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Nick Pane

Liz Kilmer

Caroline Edler

James Noebels

Samantha Mascia

See next page for additional authors

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Authors

Nick Pane, Liz Kilmer, Caroline Edler, James Noebels, Samantha Mascia, Lisa Jobe, Michael Schmidt, Sophie Zander, Sarah Bollert, Lauren Goldstein, Melissa Rutkowski, Anna Larouche, Anjali Patel, Victoria Cameron, Matthew Johnston, and Shane Eachus



Dates for Charity event breaks record

Caroline Edler
 caedler@ursinus.edu

On Wednesday night, Feb. 16, the 2012 AIRBAND Committee and Residence life teamed up to present the annual Dates for Charity event.

This year's \$1,041 in proceeds beat last year's record of \$ 1,010, and went to Victim Services of Montgomery County. The donations will support the Center's ability to stay free and reliable to the public.

Samantha Cermignano, co-director of the AIRBAND Planning Committee, stays in contact with Victim Services, a local non-profit charity which was "hand-picked" by the committee itself. Victim Services Center is extremely benevolent to the public of Montgomery county, providing extensive care for crime victims and their loved ones, as well as a manifold of other services including prevention education

programs and professional training for those who work with victims.

The services directed toward aiding the victimized are provided in a "myriad of ways," Samantha says, such as individual counseling, support groups, crisis intervention hotlines, accompaniments with hospital and police circumstances, as well as safety programs for all age groups. Most importantly, Victim Services provides all assistance for free to anyone in need, while remaining confidential in all their philanthropic work.

"I think Dates for Charity went extremely well," Samantha says, especially since all but two members of the committee were new to planning the event.

This year, the team added Residence Director Reese Rechnitz to their planning committee.

"We had more people that

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Ryan Pugliese/The Grizzly

Members of the Phi-Kappa-Sigma Fraternity on stage during the Dates for Charity event last week. The brothers offered their company on a picnic to the highest bidder.

Student curates new Berman exhibition

James Noebels
 Senior Staff Writer
 janoebels@ursinus.edu

The Philip and Muriel Berman Museum of Art's latest exhibition, "Holding the Eyes and Soul: Object and Viewer in 2012," Object and Viewer in 2012, opened with a two-hour ceremony on Wednesday, Feb. 15.

The exhibition is the culmination of senior Renaissance Studies major Michelle Ermatinger-Salas' work through the Curatorial Initiative.

Under the direction of Associate Director for Education Dr. Susan Shifrin, Ermatinger-Salas devoted the second and third semesters of her independent study in conjunction with her

self-designed major to create an exhibition focused on early modern art and the ways viewers in the Renaissance observed it.

Although she realizes that contemporary art observers may take for granted the ways they see art, she said she "wanted to explore Renaissance theories and ideas and use them in relation to the contemporary works that the Berman holds in its vaults."

"I wanted to highlight the fact that in the early modern period...people were obsessed with the way they looked at objects," said Ermatinger-Salas, recognizing that contemporary viewers may see art differently than those of the past did.

"There were theories and different practices to understand how the eye saw and the mind sorted.... I wanted our contemporary mind to take and try and understand these practices and look at the pieces."

Ermatinger-Salas' exhibition focuses on "ocularcentrism" or eye-centeredness of the early modern period and invites visitors to use the method in viewing more contemporary pieces. She has placed German artist August Sievert's (1820-1883) "The Little Connoisseur," in particular, in a plastic case rather than hanging it, so that "we can get close to the work, very much like the young child is leaning into the painting [within the painting.]"

In the background of Sievert's piece is a partially hidden man engaged in the act of painting. But nearer to the observer is a small child interacting with a separate painting of a battle and horses.

"The painting with which he is interacting rests on the floor at his height," she said, "which makes everything so immediate and lifelike for him. And although we will never catch the gaze of either the adult or the little boy, we are entranced by the intimacy and sweetness that the child represents for us. We are drawn to stand close to him, directed both by his physical engagement with the painting on the floor and the line of the pull string of his little

toy."

"The Little Connoisseur," one of Ermatinger-Salas' favorites, is one of the pieces at the beginning of the exhibition. She said she hopes it will let visitors begin "to interact with the art as if we were directly interacting with these people we see depicted or with that particular scene represented for us."

"The Renaissance put a new emphasis on the human being as the center of attention," she said. "Where the viewer stands is something we need to think about to allow us to see the painting as the painter wanted us to see it."

Among those who attended

See "ART" on pg. 2

MajorPalooza highlights options

Samantha Mascia
samascia@ursinus.edu

According to the College Board, the majority of college students change their major at least once, and many students switch several times.

Although this fact may come as a surprise, most college students can reaffirm the accuracy of this statement.

College is a time for students to pursue their interests, learn more about themselves, and explore new opportunities that they may not have ever previously had the chance to.

The Career Services Department is an excellent resource for students who are undecided on their major to explore all of their choices, and what would best fit their personality and interests.

In addition to offering assistance to students with resumes, graduate school applications, and job searches, Career Services also strives to do everything that they can to help students pursue the major that they will find most rewarding.

In an effort to provide students with ample resources in choosing their majors, Career Services features an event open to all students

known as MajorPalooza.

MajorPalooza is an event that has taken place annually for the last several years with the goal easing the pressure that some students may face when declaring a major.

This is done by answering any questions that students may have about different majors and how that may fit into their career ambitions.

Michele Poruban, one of the Career Advisors, explains that "all of the professionals in The Career Services Office (CSO) are regularly discussing the needs of students. To accommodate student schedules, a walk-in format was used."

This format was implemented so that students could talk one-on-one with a Career Advisor, who could more easily review more material in more detail with the student when it was most convenient for them.

The brevity of these one-on-one interactions is designed so that Career Advisors may establish a rapport with students to encourage them to utilize Career Services even more in the future.

Ms. Poruban and Amy Brink, also a Career Advisor, stress that they welcome students from

all class years, whether they be freshmen or seniors.

Brink and Poruban agree that one of the most common student concerns is that the major that they choose will not fit in with what kind of job they take in the future, and worry that they might be limiting themselves.

Brink reminds these students that majors "are not one size fits all" and continues to explain that a liberal arts school, such as Ursinus, gives students an advantage in having a curriculum that is designed to allow all students to explore all disciplinary fields.

In addition to declaring a major, changing majors or adding a minor or second major can be stressful on students as well, and advisors such as Brink and Poruban have had a lot of experience in dealing with these types of situations. Brink encourages students who are considering a different major to "never say never."

She explains that "it is always negotiable - you can recreate yourself in a day and start a whole new direction. Ultimately, you have to go where your passion and interests are, and you need to be honest with yourself."

Poruban said that students need to "explore the pros and

cons of academics paths, because when you come across interests later, it might lead to different graduate school paths or new job positions" that a student might not have previously considered. "If there's a problem, you can always solve it."

For students who are still undecided about a major, Poruban encourages various courses of action, such as "informational interviews, shadowing, participating in an internship, partaking in professional organization events, working with a mentor, and attending networking events."

In the end though, Brink reminds students to "take a deep breath - you always end up where you're supposed to be."

In addition to Career Advisors like Ms. Brink and Ms. Poruban, there are many other materials that can help students, such as their Guide to Choosing a Major, Major Analysis worksheet, "What can I do with a major in....," and the Four Year Plan Guide. Available online is also a tool called FOCUS 2, an assessment that allows students to research and

further explore major options on their own time.

A link to FOCUS 2 can be found on the Career Services website at www.ursinus.edu/Net-Community/Page.aspx?pid=730. LinkedIn, an online professional network designed for people to make personal connections, can also be used for students to "conduct a people or group search based on a major. Various results can be found including job titles related to the major, or professional organizations a student could join for free," explain Brink and Poruban.

Students who would like more information can contact Career Services to schedule an appointment with Ms. Brink or Ms. Poruban anytime during the week: Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. through 5 p.m.

Walk-in hours are available on Wednesdays from 1 p.m. through 5 p.m.

To make an appointment or pick up copies of resources referenced in this article, please stop by the Career Services Office in Bomberger 110.

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Wednesday's opening were President Fong, trustees and patrons of the Museum, and two artists, Clifford W. Lamoree, of Philadelphia, and Ted Hallman.

There will be a special opening of "Holding the Eyes and Soul:" Object and Viewer in 2012 this Friday at 3:30 p.m. for the support staff of the College who did not have the opportunity to attend Wednesday's opening.



August Siegart (German, 1820-1883), "The Little Connoisseur (detail), 1863. Oil on canvas, 18 1/2 x 15 1/2", Gift of Mary Downs /The Grizzly

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International News: U.N. weighs in on Syria, Russians Protest Demanding Fair Elections

Hundreds Perish in Prison Fire

Thursday, Feb. 16

COMAYAGUA, HONDURAS

Authorities began the grim task on Thursday of identifying the victims of Tuesday's massive prison fire, which killed a total of 355 people.

Families have moved to the capital to wait for news of their relatives.

The government has promised a full investigation into the fire and acknowledged that the prison system needs reform.

Foreign experts are traveling to Honduras to help identify the victims, many of which are so badly burned that DNA and dental records will be needed.

Firefighters say that they could not get into the cells to rescue prisoners because they could not find guards with the keys.

Some survivors say the fire started when an inmate set fire to his mattress. Authorities are also investigating an electrical failure.

Many of the inmates were being held on suspicion of gang connections, and were not actually convicted of a crime. The prison, built for 500, had 800 prisoners at the time of the fire, according to a report. *(BBC Online)*

U.N. Urges Syria Cease-Fire

Thursday, Feb. 16

UNITED NATIONS

The U.N. General Assembly overwhelmingly approved a resolution demanding that Syria end its violent 11-month crackdown on protesters. The resolution, which was approved on Thursday, also endorses an Arab League plan that calls on President Bashar al-Assad to yield some of his power.

The resolution has no enforcement provisions and is largely symbolic.

It was approved with a vote of 132 to 12, with 17 abstentions, highlighting the growing isolation



Lisa Jobe

International News

tion of Syria's protectors in the U.N., particularly China and Russia. China and Russia both voted against Thursday's measure, and also vetoed a similar measure two weeks ago.

The new measure also calls for a special humanitarian envoy to Syria. Syria's ambassador to the U.N. denounced the new resolution. *(The Washington Post)*

Prison Riot Kills Dozens

Sunday, Feb. 19

MONTERREY, MEXICO

At least 38 people died during a prison riot in northern Mexico

on Sunday, a security official said. Inmates took a guard hostage as violence erupted in the prison early Sunday morning.

Some prisoners also set mattresses on fire. Federal and state police had the situation under control later in the afternoon, according to state-run news.

It was not clear what caused the clashes, which occurred in a part of the prison where inmates were serving time for drug trafficking offenses.

Authorities also did not clarify whether the dead were inmates or employees at the prison.

It was also unclear how many people were injured in the incident. Dozens of people were gathered outside the prison to find out whether their family members had died. *(CNN.com)*

Moscow Streets Lined with Protesters

Sunday, Feb. 19

MOSCOW, RUSSIA

Hundreds of Russians protesting against Vladimir Putin drove through Moscow on Sunday, just weeks ahead of the March 4 presidential election expected to seal Putin's grip on power.

Cars moved slowly through the city, competing with a rally of around 2,000 Putin supporters just hours earlier.

Many of the cars were adorned with white ribbons and balloons, which have become the symbol of the protest against Putin's 12-year rule.

A police official said 150 cars had taken part in the protest calling for fair elections.

Putin's supporters say he helped increase the standard of living after the collapse of the Soviet Union.

His opponents are often middle-class urban Russians who feel they have no say in politics and that Putin's decision to run again for president was thrust upon them. *(Reuters, hosted on News-Daily.com)*

Grenade found on, removed from campus

Mike Schmidt

mischmidt@ursinus.edu

Last week, a member of the Facilities Services staff encountered a rare problem when he discovered an old grenade in the basement of an "unoccupied campus house."

An e-mail from Director of Campus Safety Kim Taylor reassured students and that the problem was being dealt with appropriately, stating that there was "no need for alarm nor a call to evacuate campus" at the time.

The grenade was discovered at approximately 1 p.m. on Thursday, and the Collegeville Fire Chief was immediately notified.

A bomb squad was called in as a precautionary measure during the process of removing the grenade, which was determined to be inactive.

"Trappe Ambulance was also called on scene as a precaution."

Taylor said.

Taylor's emergency e-mail kept students in the loop as the situation was dealt with, and she maintained contact with the Collegeville Police Chief until the process of removing the grenade was completed.

It isn't the first time some students have received an e-mail from Taylor alerting them to a somewhat bizarre campus occurrence.

Upper class students will remember the 2009-2010 academic year, when a police pursuit spilled into college arms and then part of the campus and a suspect was apprehended in front of student onlookers by local police.

Not surprisingly, though, Taylor hopes these kinds of occurrences don't become regular at Ursinus.

"This is my first experience with a grenade on campus," Taylor said in an e-mail. "I'd like to think it is also my last."

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came to watch the show, we had more people offering dates, and I think everything went relatively smoothly...it shows how much we've improved." Said Samantha.

Co-director of the AIRBAND planning committee Katie Fegan

agrees that they have a lot to be proud of, being that they even had less "big ticket" items than last year.

There were some truly excellent items auctioned this year, however, such as the dinner for eight at Dean Nolan's house, a picnic with Phi Kappa Sigma, four tickets to the B*Naturals

Spring concert, and "breakfast in bed" offered by Sigma Sigma Sigma.

"I think Dates for Charity turned out to be pretty darn close to perfect," Samantha says. "We'll be evaluating our successes and failures as a group later and hopefully we can produce an even better show next year."



Ryan Pugliese/The Grizzly

On Feb. 11, CAB sponsored "Jazz Night," featuring the Blue Note Jazz Society.

Judge Scirica speaks to Ursinus

Sophie Zander
sozander@ursinus.edu

Norristown is not a bustling town of political or cultural intrigue; streets are studded by pizza parlors and small businesses and townspeople are generally most invigorated during the spring's Stony Creek fishing tournament.

While the town itself may be humble, Norristown is the birthplace of Anthony Joseph Scirica: Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit and Chair of the Executive Committee of the Judicial Conference of the United States.

Judge Scirica visited Ursinus on Feb. 15 and received a warm reception from students, faculty and alumni eager to listen to and discuss the judiciary, political, social and personal spheres that together compose his robust life.

The night began with a dinner that filled the Bears Den with laughter and conversation.

The dinner was followed by a presentation attended by President and Mrs. Fong, the Chairman of the Ursinus Board of

Trustees, Jeff Corson, members of the Ursinus College Mock Trial Team, students enrolled in the Moot Court class, the officers of the Haines Barnard Pre-Law Society, other pre-law students, and several members of the Ursinus College Law Alumni Group.

Scirica's visit was made possible through the efforts of Jim Baer, attorney in residence, and Jeff Corson.

This opportunity made an impression on those in attendance, such as Kate Lechleitner, a senior politics major.

"Judge Scirica's presentation on his life and legal career opened my eyes to the possibilities that a legal education has on a person's career and life. It was also amazing to interact with Judge Scirica on a personal level. He is such a soft-spoken, nice and intelligent man, all of which are characteristics that some students do not anticipate from a person in his position," Lechleitner said.

After graduating from Wesleyan and receiving his J.D. from the University of Michigan in 1965, Judge Scirica became a Fulbright Scholar at Central University in Caracas, Venezuela

in 1966.

He served as an Assistant District Attorney in Montgomery County and in 1966 practiced law in Norristown with the law firm of Scirica and McGrory.

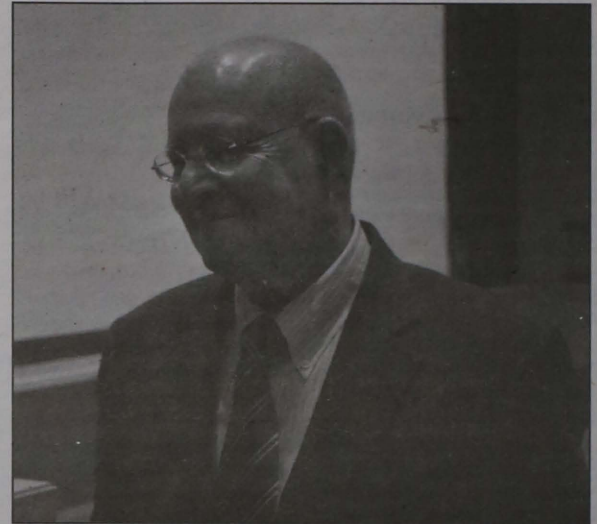
In 1971 he was elected to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives where he drafted the state divorce code, the sentencing guidelines act and the witness immunity act before being named to be a Judge of the Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas in 1980.

In 1984 Judge Scirica was appointed by President Reagan to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, and three years later was elevated to the Third Circuit Court of Appeals where he served as chief Judge from 2003-2010.

In 2010, Judge Scirica was given the Edward J. Devitt Distinguished Service to Justice Award, an honor that truly reflects all of the work he has done in his life thus far.

In addition to his legal and judicial career, Judge Scirica is a family man.

One of the judge's most highly valued accomplishments



Courtesy of Kevin Charan

is fulfilling his role of husband and father. When asked what he could attribute his success to, Judge Scirica simply cited having a warm, supportive family and loving wife who provide balance in his life.

While the judge works to better society with the upholding of justice, he makes his family a priority.

Sprinting off to his daughter's

field hockey games or making road trips to watch his son play soccer display dedication.

From starting at his father's 6-lawyer firm to becoming Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, Judge Scirica's experiences provide an educational opportunity for Ursinus students.

Emery finds internship at Career Services Fair

Sarah Bollert
Career Services
sabbollert@ursinus.edu

Brett Emery, a senior mathematics major with minors in chemistry, economics and statistics, interned this summer at Catalyst 360 in Horsham, Pennsylvania.

Emery was presented with this opportunity at the Career Services Job, Internship & Networking Fair last year.

Catalyst is a business of Hartford Financial Services (a subsidiary of a larger company), and a contact center that works on behalf of AARP and its insurance providers.

As an intern, Emery worked with the Enterprise Decision Support team, a part of the Client Services Department, typically responsible for business intelligence and data analysis.

Day-to-day responsibilities

varied, but Emery often worked with preparation analysis and the presentation of data, mainly using Microsoft Excel and SAS, business analytics software.

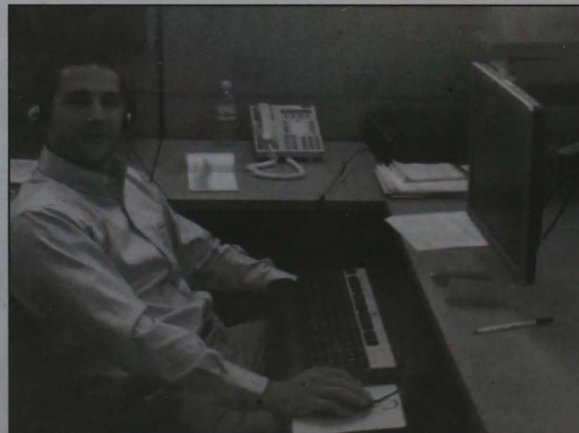
Working from his own cubicle and computer, Emery was "exposed to a variety of different programs."

Emery used Excel for Customer Satisfaction Trending, which is "basically looking into how the customer satisfaction varied over time."

He was also allotted time to teach himself the SAS programming language, "which was really cool," Emery said.

The internship improved upon Emery's business and technical skills, he believes.

"I got experience in a professional environment and was able to hone my communication and interpersonal skills," Emery said.



Courtesy of Sarah Bollert

In presenting some of his analysis to the team, he also exercised his public speaking skills.

From spending at least an hour each day learning SAS, Emery was able to use the program for a

culminating project.

"I used statistical analysis to determine the effectiveness of a [Catalyst] business policy," Emery said.

Emery was told that if he ever needed a recommendation,

especially if he were to apply to Hartford Financial Services, that Catalyst would be happy to oblige.

Emery was also invited back as an intern, as he graduated this past semester, but he is instead pursuing full-time positions with benefits.

Emery, who feels that his internship reinforced his desire to work in data analysis, is looking for a position in the field.

After having some more work experience, he would like to pursue a Masters Degree in statistics.

Emery made sure to network at the career fair and with professors when he was looking for a suitable internship.

He advises students "to start searching early and utilize a variety of sources to find your ideal internship."

Sankofa Umoja Nia revitalized

Melissa Rutkowski
merutkowski@ursinus.edu

With a newly elected executive board managing Sankofa Umoja Nia, also referred to as S.U.N., the organization has experienced a revival during the 2011-2012 academic year.

Launched in 1996, S.U.N. is designed to increase educational and cultural awareness on Ursinus' campus.

Vice President and media and communications major Olivia Minick explains that the program specifically works to promote an understanding about African American culture.

According to Minick, the most challenging aspect for S.U.N. is getting students of all races to step outside of their comfort zone and get involved in the program.

Nonmembers are welcomed at S.U.N. meetings and events.

"People could learn a lot by coming to events hosted by the Black Student Union. It's a vital life skill to get to know people who do not look like you and share a different and unique experience in America. Black history IS American history. S.U.N. strives to celebrate that in everything we do," Minick said.

This year's S.U.N. members have collaborated to initiate a new promotional campaign entitled "Black is Beautiful."

Minick describes the difficulty that many African Americans

experience given that black is not perceived as the status quo for beauty.

In order to raise awareness for the campaign, "Black is Beautiful" T-shirts are being sold in Lower Wismer.

S.U.N. President Latifah Waddy explains that the campaign is meant to get people to embrace black culture, and not be intimidated to attend program meetings.

This spring, S.U.N. will be hosting its first ever black culture and fashion expo.

Music from each decade will be played, including songs from the Harlem Renaissance movement, soul train era, and new jack swing movement.

Ursinus students will model fashions originating from these time periods. Junior Duncan Evans, a member of Phi Kappa Sigma, will D.J. the event.

The fashion show committee is working on gathering donated apparel from family members as well as purchasing items from thrift shops.

In addition to this spring's fashion expo, S.U.N. also launched a Spike Lee movie fest that began on Feb. 17 and will continue every Friday beginning at 7:00 p.m. in Olin's airplane room.

Students can preview the controversial director's big hits including *Do The Right Thing*, *Crooklyn*, *Bamboozled*, and *Get*

on the Bus.

New S.U.N. excursions include a trip to the National Mall in Washington D.C. to visit the memorial of Martin Luther King, Jr.

The new executive board had also organized a trip to the National Great Blacks in Wax Museum in Baltimore, Maryland.

Minick described the field trip as eye-opening.

She also explained the one-sidedness of history taught in the American school system, and emphasized that exhibitions such as those featured in Blacks in Wax museum can be very enlightening.

Students have also had the opportunity to attend a poetry slam hosted by S.U.N. featuring The Philly Youth Poetry Movement.

This culturally rich organization is dedicated to empowering themselves through the use of words.

With more events this year compared to past years, S.U.N. has seen an increase in event attendance.

Consequently, Waddy observes that the attitude of Ursinus campus has become more receptive to the black culture.

"People need to be more open to this subculture," said Waddy, suggesting that students should embrace it or at the very least not discard its existence.

"Two Artist Talks"

Lauren Goldstein
lagoldstein1@ursinus.edu



Courtesy of Rebecca Jaroff

On Feb. 14, students were invited to hear artist Erin Colleen Williams and poet Jeffrey Lee speak about their work in Musser Auditorium for the "Two Artists Talks."

By manipulating metalwork and poetry, Williams and Lee respectively illustrated links between the physical body and thoughts of different realities.

The talks are connected with the new exhibition in the Berman Art Museum titled "Re-Imagining the Distaff Toolkit", which showcases tools that were historically used by women in the home. Most of the objects are configured in the last decade, yet they are fabricated to look antique.

Williams first spoke about her journey as an artist.

She grew up in Alaska and spent a large majority of her childhood playing in local mines.

She described this setting as "rotting, dirty and mechanical."

This childhood inspiration shines through in her work.

Williams' pieces, which resemble Renaissance and Victorian styles, appear antique, as if she fashioned items together from an old, abandoned mine.

She showcased some of her early work, which focused on medical objects and mechanisms.

Williams showed the audience images of a humor regulation set, a "modern girl's memento mori," meaning an object that reminds one of his or her mortality, and an exchange arm blood pump.

She talked about some of the reactions she received as her pieces went under observation.

Williams currently lives and works in Philadelphia as a professor at the University of the Arts.

Lee's discussion followed a different pace.

He claimed that we must slow down the mind and try to find the beauty in life by refraining from the addictions of technology.

Lee believes in using transcendentalism and meditation in life in order to become one with beauty.

A lot of Lee's work was also influenced by his childhood.

He read one of his pieces in which he and his childhood friend spent the day sitting under the

tree enduring a "head trip", which he described as being chemically free and times in which he could just enjoy nature around him.

Many students responded positively after seeing the presentation.

"I found [Lee's] poetry to be both environmentally and spiritually beautiful, yet humorous as well; a difficult balance to execute successfully. His 8th grade erection poem meshed sexuality with a transcendent alternative reality, encapsulating many of the themes that both Erin Williams and Jeffrey Lee spoke about, which were reinforced by the phenomenological effects their works had on the audience," said Katie Holmes, a senior that attended the presentation.

"I really enjoyed the talk tonight because it gave me insight on the inspiration I need for my work in my sculpture class. It was interesting to see Williams' process and hear about how she reached the end results of her work," junior Brianna Kramer said.

"At first, I was taken aback by her work because it seemed dark; however, after listening to her reasoning and though process, I realized that her work had a positive goal. At first, it seemed as though her pieces were grotesque, but after she explained them, one could perceive them in a different way," sophomore Katie Lobst said.

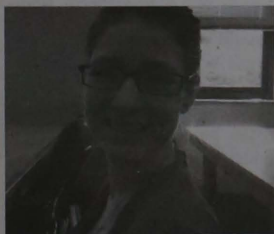
"He talked a lot in his poems about experiencing 'ego-death' through meditation. And for someone not very well-versed in that type of spiritual exploration it was a bit inaccessible, but it was very interesting," senior Callie Ingram said while reflecting on Lee's work.

"Reimagining the Distaff Toolkit" will remain on display in the Berman Main Gallery until Apr. 1.

Word on the Street

with Brooke Mitchell

"Which movie do you think will win the Oscar for best picture?"



MJ Stewart
French, 2014



Katie Martin
Psychology, 2012



Sam Simpson
BCMB, 2012

"Midnight in Paris because the filming style was very intricate and the acting was exceptional."

"Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close- no explanation necessary."

"Moneyball because sports are extremely prevalent in our culture so I think it will be the most popular."

How to be both a woman and funny

I hate to say it, but I don't have very many male friends. I think this is because I am so effortlessly beautiful, intelligent, charming, etc.—that they're just intimidated.

Walking through Wismer wearing mud-caked sweatpants and hippie-scented dread tams has that effect on people, you know.

As you might guess, this means that most of my friends are of the female persuasion. And nearly every single one of them is sincerely hilarious.

In fact, I know more funny females than I do funny males (and this is because of my friend imbalance, I know).

This leads me to wonder why I so frequently encounter the stereotype that women aren't funny. Of course women are funny.

All of my friends get (raucous, Wismer-meal-disturbing) laughs from me. Even my mom tells a good story. If they aren't funny, then who the heck is? What does it take to be funny?

I think we first need to map out the definition of "funny." My mother once said to me, "You can't be funny without being

smart." I now am steadfast in this belief. Being truly funny—mastering the art of humor, as it were—takes intelligence and wit.

One of your friends may do something that is stupidly funny, but they themselves are not funny people.

"Doing" and "being" are not the same when it comes to comedy. There's a certain awareness that wit requires before it can be wielded.

So we've nailed down that if you're funny, you're probably smart. You probably have a good idea of what makes something funny and how to take advantage of it. You might even know how to tell a good story.

The most popular comedians have this down to their own particular (and highly marketable!) styles.

I can't say much for who many consider the most popular, though. Dane Cook just screams, and for some reason, people find it irresistible.

I have a feeling these same people would be equally entertained while trapped in a forest of howler monkeys.

Most of my friends have this



Anna Larouche
Opinion Editor

part of the equation. So why does this stereotype persist?

I took the liberty of checking out the top-earning American comedians for 2011. Whether or not this is an accurate predictor of "funniness" is not the issue. They're successful by American standards.

And every single one of them on this list is a male—save for Chelsea Handler. I simply can't believe that this stereotype doesn't extend past the general discussion among my peers. Society reflects it.

What's the missing part of the equation?

In a word: sex.

For a woman to be noticed at all in the entertainment business, she has to have one specific quality first and foremost.

That quality is sex appeal.

You achieve this quality by having a couple things going for you: approachability, and boobs.

Okay, maybe not "boobs," but attractiveness in general. You have to be considered easy on the eyes by a large majority of the population. That's simple enough to comprehend.

But what about approachability? Well, think of a man's ideal girlfriend.

She never complains, isn't insecure or jealous, and is probably open to the idea of a threesome with another woman—even though she isn't bisexual (there's nothing wrong with you if you are all three of these).

The problem is with the way these qualities might be construed. People might also say: there's nothing threatening about you. You have no groundbreaking thoughts or opinions. You're... boring!

Of course, sexy, charismatic, and intelligent women with those last few qualities aren't boring—because now, they might be funny! The sex appeal grants them entry into being considered, approachability makes them palatable for a male audience, and

intelligence gives their comedy substance.

Men don't have this issue. Larry the Cable guy isn't exactly what I would call "sexy."

The best part is—he doesn't have to be, because he has the option to market himself as Larry the Cable Guy.

Can you imagine Laura the Cable Gal? No, because it's a stupid idea to begin with, but stay with me.

In the realm of comedy, gentlemen are given flexibility when it comes to their persona, while ladies are relegated to the Corner of Sex. Do you talk about sex? Are you hot? Have you eliminated any "threatening" qualities about you? Well, welcome to fame as a Funny Woman!

This doesn't apply to some comediennes (ugh), I know.

But, ladies, didn't you ever wonder why you weren't considered funny? Maybe now you know.

After all, I know when my friends put on make-up and a push-up, everything that they say is solid gold.

And yes, I already know that I'm not funny.

Controversial YouTube video causes laughter, reaction

Anjali Patel
anpatel1@ursinus.edu

"I want dirty laundry all over me!"

These words should sound familiar to a lot of us. I know that it's something I am not going to forget for a long time. For all of those who do not know what I am referring to, you are missing out.

They're the words spoken by a fellow Ursinus student on a drunken night not long ago. His friends uploaded a video of him and he was obviously completely hammered. Not going to lie, the video was pretty funny and soon enough went viral.

I, along with others, do not personally know him or have even seen him around campus. However, the video did bring him some fame. His silliness

after a few drinks got the campus buzzing a couple weeks ago.

But it wasn't just campus that was talking about it. The number of YouTube hits was astounding.

A UC freshman uploaded a video to YouTube a few weeks ago. It was of his friend, obviously intoxicated, saying the most ridiculous things—as drunk people are wont to do.

It started off with him lying on the ground refusing to put any pants on. He went on to say how he wanted his dirty laundry all over him, how it was just like a woman, and how it smelled like him as he hugged it closer.

At this point in the video I'm laughing hysterically and decide to forward the video to a few of my friends.

When he realizes that he is being recorded, he mentions how he doesn't want "the women

in the room" to see. Except we know there are no women in the room.

He starts to then crawl away declaring how he doesn't want the Russians to see the video.

By the end of the video I can honestly say that I was dying of laughter.

It was just another college freshman making a fool out of himself and I'm sure it's not a stretch for me to say that we've all been-there-done-that. I mean, even I have done outrageous things (drunk or not), it just so happens that no one was sitting there recording it.

Also, most of us who had seen the video are not laughing with the kid in the video. We're laughing at him.

That's absolutely fine. The subject of the video didn't mind that his friends had posted

this video to the World Wide Web.

Hey, maybe he thought he would become famous.

One night, it had only 4,000 hits. By the next night it had over 100,000. It also got a place on other popular websites.

Hands down, the video was funny, but the school took action.

Though the video did not reference Ursinus in any way, nor was it possible to know that it was an Ursinus student (although there is a mention of CIE), the administration decided that it was in the best interests of the school to have the video removed.

If the same video was out there from another college, I find it hard to believe that they would make the kids remove the video.

No one was going to take Ursinus less seriously, nor do

they, now that the majority of students have seen the video.

It was a mockery of the kid himself—not the school, although word on the street is that some of the kids involved did get in trouble.

I see these kinds of shenanigans almost every weekend. This kid said some especially funny things. If he would have said the same things sober, would he have gotten in less trouble?

So in the end, the video is gone, but all of us that saw the video still get a kick out of it.

It tickled the funny bone in most of us, providing a comic relief to the students here, and everywhere else the video was seen.

Swimming sets new standards at championships

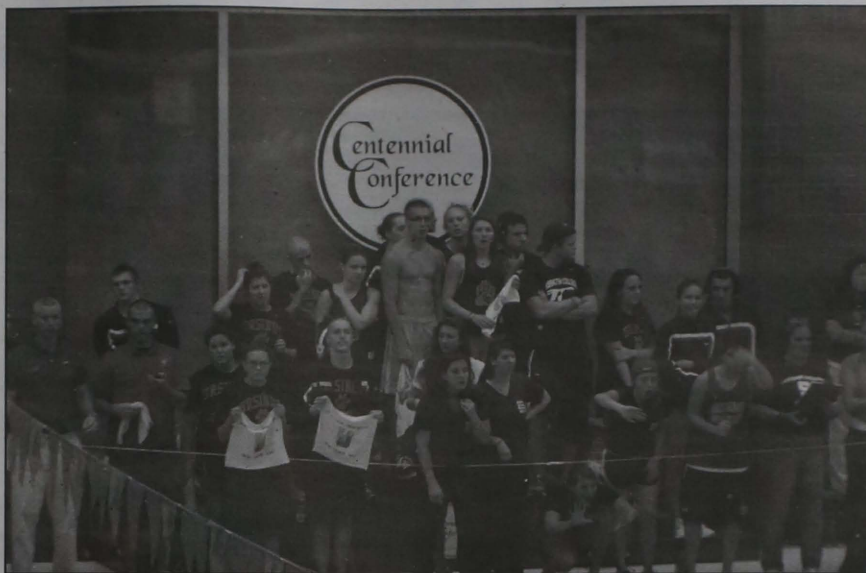
Vicki Cameron
vicameron@ursinus.edu

This past weekend the men's and women's swimming teams took part in the 2011-2012 Centennial Conference Championship meet. The meet was held over the course of three days at Gettysburg College, and for both teams the meet was an extraordinary success.

The Lady Bears finished third overall, with 537 points, finishing with their highest point total at Conferences in eighteen years. Meanwhile, the Men's team placed fourth overall with 502 points, the highest total and place finish in the team's history.

In a pre-conference interview, Head Swimming Coach Mark Feinberg spoke of his hopes and predictions for Conference Championships. On the men's side there were two swimmers favored to win an event, junior Scott Paine in the mile, who was seeded first, and senior Chris Smith, who was the 2010-2011 Centennial Conference champion in the 200 meter butterfly.

On the women's side, Malena Lair Ferrari was favored to win several events. After setting five school records in the 2011-2012 season and being seeded first in five events at Conferences, Ferrari looked to have a strong champi-



Courtesy of Connor Kanya

Both the men's and women's swimming teams enjoyed a record breaking weekend at last week's Centennial Conference Championship meet.

onship meet, and the sophomore would not disappoint.

After the first day of Conferences the men's team was in fourth place. The first day contained several top finishes by the Bears. In the 200 meter freestyle relay the men took second place with a time of 1:26.78. Later in the day the men took a third place spot in the 400 medley relay,

touching the wall with a time of 3:29.88.

Day two saw a continuance of success for the Bears as several notable performances took place. Smith earned a third place spot in the 100 meter butterfly, while junior Dave Yazbeck also had a third place finish in the 100 meter breaststroke. On day three of the meet, the Bears continued to per-

form well, with Smith once again leading the way.

Smith won gold in the 200 meter butterfly with a time of 1:52.74. Earlier in the day, during the preliminaries, Smith set the Ursinus record for the same race, finishing with a time of 1:52.72.

Smith's prelim time will meet NCAA provisional qualifying time standards, and broke a 13

year old Centennial Conference and Championship meet record. However, Smith was not the only one who found the podium on Sunday, as Paine took second place in the mile swim, with a time of 16:35.05.

On the women's side of Championships success was also a theme for the Bears.

The Lady Bears started their Conference meet by tying for first place in the 200 yard freestyle relay with a time of 1:39.06. Freshman Katie Yeity took second in the 50 meter freestyle with a time of 24.32.

Lair Ferrari took home her first individual gold medal on the second day, with a victory in the 100 meter backstroke in a time of 58.73. On the final day Lair Ferrari would have her greatest success, as she won her second individual gold medal, this one coming in the 200 backstroke, with a time of 2:06.45.

Lair Ferrari's time in the 200 backstroke met an NCAA provisional qualifying time.

Head Coach Mark Feinberg was pleased with the results of the meet, for both the men and women's teams, his feelings may be summarized best by a twitter post made live on Sunday, following the meet's conclusion.

"2012 Champs over. 1 CC record, 18 UC records, close to 90 PR's. Great meet Bears!!!"

Men's Basketball sends off triad of seniors

Matthew Johnston
majohnston@ursinus.edu

Saturday's Senior Day games were an emotional experience for both the men's and women's basketball teams.

It was the final home game of the regular season for the five seniors on the women's team, Lindsay Teuber, Kristy George, Jackie Thomas, Alli Rosati and Jen Sroba.

As for the three seniors on the men's team, JJ Rapczynski, Lou Meindl and Scott Niewiadomski, Saturday marked the final time they would don an Ursinus uniform.

Heading into last Saturday's games with Muhlenberg, the Lady Bears looked forward to the conference playoffs, while the men's team confronted a disappointing early end to their season, knowing that they had been

mathematically eliminated from earning a spot in the Centennial Conference playoff tournament.

Knowing they had already secured for themselves a place in the playoffs, the Lady Bears faced Muhlenberg for the express purpose of determining their placement in the conference tournament.

In contrast, the men's team was faced solely with the task of sending their seniors out on a winning note.

"Honestly, this season was a little bit of a disappointment. We had higher hopes. Our win-loss record wasn't as good as we hoped but every game I think we worked hard and you can't be disappointed with the work that we put in this season," freshman forward Mike Marciano said.

Similar to the women's introductions, the Men's Basketball team's seniors were accompanied

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— Mike Marciano
Freshman Forward

by their parents in offering their signs of affection to each teammate and coach, as their names were announced and their contributions to Ursinus were recognized.

And for the first time in four years—Niewiadomski, Rapczynski, and Meindl were in the starting lineup together, having offered three unique yet inval-

able skill sets to Kevin Small's program since 2008.

"They all have their own tendencies. Like J.J. was really our vocal leader, our glue guy, who would finish the games for us. Scott is our leader by example, he just always works hard. Lou, I gave him the nickname 'dad' in the beginning of the year because he was the voice of reason who kept us level. All three, I love them all like a brother," Marciano said.

Hoping to send their seniors out with a win, the Bears were challenged with the task of defeating the visiting Muhlenberg Mules, a team vying for playoff positioning. In the first half Ursinus seemed poised to do just that, as they held a five point advantage over the Mules at the half, 37-32.

With a valuable conference playoff seed at stake, the Mules

came out on fire in the second half, jumping to a 51-43 lead with just over seven minutes of play.

Ursinus would close the gap to as little as two points in the waning moments of the game.

However, the stellar play of Mule's freshman guard Malique Killing, who scored a game high 27 points, proved too much for the Bears as they were defeated by a final score of 77-71.

Despite a loss for both the men's and women's games, there was no shortage of claps, shouts and cheers from the stands, especially as the seniors walked off the court at the final buzzer.

Marciano had nothing but praises for his departing older teammates.

"I only had one year with them but that one year was definitely an awesome experience. All three of them are great guys on and off the court," Marciano said.

Women's Track poised for championship run

Shane Eachus
sheachus@ursinus.edu

The women's track and field team, under the guidance of eighth year Head Coach Chris Bayless, is looking to challenge for the overall team title at Saturday's Centennial Conference championships.

"Our expectations every time we step on the track is to win, this Saturday is no different, my women are focused and ready. Hopkins will be tough, they are very deep, but if the girls do what they need to do, we will be fine," Bayless said.

In 2010-2011 the Lady Bears grabbed third place overall at the indoor championship meet and second place at outdoor championships last May. Perhaps what makes this most frightening for Centennial Conference rivals is that the Lady Bears return practically all of their gold medal winners from last spring's team.

Junior Amanda Laurito, one of the most successful sprinters in Ursinus College women's track and field history, will look to lead the Bears to their championship dreams.

She is the odds on favorite to capture gold in the 60 Meter dash and the 200 Meter dash after taking home gold medals in both the 100 and 200 Meter dashes at last spring's outdoor championship meet, while finishing second in both the 55 and 200 Meter dashes at last winter's indoor championship meet.

One key piece in the puzzle for a conference championship for Ursinus is the health of senior sprinter Kirsten King.

King, last year's outdoor



Courtesy of Angela Yannessia

Goodenough holds the Centennial Conference record in the 60 Meter High Hurdles, at 9.11 seconds. She is the top seed entering Saturday's championships, and is just one of many Lady Bears looking to claim individual titles.

champion in the 400 Meter dash, has been nursing an injury for the last few weeks; however, as Bayless explained, if King is healthy

enough to participate on Saturday she will be favored to win her marquee event.

In addition to Laurito and

King, sophomore hurdler Victoria Goodenough will be the top seed in the 60 Meter High Hurdles.

Goodenough has posted the

conference's top time thus far this season, but it is not by much.

Her personal and conference best time of 9.11 seconds is only .01 seconds ahead of reigning conference champion, senior Kenyetta Givans of Swarthmore.

Goodenough finished in second place at last year's indoor and outdoor conference championship meets in the high hurdles, as a freshman.

Goodenough and Givans should duel it out, in what is likely to be one of the most exciting final heats of Saturday's championships.

In field events, the Lady Bears may very well sweep the podium in the high jump, as a dominant trio of leapers is lead by sophomore Amy Galvin.

Last year's conference champion in the high jump, during both the Indoor and Outdoor seasons, Galvin will be challenged by teammates Anna Loprešti, and Celina Sooksatan. Loprešti, also a sophomore, was the runner up to Galvin at last season's outdoor championships, while Sooksatan, a junior, finished second to Galvin at last year's indoor championship meet.

With all of the medalists in uniform for Saturday's championship meet, both Bayless and his team alike have to be feelings confident about their chances.

"They are very confident, we have had some little injuries but we have rested these past 2 weeks to prepare them for Champs. They are ready to go, maybe nervous because we are so young, but a very confident group of young ladies. I am very proud of them, no matter what," Bayless said.

UC Sports Schedule 2/24-2/25

2/24
Gymnastics
@ West Chester
University
6 p.m.

2/25
Wrestling
Centennial Conference
Championships
@ Gettysburg College

2/25
Mens Indoor T&F
Centennial Conference
Championships
@ Ursinus College
9 a.m.

2/25
Womens Indoor T&F
Centennial Conference
Championships
@ Ursinus College
9 a.m.

