to perform, the men and women who guided me through rehearsals, and the people who acted alongside me. From Domenick to Bev, from Scott and Boots to Brandon and Will, from Karin to Brooke—you all were there for me, and you made Ursinus a truly wonderful experience.

Seniors: take this next month to appreciate your last four years. Stop to smell the roses. Or, at the very least, stop by the Kaleidoscope. I'll show you around.



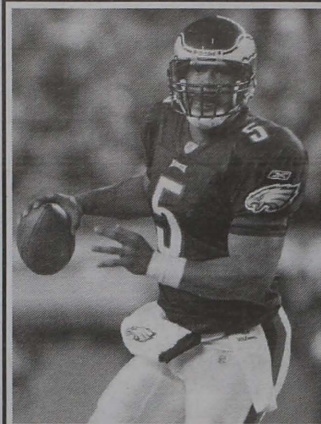
# Phillies crush Nationals in wake of McNabb trade

By Chris Michael  
chmichael@ursinus.edu

On Easter Sunday, the eve of the Phillies season opener against the Washington Nationals in D.C., the Philadelphia Eagles traded franchise Quarterback Donovan McNabb to the Washington Redskins. The Eagles will receive a second round draft pick in 2010 (37th overall) as well as a third or fourth rounder in the 2011 draft.

After listening to trade offers for McNabb as well as quarterbacks Kevin Kolb and Michael Vick, the Eagles decided to part ways for McNabb after 11 seasons, six pro bowl appearances, five NFC Championship games, and a trip to Super Bowl XXXIX. Although the Eagles have traded McNabb inside the division, head coach Andy Reid felt that the compensation was right and that Washington was a good fit for

McNabb. While McNabb may be better off on the Redskins than a team like the Oakland Raiders, the Eagles will now have to face McNabb twice in the regular season. The trade has not just improved a division rival, but sent away the best quarterback in Eagles history. The Eagles front office will have their work cut out for them in the upcoming 2010 NFL draft as they have 11 selections in the draft, including five of the first 87 picks. The 2010 draft class is considered to be one of the deepest classes in years, and the Eagles may not be done dealing yet. It would not be a big surprise if the Eagles packaged some draft picks together to move up in the draft, perhaps to take safety Eric Berry of the University of Tennessee Volunteers. The Eagles seems to be in re-



Former Philadelphia Eagles Quarterback Donovan McNabb was traded to the Redskins. Photo courtesy of Getty Images.

building mode despite going 11-5 last year as they will rely even more on younger players such as DeSean Jackson and Brent Celek in 2010. A new era starts in Eagles football as Kevin Kolb takes over

the starting QB duties and the only player remaining on the roster from their 2004-2005 Super Bowl run is kicker David Akers.

The Phillies are no stranger to controversial trades themselves, as they made headlines this winter for trading prospects to the Toronto Blue Jays for Roy Halladay.

After President Barack Obama threw out the first pitch, the spotlight was all on the two-time defending NL champions and specifically new additions Halladay and third baseman Placido Polanco. Neither would disappoint.

Halladay pitched seven efficient innings giving up one run and striking out nine. Polanco, a Phillie from 2002-2005, had a great return to the red and white pinstripes going 3-for-5 with six RBIs, including a two-out grand slam in the 7th inning. Every starting player had a hit, even Halladay who certainly lived up

to the high expectations placed on him. The Phillies won 11-1, and were finally victorious on opening day game after losing the last four opening games. Following the series in D.C. against the Nats, the Phillies play three games on the road against the Houston Astros where they will face former Phillies Brett Myers, Pedro Feliz, and Michael Bourn. The Phillies will make their 2010 home debut in Citizens Bank Park on Monday, Apr. 12 at 3 p.m.

## On This Day In Sports...

1966 - AFL chooses 36 year old Al Davis as commissioner

1974 - Hammerin' Hank Aaron hits 715th HR, breaks Babe Ruth's record

1994 - Darryl Strawberry enters Betty Ford clinic

To write for Sports, contact  
Matt Campbell:  
macampbell@ursinus.edu.

# UC Gymnastics closes season with success

By Gianna Paone  
gipaone@ursinus.edu

Only four and a half tenths of a point, or 0.450, kept Ursinus' gymnastics team from achieving their season's goal at the ECAC Championships: to qualify to compete as a team at the National Collegiate Gymnastics Association (NCGA) Championships. Nonetheless, closing with four individual event finals qualifiers, six All-American awards, and one first place All-Around Champion title, the team's season undeniably offered a successful turnout.

Head coach Jeff Schepers explains, "We started out a little rocky with several injuries, but we progressed from there and remained on a steady incline throughout the season."

Ursinus claimed individual qualifications on each of the four events. Senior Kira Oldham-Curtis, the team's only gymnast to compete in all four events, qualified as an All-Around competitor, joined by Freshmen Stephanie Schmidt and Johanna Warren as well as Sophomore Elle Kurz and Junior Veronica Perry on the Vault. Warren, along with Juniors Danielle Chmielewski and Jacki Clymer, also qualified to compete on Bars. Chmielewski and Sophomore Katherine Gelinne claimed spots on Beam, while Perry, Schmidt, and Sophomore Andrea DeToro received those on Floor.

Individual qualifications are weighted partially on how often and how successfully a gymnast performs on an event throughout the season and partially—but more heavily—on how she performs at the ECAC Championships.

"We fell just short of qualifying as a team," says Schepers, "but the individualists who made it were well-deserving."

Many of their performances at the NCGA Championships proved just that. Tying the school's record of 38.375, Oldham-Curtis claimed the gold in the All-Around competition on Friday, Mar. 26. The second of Ursinus' achievements of this title within three seasons, the feat qualified Oldham-Curtis into the following day's finals competition on all four events. Warren joined Oldham-Curtis on Bars, while Gelinne's Beam performance and Schmidt's Floor routine earned each of them a qualifying spot—that is, one of fourteen spots per event—also.

The following day was no less victorious, with Oldham-Curtis earning another gold—on Beam—where Gelinne followed in ninth, earning All-American titles for each. Oldham-Curtis's thirteenth place on Vault and fourth place on Bars, where

Warren joined with a twelfth place finish, earned the weekend's final three All-Americans. Additionally, both the team's seniors, Oldham-Curtis and

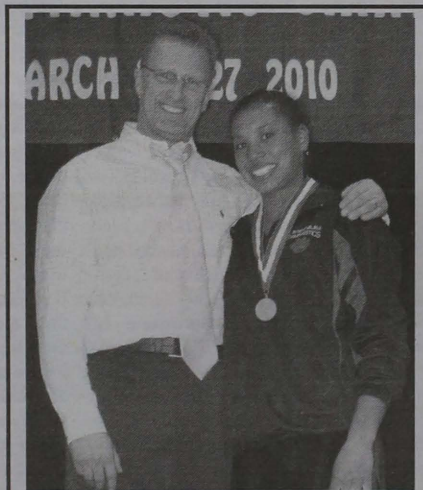
Championship win on Floor from 2009 along with numerous All-Around and event winnings throughout seasonal competitions over the past four years.

The NCGA victory was climactic in her eyes as well. Recalling the team's 2010 slogan—Go BIG or go HOME—she explains, "I gave it everything that I've been working for over the past years and thought to myself: Don't hold back because this is the last meet of your life as an All-Arounder. I've been doing gymnastics since I was four-and-a-half-years-old, and I wanted to end my career with a bang."

The national champ was certainly not alone in celebrating her feat. As soon as 2nd place was announced, she explains, "My teammates and I all started cheering and crying.

I was so happy that I was finally able to accomplish my goal and that I had a bunch of teammates there to support me." Other gymnasts and coaches were eager to show their support, too; as Schepers explains, Kira will not only be sorely missed by Ursinus, but also—he suspects—by Division III gymnastics as a whole.

Along with competitive achievements, Kira received Ursinus's Linda L. McIntyre Award in 2008 for her attributes, involvements, and attitudes as



Gymnastics Head Coach Jeff Schepers and Senior Kira Oldham-Curtis. Photo courtesy of Gianna Paone.

Gianna Paone, were awarded All-American titles in academics based on their GPAs and academic performances at UC. For Oldham-Curtis, the competition—which Schepers describes as "the perfect way to hit the pinnacle of her sport and to leave as a senior"—secured the capstone in her series of top three All-Around finishes at the NCGAs; last year's performance landed her in third, while 2008's placed her in second. She also holds an NCGA

a student-athlete. She has also achieved a high enough All-Around score to be eligible for Division I regional competitions if she'd been attending one of several other Division III schools.

Schepers explains that it's been a pleasure working with the two seniors, and that while Kira has been a "rock" of the program, "our other senior has been one of the best bar workers to come through here and who probably leaves having done much more than she'd expected to." Along with a memorable conclusion, the Bears' season encompasses a second place finish at Temple's Liberty Classic, where they defeated both UPenn, a Division I team, and West Chester, a Division II team. At their last home meet of the season—Mar. 5—they succeeded in breaking the school's record for team total on Bars, reaching a 47.350. Schepers looks forward to the several talented athletes returning next year.