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The Grizzly, February 28, 2013

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UC employment

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A group of faculty and staff have been working together to make Ursinus a workplace of choice for potential employees.

As part of the Strategic Plan, Dr. Meredith Goldsmith, assistant dean and professor of English, and Winfield Guilmette, vice president of Finance and Administration, were the initial co-chairs of a working group referred to as Make Ursinus an Employer of Choice.

"A liberal arts college ... creates a community that encourages its employees to live a full life of ongoing intellectual engagement with students and colleagues," the Strategic Plan states.

The working group met throughout the fall semester of

2011 to begin drafting recommendations for the college to consider. These changes were passed along to President Fong, who adapted these recommendations for the Strategic Plan.

"Implementation task forces throughout the college community are at work to evaluate the activities suggested by the planning committees. The president has asked the implementation task forces to address the recommendations and to prioritize the suggested activities," Guilmette said.

Goldsmith, who has since passed along her title of co-chair to Assistant Professor of education Stephanie Mackler, said these changes have not yet been brought to fruition, but they are

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Anti-vandalism campaign



Jillian Goldstein/The Grizzly

Sophomore Cecelia Marquez signed the pledge to speak out about vandailism and received a free T-shirt.

Sara Sherr
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Ursinus' new anti-vandalism campaign, run by Facilities Director Andy Feick, urges students to sign a pledge to prevent vandalism.

The pledge defines vandalism as "ripping down a campus sign or RA's decorations, flipping over a full trash can, smashing a light, or defacing someone's personal property."

Each student who signs the pledge promises to not vandalize property, to say something to students who are vandalizing property, report acts of vandalism or plans of vandalism to an RA, RD, or Campus Safety and to encourage his or her peers to sign the pledge.

Every student who signs the pledge, which is in the Student Activities Office in Lower Wismer, will receive a free "Dude. That's not cool." T-shirt. The shirts were also handed out in Reimert courtyard on Feb. 15.

"The main thing we want to accomplish is for students to say

something if they see someone committing vandalism," Resident Director Love Wallace said. "It's not strong in the culture to stop someone. We want to change that."

In an opinion article for The Grizzly, published on Dec. 6, 2012, Feick cited several incidents of vandalism, including a \$1,000 bench outside the library, a broken Shreiner toilet tank lid, toilet lids stuffed with multiple toilet paper rolls and beverage cans, uprooted shrubs and misplaced road signs.

Wallace cited more recent events of vandalism, including a spray painted expletive on the loading dock door of the Kaleidoscope, a smashed window in Omwake and a smashed Adirondack chair outside Reimert.

"I have to believe that some of the vandals' thoughtlessness results from a fundamental misunderstanding about the fiscal impact of the senseless damage," Feick said in his article.

In addition, Olin 305, open 24 hours a day, will now be locked at night.

"Some of the students who were using the room for studying at night were leaving food and trash in the rooms, both on the nice wooden table and on the floors, and moving chairs in and out of the room. So, we are locking it at night and over the weekend, at least until spring break," Ross Doughty, professor of history, said

Students are skeptical about whether Feick's campaign will be effective.

"It's a cool T-shirt, but I don't think it will help," senior Abby Rude said. "I think people who vandalize will sign the pledge just to get a free shirt."

"We were picking up trash around campus for facilities and I found a T-shirt hanging in a tree. That's how much they're helping," senior Luke Fater said.

The administration remains optimistic.

"Our goal is to reduce vandalism on campus," Wallace said. "We don't believe students are being malicious. They just need to know that it's not funny and that it affects everyone."

Student trip to Haiti

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On March 2, 14 Ursinus students will head to Haiti for a spring break service trip. The group will be working in Haiti with Mission of Hope, an international Christian organization. This is a student-run trip, led by senior Christie Lehman.

"I wanted to start something where students could have the opportunity to go on a spring break trip and do service work. I chose Haiti because Haiti has always been on my heart, especially after the earthquake," Lehman said.

Haiti is one of the poorest countries in the Western Hemisphere and is still continuing to recover from the devastating earthquake that hit in January 2010. Mission of Hope is helping to rebuild Haiti and bring the county out of poverty.

"We will be helping the

Haitian community, working with the orphanage a couple of days, working in town with the people, bringing them food. We'll be rebuilding houses and probably painting houses as well, and we'll also be working with single mothers that work making bags," Lehman said. "My goal is to bring all that we have to offer to a community that really has no hope right now, and that they impact us as much as we impact them."

"I am hoping to grow an even stronger faith from this experience. I really hope I can improve lives in Haiti and improve my own," Senior Jennilyn Weber, who is participating in the mission, said.

Lehman said the group has been preparing "spiritually, emotionally and physically, in order to do the best work that we can do while we are there." They

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Dean calls for faculty award nominations

Sara Sherr
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The Ursinus administration is accepting nominations for two annual faculty awards.

The two awards, which will be given to one professor each at this year's commencement ceremony, are the Jones Award for Distinguished Advising and Mentoring and the Lindback Distinguished Teaching Award.

According to the college's website, the Jones Award was established in honor of H. Lloyd Jones Jr., who served as a professor of English at Ursinus from 1947 to 1988. Dr. Richard Wallace, associate professor of environmental studies, received last year's award.

The Christian R. and Mary F. Lindback Foundation Award for Distinguished Teaching, which recognizes "outstanding service in stimulating and guiding the intellectual development of students," was awarded to Associate Professor of business and economics Jennifer Van Gilder last year.

"While commencement is a time primarily to mark the accomplishments of our graduating students, it is also a time when Ursinus College recognizes the



Wallace

distinguished achievement of a few faculty members," Dean Lucien T. Winegar said in email to the campus on Wednesday, Feb. 20.

Recent recipients of the awards still garner admiration from students. Dr. Yadi Mohammed, associate professor of mathematics, was the recipient of the Jones Award in 2007.

"Dr. Mohammed cares about you not only in the classroom but also outside. He's a good influence in the academic setting and in his students' personal happiness," senior Lexi Signoriello said.

Senior Lauren Dicaiano said she plans on nominating two of her professors for the awards this year.

"One of my professors re-



Van Gilder

minds me every class why I decided to study biology. She has a great teaching method and she is so inspirational," Dicaiano said. "I also have an awesome mentor that has completely changed the way I think."

Junior Anahi McIntyre also plans on nominating one of her professors for the Lindback Award.

"He spends so much of his time here," McIntyre said. "He dedicates so much to teaching and is often available in his office until 8 p.m. to help you out with whatever you need and talk to you about the most interesting things."

Students who are interested in nominating faculty members need to complete the nomina-

tion forms attached to Winegar's email and return them to the Academic Affairs Office in Corson Hall or email them to doffice@ursinus.edu.

"Your comments are crucial in helping the committee members as they make recommendations to the President," the form states. "You should be very specific in how your nominee affected your experience outside the traditional classroom."

According to Winegar's email, the Jones Award recipient "will be selected from among faculty members nominated by students and recommended by a committee composed of faculty and administrators. The committee recommends a sort list to the President ... makes a final decision."

The recipient of the Lindback Award is "selected from among faculty members nominated by students, and recommended by a faculty committee comprised of previous recipients of the distinguished teaching award."

The deadline for submitting nominations is Friday, March 22. Any student may nominate one or more faculty members for each award, but individual nominations must be submitted on separate forms to the Dean's Office.

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have also had several fundraisers at California Tortilla restaurant, and have received donations from faculty and community members to help fund their cause.

Weber said she spent last spring raising money for a different mission trip to Africa until it was suddenly cancelled. Then she found out about the Mission of Hope trip to Haiti.

"I'm a firm believer in 'everything happens for a reason.' You just have to have faith," Weber said. "I knew it was my fate to join this wonderful group of people and help change lives in Haiti."

Weber said she hopes the trip will enable her to inspire similar confidence in others.

"Give a man a fish, you have fed him for a day. Teach a man to fish, you have fed him for a lifetime' has been my purpose for such a mission. I'm hoping to not only nourish children, but help inspire their lives with faith and truly teach them how to dream big, just as I was taught," Weber said. "One day, hopefully they too will see that everything happens for a reason."

Anyone interested in donating supplies or supporting the students as they prepare for their journey can contact Lehman at chlehman@ursinus.edu.

Ninth-semester seniors have financing options

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"Super senior" is a term referring to a student who has been attending a four-year educational institution for more than eight semesters. There are a few different reasons that students would have to attend a ninth semester at Ursinus.

Registrar Barbara Boris said super seniors are often students who "needed to take leaves of absence or drop a full course

load."

Boris attributes these absences or decreases in course loads mostly to illness, though she said that some students have to take a ninth semester if they are getting a social science degree with a certificate in education.

"I think the social science departments have many more requirements placed on them by the state, not by Ursinus, for graduation," Boris said.

To be certified to teach, the state of Penn-

sylvania has a long list of requirements, including a semester of student teaching in a Pennsylvania secondary school. Carol Royce, theater and education department secretary, said that not all students seeking an education certificate have to take a ninth semester to complete their student teaching requirement.

"They might be double majoring or they might have decided they wanted to become a teacher as a sophomore, so they are behind in their coursework, or if a stu-

dent did a semester abroad," Royce said.

The financial impact on these students is an important aspect to consider. Royce said the students taking an extra semester for education certificate get a discount for that semester.

"If a student teacher comes back for a ninth semester, their tuition is not at the

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Staff positions at The Grizzly are open to students of all majors. Contact the adviser for details.

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considered to be high priorities for the college.

“Greater employee satisfaction is important in making the college the best it can be. We all function better in a climate of open communication and opportunities for growth,” Goldsmith said.

“The implementation groups have completed some of the activities and are prioritizing the remainder of the suggestions. Implementation will continue over the life of the plan for the next five or six years,” Guilmette said.

The Strategic Plan suggests that the college focuses on offering more competitive salaries and benefit packages to potential employees. The recommendations also stress the importance of communicating the various healthcare and benefit options to job applicants.

These recommendations may help alleviate the employment process for Ursinus, a process

which has proven to be lengthy for the Student Activities Office as they continue their search to replace Kelli Bodrato.

Last May, Bodrato resigned from her position of Assistant Director of Leadership Development and Student Activities. Since the fall, the Students Activities Office has received 130 applicants, only four of which they interviewed and considered for the position. From these four applicants, one was extended an offer for the position. The applicant, however, chose to decline the offer.

“We made an offer to one candidate who declined due to personal reasons associated with her husband’s teaching position at her current institution,” Todd McKinney, director of Leadership Development and Student Activities, said.

Some colleges and universities have a spousal-hiring policy that, as David Farley wrote in a 2007 article for The Chronicle of Higher Education, “is intended

to attract and retain high-quality faculty members” by offering positions to potential employees’ partners. This benefit is not among those recommended in the Strategic Plan.

“As we restart the process, I am confident that we will find a great person to fill the position. I would like to conclude the campus interview process in late March and have an offer out to the successful candidate as agreed upon by the search committee in early April, with them starting as soon as possible,” McKinney said.

McKinney expressed optimism for the search. He said the changes recommended in the Strategic Plan may be of use for similar employment situations in the future.

“Our workplace ... should engender open communication between stakeholders in how to make the college as effective as it can be,” the Strategic Plan states. “It should support the health and welfare of its workers.”

Top stories from around the globe

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Obama talks spending cuts

CNN reported that President Obama is attempting to negotiate a deficit reduction plan before March 1, before sequestration, the series of automatic budget cuts to government agencies set to take place as part of the fiscal cliff deal. These budget cuts would total \$1.2 trillion and would occur over 10 years, according to CNN.

CNN reported that there could be cuts that impact education programs for low-income families, and 70,000 children could be forced out of Head Start. According to CNN, should sequestration occur, there could also be cuts in public health, such as prevention and mental health. Unemployment benefits would decrease ten percent per month.

Italians vote for prime minister

According to the BBC, Italians finished the first day of voting for their next prime minister. The candidates are Pier Luigi Bersani of the Democratic party, former Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi of the right-winged National Alliance and Northern League, and current Prime Minister Mario Monti, of the central-right People of Freedom party. The BBC reported that Pier Luigi Bersani seems to have the lead.

This voting is seen as crucial to Italy’s economic well being, and, according to the BBC, the election takes place as a recession and austerity measures cause widespread public resentment toward Italy.

Bombing in India

According to the Guardian, two bombs exploded in a crowded shopping district in the Indian city of Hyderabad on Feb. 21, killing at least 12 people and wounding 50 more people. The Guardian reports that the explosions occurred two minutes apart

from each other and the bombs were attached to two bicycles.

The Guardian reported that the explosions are among a series of attacks which included a September 2011 blast outside of New Delhi that killed 13 people. According to the Guardian, the government has been criticized for its failure to arrest the bombers. Hyderabad is a major hub for India’s information technology industry and has a mixed population of Muslims and Hindus, according to the Guardian.

African leaders sign peace deal

The BBC reported that regional African leaders signed a UN accord on Sunday to bring peace to the Democratic Republic of the Congo in the Ethiopian capital of Addis Ababa. As many as 800,000 people have been displaced since a rebel government took up arms against the government headed by Joseph Kabila, according to the BBC.

The deal was signed in the presence of UN Secretary General Ban-Ki Moon, as well as leaders from Mozambique, Rwanda, Tanzania, South Africa, Democratic Republic of Congo, Congo Republic and South Sudan, according to the BBC.

Firefox to debut smartphone

According to The Washington Post, Mozilla partnered with LG Electronics and Huawei Technologies to create a smartphone that runs on software developed by Mozilla Corporation. Products may debut as early as the second quarter of this year, the Post reported.

The Post reports that there are 18 wireless carriers, including Telefonica SA, Deutsche Telekom AG and Sprint Nextel Corporation, which support developing a mobile phone that operates on Mozilla’s system. These companies are trying to reduce dependence on the Android software, which has the largest market share with 70 percent of shipments, according to the Post.

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rate you’re paying right now. It’s about \$520 per credit. Student teaching is normally 12 credits, but we only charge them for four credits,” Royce said.

There is another course added to the student teaching semester called Professional Applications, which is an additional two credits. So the ninth semester, with six credits for the student teachers, is much cheaper than the previous normal semesters. Especially since those students don’t have to live on campus to student teach, the education department will place you at a school closer to your home, as long as the school is in Pennsylvania.

“The students teaching in a ninth semester can apply for a new federal guideline that we just became aware of, called a Pell Grant,” Suzanne B. Sparrow, director of Student Financial Services, said.

A Pell Grant is a need-based federal grant that students can get after completing the FAFSA form. Normally, students cannot apply for this grant after eight semesters, but the law has recently changed to accommodate the student teaching semester. Students who are not teaching, but have to take that

ninth semester, face a different situation financially.

“Ursinus institutional aid, whether it be an academic scholarship or a need-based grant, are only available for eight semesters. However, students can apply for federal aid because that allows for ten semesters,” Sparrow said.

Sparrow said state aid is out of the question for super seniors because, like Ursinus’ institutional aid, it only covers eight semesters. Stafford loans, however, are available for extra semesters. Sparrow said students might have to cosign a loan with their parents to cover the tuition cost, but these loans have no semester limit.

Regarding financial aid and missing a semester, Boris said it “depends on when students take the leave of absence. If they take it early, they may not lose a semester of financial aid.”

“There are other ways to make up the credits, unless you take off a semester. If you drop one or even two credits from your course load, you can make it up in the summer,” Boris said.

For more information, Boris said students can visit the registrar’s office on the third floor of Myrin Library.

Join the 2013-2014 Grizzly Staff!

The Grizzly is seeking applicants for the 2013-2014 editorial staff. Students of all majors are welcome to apply. Please send a brief resume and an email of interest to Grizzly Adviser Kirstie Hettinga by Wednesday, March 20. Positions include:

- * Editor in Chief
- * Sports Editor
- * Photo Editor
- * News Editor
- * Web Editor
- * Social Media Editor
- * Features Editor
- * Copy Editor
- * Opinion Editor
- * Layout Editor

Questions? Email khettinga@ursinus.edu

Recycling competition

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This spring, Ursinus is once again taking part in RecycleMania, a competition that promotes recycling and waste reduction in colleges and universities across the United States and Canada.

The competition officially began on Feb. 3 and continues until March 30. During this eight-week period, Ursinus' total recycled materials, trash and compost is recorded each week and entered into RecycleMania's tally. The overall goal is to divert as much waste as possible from landfills by increasing recycling and composting and reducing waste generation.

Last year, UC ranked at 169 out of a total of 275 competing schools in the Grand Champion category, which calculates the percentage of weight in recyclables in comparison to waste.

Despite the ranking, sophomore Aubrey Paris, who is serving her second year as coordinator of RecycleMania, thinks that last year's efforts were effective.

"Especially since it was the first year RecycleMania had really in-depth involvement on campus, I think a lot of students were aware that it was going on. Whether or not they had any direct, active participation, they at least knew it was happening, so I would say it was a success. And we did have good waste diversion rates, so there was an overall im-

provement."

This year's results, posted on RecycleMania.org, show that in the second week, UC had almost doubled its per capita recycling from last year. Ursinus also had a high rate of food composting, with a per capita rate of 0.8 pounds per person, putting UC in 60th place out of 128 competitors.

The recycle maniacs have been very involved with getting UC Athletics on board, and have collaborated with Take Back the Tap to use its giant water bottle to help in the efforts. Created by Take Back the Tap coordinator Sarah Huang, this approximately 7-foot-tall constructed water bottle is a recycling receptacle for plastic bottles only.

The giant water bottle has been set up at recent sporting events, including the men's and women's basketball games on Feb. 13, and the track and field Centennial Conference meet on Feb. 22 and 23. Members of RecycleMania volunteer at these athletic events to waste watch, ensuring that all recyclables are thrown in the proper receptacles and explaining how the giant water bottle helps to spread awareness about reducing the use of plastic water bottles.

Office of Sustainability Program Coordinator, Brandon Hoover says this collaboration between RecycleMania and the athletics department is an important step in getting more of the campus involved.

Hoover said, "Since UC is

such an athletic community, it would be great to be able to engage that community a little better."

RecycleMania hopes to continue branching out to other organizations on campus. Paris says, "I know a lot of students on campus are interested in volunteer work, and RecycleMania involves volunteer work. It's an easy opportunity for groups like fraternities and sororities that need to do community service."

Paris said that it's important to check trash for the recycling symbol if unsure whether it is actually a recyclable product.

"My biggest concern is still the contamination," Paris said. "I frequently will walk by the recycle bin in my hall and glance in, and if there's something that shouldn't be there lying on the top I'll move it, but not many people will do that. You can lose an entire bin of recycling just because of one plate of food."

Although RecycleMania only occurs during a short part of the year, Hoover hopes that the competition makes students more educated and enthusiastic about recycling year round.

"I think it would be great if RecycleMania was a jumping-off point to engage the larger campus community in recycling rates and what can be recycled. As a national campaign, I think it does a great job of educating folks and engaging folks in a competitive spirit, and I think it gets people excited about recycling."

Oscars summary

A recap of the 85th annual Academy Awards hosted by Seth MacFarlane.

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Seth MacFarlane hosted the 85th annual Academy Awards ceremony on Sunday where the greats of the filmmaking world gathered to honor the masterpieces of the last year.

MacFarlane, known for his crude humor on television shows like "Family Guy" and in his film "Ted," was expected to garner a few laughs while offending many. He did not fall far from these expectations, belting an ode to the exposed breasts of Hollywood's greatest actresses and making an Abraham Lincoln assassination joke.

MacFarlane's quick delivery kept the show rolling at a decent pace, but it didn't stop the show from running nearly three-and-a-half hours. The musical tributes were to blame for this lengthy event, but the performances from Barbara Streisand, Jennifer Hudson, Catherine Zeta-Jones, and more were worth the extra time. The star-studded cast of Les Miserables sang "One Day More." Adele belted the theme from the latest James Bond movie, "Skyfall," and won the Oscar for best original song later in the night.

Besides musicals, the show celebrated 50 years of James Bond. A montage and performance of "Goldfinger" by 76-year-old Shirley Bassey were included in the tribute, and Bassey's song received a standing ovation.

Argo won the coveted award for best picture, beating out eight other contenders and giving Ben Affleck the attention he lacked by being snubbed in the best directing category. First Lady Michelle Obama read the winning film from the White House. A tearful Affleck approached the microphone with gratitude and said, "What I learned was it doesn't matter if you get knocked down

in life, what matters is that you've got to get back up." The film also picked up awards in the best editing and best adapted screenplay categories.

Daniel Day-Lewis won best lead actor for his role in "Lincoln" and became the first actor to earn three awards in this category. His notoriously extreme methods of getting into character have paid off. As with many of his films, Day-Lewis took his character home with him, assuming the air of Abraham Lincoln even when the cameras were not rolling. "Lincoln" earned an additional Oscar in production design.

Quvenzhané Wallis was the talk of town after she became the youngest person to be nominated

"Daniel Day-Lewis won Best Actor for his role in Lincoln and became the first actor to earn three awards in this category."

in the best lead actress category. The confident nine-year-old had her spotlight stolen when the award went to Jennifer Lawrence for her intense, honest performance in "Silver Linings Playbook". Lawrence seemed surprised by her win and fell on her way to the stage to accept her award. Always modest, Lawrence explained her standing ovation due to the audience's pity for her fall.

The visual masterpiece, "Life of Pi", earned four Oscars, including cinematography, visual effects, original music score, and director. Director Ang Lee modestly accepted his award, thanking all 3000 people who helped with the project and believed in the story.

Story-telling seemed to be the theme of the evening. Co-winners for best sound editing for "Skyfall", Per Hallberg and Karen Baker Landers, emphasized their gratefulness for the chance to tell their story.

The Oscars celebrated film as a medium to tell stories Sunday night, and the Academy did not disappoint in recognizing the films of 2013 that were worth being remembered for years to come.

Word on the Street

If you could create one class at Ursinus what would it be?

"I'm a pre-vet major. I'd want an animal nutrition class." -Sage Hubert, Senior

"Probably an EMT class" -Mike Osinski, Junior

"Glass-blowing" -Stephanie Breitsman, Senior

"Postmodern Literature" -Rachel Perry, Senior

"Sign language" -Devin Brakel, Freshman and Katie McEwen, Junior

"History of sports" -Matt Dougherty, Junior

"Analyzing Harry Potter" -Ben Strauss, Junior

Alum dance show

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Roger Lee, a 2010 Ursinus graduate, will return to the Lenfest stage to perform "Dancing Through Black History" on Thursday, Feb. 28 at 7 p.m in honor of Black History month.

Only two years after graduating from Ursinus, Lee opened Roger Lee Dance, a dance studio focused on instruction and entertainment. "Ursinus definitely set the stage for what I'm doing now," Lee said.

Lee and his company will perform a piece entitled "Snapshot," choreographed by Lee himself. "The piece looks at snapshots of black history," Lee said.

The piece is divided into three sections: segregation, civil rights and integration. Each will be interpreted and represented through dance. "It's a quick 30 or 40 minute representation of black history in America," Lee said.

Several current Ursinus students will join Lee on stage for his performance, including senior Royale Randolph and sophomore Sasha Carvalho.

Carvalho will sing to accompany the dance performance. "The performance shows a transitional era from old school music to new school music while also transitioning through civil rights," Carvalho said. "I really hope people see the picture of what we're trying to portray to them, but also just enjoy great music and wonderful dancers."

Lee decided to commission the piece in honor of the 50th anniversary of the March on Washington. "The catalyst for the piece," Lee said, "was the song Mahalia Jackson sang before Martin Luther King's 'I Have a Dream' speech."

Lee's return to Ursinus was facilitated by Paulette Patton, the director of multicultural services and coordinator of many of the Black History month events on campus. Patton saw the connection between Lee's work and Black History Month's theme of student activism. "I decided to invite alumni who had been very active on campus and have continued that activism after Ursinus," Patton said.

Lee's activism is his Philadelphia community is extensive. He dedicates time to performing for communities that would not otherwise have access to the fine arts. "We should find pride in the fact that Roger founded a dance company in inner city Philadelphia that provides a positive outlet for youth in that community," Patton said.

As an Ursinus student, Lee took advantage of the opportunities to become involved in a dance community. He was the on the board of the Escape Velocity Dance Troupe beginning in his sophomore year, and completed a dance-oriented Summer Fellows project in 2009.

For his Summer Fellows project, Lee transformed the Black Box Theater into the ideal performance space to accommodate his self-choreographed performance. This entailed painting the theater with color and then painting it back to its original black at the end of the summer.

While his upcoming performance is aimed at providing students with a representation of the civil rights movement through the medium of dance, "it's definitely not a history lesson," Lee said. "People think that it will be preachy, but it's art. It's still about movement and entertainment."

UC Facebook compliments

Cecelia Marquez
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The new Facebook page Ursinus Compliments, created Feb. 8, 2012, allows members of the Ursinus community to anonymously give compliments to one another.

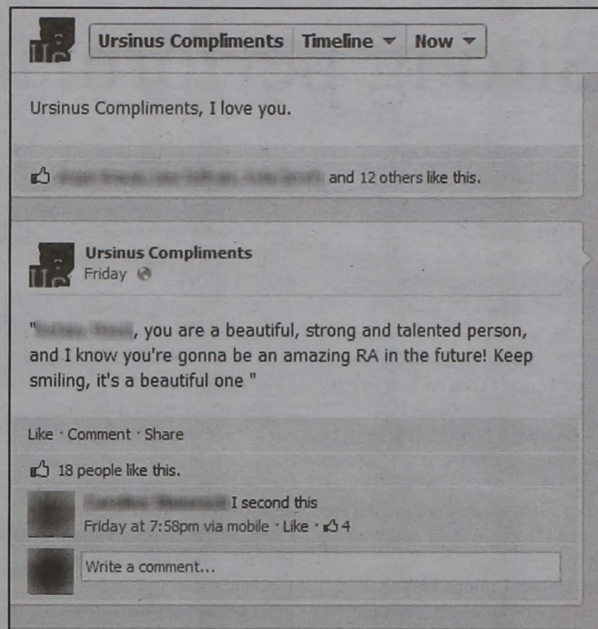
Its creator, an anonymous female student at Ursinus, wrote in an online interview, "I thought it would be just a little something extra for people to get excited about when they saw a compliment about themselves or went to compliment a friend that they thought highly of."

Ursinus Compliments is based on a like-minded Facebook page from Queen's University in Ontario, Canada. Queens U Compliments was created Sept. 12, 2012 by four females with the intention of creating a more positive campus atmosphere. Since then, news articles about the Facebook page and similar compliments websites have emerged across the globe.

The creator of Ursinus Compliments got the idea for her Facebook page from a friend at another university, who "was complimented and it got over 100 likes. I thought to myself, 'wow, how awesome does he feel right now? That probably made his day,'" the creator said.

The posts on the Ursinus Compliments range from sentimental to flirtatious, and many have comedic overtones. Recent posts include, "Katie Faust, you are beautiful and brilliant, never doubt yourself," and "Renée Tornea, let's make like a fabric softener and 'Snuggle.'"

To post a compliment on the Ursinus Compliments page, one must first "friend" the Facebook page. Any friend of the Facebook page can send a message to the



Snapshot of Ursinus Compliments page/The Grizzly

page's inbox with a compliment about any group or individual within the school community. The administrator of the Ursinus Compliments page then posts the compliment to the Facebook wall, omitting the name of the submitter and creating a page full of anonymous, campus-wide compliments. Any friend of Ursinus Compliments can like and comment on the posts.

The Ursinus student body has shown positive reactions to the new Facebook page. Junior Senie Chernuhina said that she "friend requested it right away," noting that it was a good way to gain a sense of community across the campus.

"I think it's a good way to get optimism throughout the campus," sophomore Sam Milewski said of Ursinus Compliments.

The administrator is very care-

ful about what makes it onto the page, looking through every message sent to her inbox to ensure that nothing posted could be construed negatively. If she does receive such a message, the sender is messaged back and asked to reword his or her compliment.

As of Saturday, Feb. 23, Ursinus Compliments had 627 friends, which is more than one third of the Ursinus student body. The creator of Ursinus Compliments encourages all members of the Ursinus community to join in on her "creative yet anonymous way to brighten the day of Ursinus."

To check out Ursinus Compliments and to send a compliment to a person or group within our school community, visit <http://www.facebook.com/ursinuscompliments>.

Happening on Campus

Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday

Writing Workshop:
What Can Martin Luther King Jr. Teach Us About Writing, in the Center for Writing, 5-5:45 p.m.

Roger Lee Dance Co. and Sasha Carvalho, in Kaleidoscope Lenfest Theatre, 7-8 p.m.

SPRING BREAK 2013

Strong performances sell “Silver Linings”

Amanda Frekot
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After spending more than 14 weeks in the box office top 10, director David O. Russell’s “Silver Linings Playbook” has grossed over \$100 million. It was nominated for eight Academy Awards, including all four acting categories.

Russell, a nominee for best directing this year, is no stranger to the Academy Awards. His film “The Fighter” was nominated for seven Oscars in 2011 and won two.

“Silver Linings Playbook” was one of nine nominees for best pictures, an acknowledgment well-deserved. The film illustrates a world where chaotic whirls of people come together to create something beautiful. This idea is emphasized through carefully-crafted editing and fierce performances from Bradley Cooper and Jennifer Lawrence.

Cooper is believable and moving as a recently-released mental hospital patient trying to win back his ex-wife. Lawrence’s portrayal of a young widow dealing with her husband’s death by sleeping around reveals remarkable depth and leaves the audience in awe of the 22-year-old’s talent.

The two actors challenge each other with brilliant performances, bringing out their rawest emotions and deriving the best performances from one another. Cooper’s Oscar nomination for best actor in a leading role and Lawrence’s win of best actress in a leading role were definitely merited.

Best supporting actress Jacki Weaver vows as Cooper’s dedicated mother, and Robert De Niro, who is no stranger to the academy, earns his best supporting actor nomination playing the troubled patriarch of a broken family.

“Silver Linings Playbook”

is a love story, a journey of self-discovery, and a social critique rolled into a two-hour powerhouse. Serious themes are relayed through hilarious quips. The screenplay, based on the novel by Matthew Quick, was written by Russell, a feat often reserved for true auteurs. His Academy Award nomination for best adapted screenplay comes as no surprise.

Fast, sudden cuts within scenes imply the precarious mental state of the characters as well as their tumultuous relationships and impending chaotic situations yet to occur. Even as the film draws to a close and this editing still occurs, the tension it originally evoked becomes more comfortable.

The disorder is acceptable, reinforcing the theme of acknowledging both the good and bad parts of oneself. Another Oscar nod was given to editors Jay Cassidy and Crispin Struthers for film editing.

The film digs deeply into the rippling effects of mental illness. America’s perception of these disorders is challenged as police, curious kids and the entire neighborhood are not sure how to handle Pat Solatano (Cooper) after his release. Traditional family values are scattered to the wind as Pat’s illness distances himself from everyone he loves.

The film rocks the foundation of the definition of normalcy from Pat’s public mental breakdowns to the enthusiastic, unorthodox dance routine at the end. It is eye opening, forcing the viewer to reconsider his own constraints on normalcy and social constraints. The film leaves a refreshed, satisfied taste behind, while delving outside of the comfort zone of many Hollywood films.

Although “Silver Linings Playbook” is a rollercoaster of emotions, the film ends on an uplifting tone, locating the “silver lining” the title suggests.

WRITERS WANTED

Lend your
voice to The
Grizzly

Join us for our
weekly news
meeting

Mondays,
6:30 p.m. in
Ritter Lobby

Religion’s influence too strong in US politics

Sara Sherr
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Our government masquerades itself as legislation void of religion. It boasts “the separation of church and state, a claim that is unfortunately untrue.

The United States’ judiciaries constantly seek to interpret the constitution through the lens of its words applied to the most contemporary society, yet blatantly violates the words of the First amendment, that, “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof,” constantly.

Regardless of the very clear and very implicating text of the First Amendment, we still swear on bibles in our courtrooms adorned with the words of the bible and pledge allegiance under God in our public school classrooms.

Our very own House of Rep-

resentatives voted 354-72 to fund the rebuilding of a church with taxpayers’ dollars after Hurricane Sandy, despite the fact that “the First Amendment bars taxpayer funding of religion period – for the best interests of faith communities as well as human freedom,” according to au.org.

Opponents of gay marriage argue time and time again that allowing same-sex couples to marry will breach upon the “sanctity of marriage.” But what is “sanctity” anyway if it doesn’t mean to impede upon the traditional view of marriage bestowed upon us by the Bible?

According to Newsgazette.com, Pastor Richard Giovanetti of the Standing in the World Ministries of Morris said, “When we have gay marriage we are going to enslave millions of people back into a lifestyle that we know that God can set them free from,” a viewpoint locked into Christian values and the joining of a man and a woman.

It’s inevitable that the puritan ideologies upon which our country was founded will infiltrate the consciousness of our society. It’s the exact reason many people in America are uncomfortable with explicit topics regarding sex, why it’s difficult for anyone to say the word “penis” without laughing.

This doesn’t mean, however, that these ideologies should consciously contain the words of our legislation.

“Love does not abide strictly by the dogma of religion. Neither should our democracy.”

Regardless, Dictionary.com defines marriage as “the social institution under which a man and woman establish their decision to live as husband and wife

by legal commitments, religious ceremonies, etc.” and according to clgs.org, 37 states have passed laws which define marriage as limited to a union between one man and one woman.

Additionally, several prominent figures in politics have taken a similar stance. Mitt Romney, at a Fox News debate in South Carolina, said, “I’ve always opposed gay marriage. I believe that we should provide equal rights to people regardless of their sexual orientation but I do not believe that marriage should be between two people of the same gender.”

The inception for our society’s notion of marriage can be traced all the way back to the Genesis, in which the first marriage occurred. It read, “This is now bone of my bones, And flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of man,” Genesis 2:18-24.

But that was then and this is now. Just a few decades ago, the

Virginia Supreme Court ruled that marriage does not need to be constrained between couples of the same race. It’s time for the rest of our government to stop constraining marriage between people of the same gender.

Love does not abide strictly by the dogma of religion. Neither should our democracy. We should try to live more truly, and more according to the words of Immanuel Kant: “True human love ... admits of no distinction between types of persons, or between young and old ... Human love is goodwill, affection, promoting the happiness of others and finding joy in their happiness.”



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Baseball looks to win under Exeter

Jordan Demcher
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For the first time in 23 years, the Ursinus Baseball team will be entering the season under a new head coach. After coach Brian Thomas retired at the end of the 2012 campaign, Stan Exeter was hired to manage the dugout.

Exeter spent the past six years as the head coach of Swarthmore College. In those six seasons, Exeter led Swarthmore to 89 wins, a Centennial Conference playoff bid, and was named the 2010 Centennial Conference Coach of the Year.

Coming from another school in the conference, Exeter said, made the jump that much shorter.

"Knowing the conference helps, and knowing a lot of these players after seeing them for two to three years helps," Exeter said. "This is a very easy school to transition to."

Senior pitcher A.J. Wright said, like any change, the transition from the Coach Thomas era to the new Coach Exeter age was difficult at first. However, he and the rest of the seniors on the roster have been "lead by example" guys to get the team on track.

"The way [Exeter] motivates us is pretty cool. His speeches strike home, and he wants us to be successful not for him but for

ourselves," Wright said.

Exeter's past three seasons at Swarthmore have contributed over 60 of his 89 wins with the Garnet. With three straight 20-win seasons, the Bears look to turn a new leaf with his coaching philosophy.

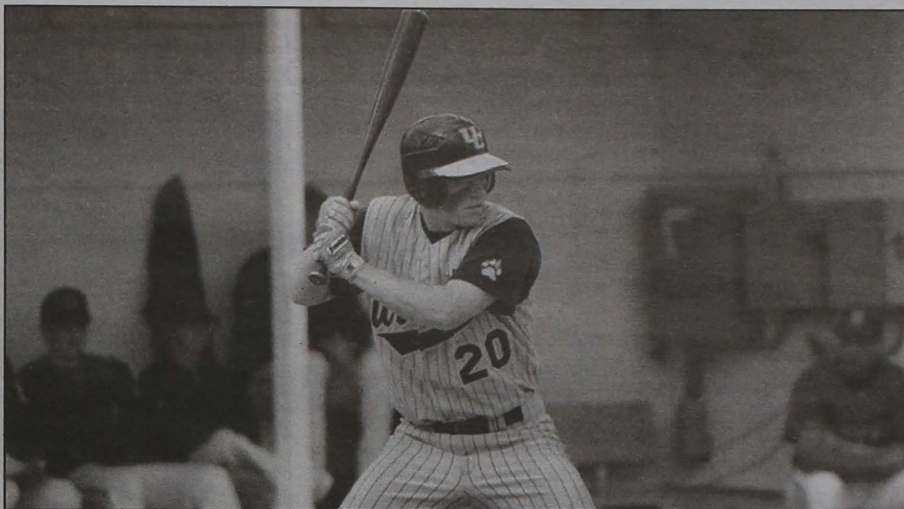
During the same three seasons, the Bears have won 16 games in 2010, 14 games in 2011, and 18 in 2012. For 2013, the Bears look to continue Exeter's run of 20-win campaigns this spring.

"The outlook is that we'll be really competitive, and if we can stay healthy we'll be very competitive," Exeter said.

The team's season begins this Saturday, March 2, with a trip down to Myrtle Beach, S.C. The spring break trip consists of eight games, including three doubleheaders.

The season opens with a game against Manchester, then a doubleheader against Penn State - Harrisburg, a matchup against Emerson, then back-to-back tilts against Catholic and Mt. Aloysius and finally wraps up with a doubleheader against Grove City.

"Right out of the gate we play a very good team, and then the schedule throughout the week is solid," Exeter said. The team hopes to see a strong opposing pitching staff to prepare itself for the remainder of the season.



Courtesy of Josh Schnell

Junior Josh Schnell looks to lead the offensive attack as the Ursinus baseball team opens its season in Myrtle Beach, S.C. during spring break next week, where the team will play nine games in seven days.

This season, the Bears will rely on a veteran pitching staff to get the team back to its 2009 version when they had a 26-win season. A few key aces for the Bears, along with Wright, are seniors Jake Kohler and Ryan Furlong, along with junior Steve Berardi who led the team with four wins in 2012.

Though pitching depth is the strong point for this year's team, the Bears will also count on senior catcher Kevin Wilson, the only senior position player on the roster, and junior outfielder Josh

Schnell. Wright said, "Kevin Wilson is definitely going to be the anchor of the team."

In 2012, both Wilson and Schnell had batting averages over .300. Wilson's .369 average led the team.

Conference games for the Bears start on March 30 with a doubleheader at Gettysburg College. Wright said the conference schedule, as always, will be the most critical games of the season.

"We call it an 18-game season," Exeter said, referring to almost the whole month of April.

Though every game is an important potential win, the Bears are focused on putting up the best conference record they can this season.

"The first conference game is the most important to us, because it doesn't matter if we get 25 wins and then lose all 18 conference games," Wright said.

The first home game for the Bears on Brian Thomas Field is on March 20 against Lebanon Valley at 3:30 p.m.

Softball begins season with championship mindset

Al Weaver
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The Ursinus softball team enters the 2013 anew this season as a team with changes abound.

With a new coach, a vastly different team and high expectations, the Bears look to get off on the right foot next week in Myrtle Beach, S.C. during the team's spring training trip.

Changes started last September when former Coach Jen Croneberger resigned abruptly midway through the team's fall season.

Changes continued soon after winter break, as the Bears pried newly-appointed Coach Samantha Campo away from conference foe Gettysburg.

Changes also affect a pitching staff that does not include Jennilyn Weber this season, a second-

team All-Centennial selection during the 2012 campaign.

Hopefully, these changes will help lead this squad to a Centennial Conference championship under new leadership, though major players still remain with the squad.

"Bottom line: I expect everybody to work hard and go out and play the game they know how to play. We always talk about giving maximum effort all the time," Campo said.

The Bears finished tied for third in conference play last season, but bowed out in two games during a disappointing Centennial Conference playoff run.

However, Ursinus and others around the conference look for a rebound season. The Bears were recently picked to finish second behind reigning conference champion McDaniel.

However, the Bears are not taking anything for granted this season.

"That's nice and great and everything, but we have a lot to prove to ourselves. What we do, we do together, and I think that is important. We have to move forward in our play and not worry about what everyone else is doing or where we were picked. It's nice, but we want to get back to the playoffs and compete for that championship.

Leading the way for the Bears will be two middle-of-the-order stalwarts, Allison Pfrommer and Amy Gentile.

Pfrommer led the Bears last season in a multitude of categories, including batting average, hits, and RBIs to name a few. The senior first basemen garnered second-team All-Centennial honors for her play.

The Franklinville, N.J. native also started all 41 games for the Bears during the 2012 season and did not make an error in the field.

Gentile, a senior outfielder, finished second on the team, behind Pfrommer, with a .362 batting average, and was the lone Bear to receive a first-team All-Centennial selection.

While the offense will most certainly be supplied by the senior dynamic duo, the pitching staff is a question mark heading into the season. The Bears look to replace Jennilyn Weber's production on the mound with a host of candidates, whom Coach Samantha Campo hopes are up for the job.

Last season, Weber started 21 of the teams 41 games, going 14-10 overall with a 2.09 ERA and 116 strikeouts in 154 innings. The rest of last season's staff threw

125 innings.

However, the Bears are turning to the future and not worrying about the past, with a whole host of talent that the Bears look to show off next week during the team's eight-game spring training trip to Myrtle Beach, S.C. One of those looking to impress is senior catcher Emelie McFarland, who hit .292 in 24 games last season.

"This is the time of year where we prepare for our conference games and build confidence, so this trip is critical," McFarland said.

"We, as a team, expect to do really well this season. We have had a few setbacks this season, primarily in the fall, but we are confident that we can overcome them," McFarland said. "Right now, we have set a team goal to win the Centennial Championship."

Wrestling takes home CC team title

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For the first time since 2006-07, the Centennial Conference wrestling championship resides in Collegeville, Pa. after the Bears took home the crown this past weekend at Johns Hopkins University.

The Bears captured four first-place finishes, four second-place finishes and a third, totaling 113 points, which was 15 points clear of Johns Hopkins' second-place finish with 98 points.

Ursinus wrestlers featured in eight of the 10 championship bouts.

Senior Curtis Watkins took home the title at 149, while sophomore Richard Jasinski topped his bracket at 157. Meanwhile, sophomores Dan Manganaro and Christian Psomos each won their respective brackets at 184 and 197.

Sophomore Chris Donaldson ,125, junior Elisha Gaylor, 141, freshman Hans Seri ,165, and freshman Robert Scaramuzza ,285, all took home second-place honors at the Centennial Championships.

Also placing for the Bears was senior Michael Williams, who finished third at 174.

This is the first time since the Bears took home five straight Centennial Conference titles from 2003-2007.

Also winning honors from the Centennial Conference was Coach Bill Racich, who took home Coach of the Year for the third time in four years.

W. Swimming

The Ursinus women's swimming team finished a close second to Gettysburg at the Centennial Conference Championships this past weekend in Lancaster at Franklin & Marshall.

Gettysburg, who won its third straight Centennial Conference title, posted 633 points to Ursinus' 626.

The Bears, who led during most of the three-day competition, lost its lead toward the end of the third and final day when Gettysburg swam a 3:40.32 in the B Final of the 400 freestyle Relay and the Bullets never looked back.

Of the 18 championship events, the Bears won five, including three relay events.

The Bears were victorious in the 200-, 400-, and 800-freestyle relays. The 800 freestyle team of Melana Lair Ferrari, Bryn O'Neil, Corinne Capodanno and Chelsea Kozior set a Centennial Conference and CC Championship records for the event at 7:47.09.

Winning individual events for the Bears were Lair Ferrari and Capodanno.

Lair Ferrari, a junior from Argentina, won the 200 backstroke at 2:04.77, which was nearly six seconds faster than her closest competitor.

Meanwhile, Capodanno won the 200 freestyle in 1:53.87.

The squad's 400 freestyle relay of Lair Ferrari, Capodanno, Kozior and Micaela Lyons also set a Conference Championship record in 3:33.44.

M. Swimming

The men's swimming team finished strong en route to a sec-



Courtesy of Athletic Communications

Ursinus wrestling took home its first C.C. Championship in six years last weekend at Johns Hopkins.

ond place finish at the Centennial Conference Championship meet, the team's strongest finish in program history.

The Bears racked up 585 points over the three-day meet, finishing 69 points ahead of Franklin & Marshall, who hosted the championship meet.

Leading the way for the Bears was sophomore Jacob Robinson. Robinson finished third in the 200 backstroke with a time of 1:55.21. The sophomore also took third in the 400 individual medley in 4:08.96.

Also with a stellar day individually for the Bears was senior Dave Yazbeck, who swam third in the 200 breaststroke final in 2:10.70.

Just as they did on the women's side, Gettysburg took the crown on the men's side. Gettysburg secured 802 points

W. Track & Field

The Ursinus women's track & field squad finished fourth with 77 points at the Centennial Conference Championship meet last weekend at the Floy Bakes Fieldhouse.

Headlining the weekend for the Bears was senior Amanda Laurito, who was named outstanding track performer of the championship meet by the coaches of the Centennial Conference.

Laurito won the 200-meter dash in 26.56 seconds and the 60-meter dash in 7.87. She was also a member of the 4X200 relay team that, along with Victoria Goodenough, Carina Doyle and Krista Snyder, finished in 1:49.29.

Also finishing on top for the Bears was Celina Sooksatan. The senior won the high jump with a leap of 5-3 3/4.

M. Track & Field

The hosting Bears finished tied for third place with Dickinson with 94 points this past weekend at the Centennial Conference Championship meet.

Senior Chris Rountree was named the meet's outstanding field performer by the conference's coaches after finishing first in the triple Jump, registering a 47-4 1/4, and second in the long jump with a leap of 22-1 1/2. Rountree, a four-year standout on the football field, also won the 60 hurdles at 8.38.

Darius Jones also won multiple events for the Bears. The sophomore topped the field in both the 400 meter dash, 50.91, and the high jump, 6-4 1/4, while also finishing third in the 200-meter dash in 23.23.

Upcoming UC Athletics Schedule

3/2
Men's Track and Field
@ NCAA East Regions
9 a.m.

3/2
Baseball
vs. Manchester
@ Myrtle Beach, 7 p.m.

3/3
Baseball
vs. PSU-Harrisburg (DH)
@ Myrtle Beach, noon

3/4
Women's Tennis
vs. St. Francis (Ill.)
@ Orlando, noon

3/2
Men's Lacrosse
vs. Messiah
1 p.m.

3/3
Gymnastics
vs. Pennsylvania
1 p.m.

3/4
Softball
vs. York
@ Myrtle Beach, 9 a.m.

3/5
Women's Lacrosse
vs. Shorter
@ Clearwater, 10 a.m.

