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The Grizzly, November 11, 1996

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Ursinus Celebrates Unity Day

by Tim McCoy
News Editor

Ursinus recognized the sense of community and diversity on campus when it celebrated Unity Day on Wednesday.

The distribution of diverse literature and musical performances were featured during the day.

The actual events of the day didn't start until late morning. While literature corresponding with the day's message was made available during lunch, singer and songwriter Michael Gulizian performed in Wismer Lower Lounge to a small audience.

Folk singer Christine Kane appeared in Zack's later that evening. She presented her audience her own brand of folk music and politics.

The events were only the visible surface of Unity Day which offered a chance to acknowledge our campus community rather than focusing on the differences that exist. It called for all students, faculty, and staff to be aware of all issues that are present on campus, whether they are personally affected by them or not.

One of Unity Day's organizers, Todd McKinney, noted that homophobia and racial issues still exist and have yet to be resolved on campus. "We're here," he said. "We should be able to interact with each other." He hoped that as part of each student's education at Ursinus, they would become well rounded enough to do just that.

The celebration of Unity Day was not intended to be limited to one twenty-four hour period. The different cultures, ideologies, and religions that exist on campus will continue to thrive and increase.

By using one day to recognize this, it is hoped that a unifying understanding and bond will also thrive. It is not difficult on a campus such as this to find others who differ from you. However, it takes a personal effort to learn something from those differences.

Unity Day came about out of the desire to have a day to mark such issues in the Fall semester. Ursinus holds Diversity Week during the second semester of school, so a similar and smaller event is made for first semester.

Diversity Week will be marked in February.

Folk singer Christine Kane performed in Zack's on Unity Day.

Are you sure that your ideas are your own?

by Erin Gambeski and Trish Daley
of The Grizzly

Here's the scenario:
You are recovering from a severe blow to the head caused by a flying Beast. Before you slip into depression from the injury, you realize that you have gained something from the experience. You are now able to plant ideas in people's minds without them knowing it. You have not discovered how to control whose mind you go into or when it happens. You happen to find yourself standing behind President Strassburger and Rick DiFeliciano in the Wismer soup line and they are talking about President Clinton being elected for a second term. Your palms begin to sweat and you get a funny taste in your mouth. Presidential thoughts buzz by you and you realize where you are... what idea do you plant?

Ideas for Clinton's mind:
"Lower the drinking age to 19 years and nine months."
— Hank Lanzalotti, Sophomore

"Make his wife resign."
— Nick Schuenemann, Freshman

"Inhale."
— Christen Troiano, Senior

"Make money free and lobotomize Ross Perot."
— Nick Baker, Sophomore

"Place embargoes on all the countries that allow unsafe tuna fishing that kills dolphins."
— Amy Melton, Senior

"I'd have him stop eating at McDonald's and make Todd Brenneman stop writing those damn columns about God."
— Ashok Parmeshwaran, Senior

"He should encourage more Russian immigrants."
— Erika Hauber, Junior

"I'd make him tell the truth."
— Rocco Iacullo, Senior

"Resign."
— Ed Nyman, Freshman

cont. on page three

In The News...

by Teresa Green
Copy Editor

INTERNATIONAL:
Russian President Boris Yeltsin is recovering from a seven hour multiple bypass heart operation. His doctors are declaring the operation a success.

His doctors are declaring the transfer of land mines. officials have announced agreement to ban the use, stockpiling, production, and transfer of land mines.

U.S. officials have announced that they are considering sending some American troops to Central Africa to help support an international force to aid refugees caught in the middle of the fighting between Zaire and Rwanda.

Pakistan is celebrating the dismissal of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and the dissolution of her government. Ms. Bhutto is still under house arrest.

The U.S. has introduced a measure to the United Nations asking for an international agreement to ban the use, stockpiling, production, and transfer of land mines.

A Zairian rebel leader declared a cease-fire truce in Zaire's army, raising hopes that an estimated one million refugees will be able to resume receiving international aid.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel accused a senior army general, who had been a top negotiator in talks over Hebron, of improper conduct for meeting with opposition leaders.

In Moscow, an American businessman, who had been involved in a drawn out dispute over control of one of Moscow's best-known hotels, was shot to death by an assailant with a machine gun.

The Defense Department said that the pilots of two American jet fighters, who shot missiles at Southern Iraq, were justified even though it is unclear whether or not either of the planes had been in danger.

Jack Kevorkian’s lawyer produced two tapes from an assisted suicide on August 30th showing a woman begging for help in ending her life.

Groups that had formed an alliance to bring the controversial French abortion bill RU-486 to America have started fighting amongst themselves, making the drug’s availability here likely to be delayed.

A Federal appeals court in San Francisco overturned a rule requiring the Nation Endowment for the Arts to consider standards of decency when it is considering distributing grants to artists.

Oh... Clinton won.
(Information taken from The New York Times)

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(Information taken from The New York Times)
Nothing to Do? Try This...

by Teresa Green

Copy Editor

Monday, November 11
CLASS REGISTRATION BEGINS
7:00 a.m. Step Aerobics in Helfferich 201
4:30 p.m. Step Aerobics in Helfferich 201
5:00 Japanese Table in Faculty/Staff Dining Room
8:00 Football Bowl
9:30 Ursinus Christian Fellowship in WPL

Tuesday, November 12
7:00 a.m. Step Aerobics in Helfferich 201
12:00 p.m. Ursinus Christian Fellowship in WPL
12:00 French Table
4:00 "Tuesday at 4" Workshop in Bomerger 209
4:30 Step Aerobics in Helfferich 201
6:00 CAB in Wismer Parents' Lounge
8:00 Football Bowl
9:30 Ursinus Christian Fellowship in WPL

Wednesday, November 13
7:00 a.m. Step Aerobics in Helfferich 201
12:00 p.m. German Table in Faculty/Staff Dining Room
4:30 Step Aerobics in Helfferich 201
5:15 Spanish Table in Faculty/Staff Dining Room
6:00 SUN in Wismer Parents' Lounge
7:00 Haines-Barnard Pre-Legal Society in Olin 104
7:30 Play "Let it be Resolved" in Ritter Center
8:00 Movie: "Bed of Roses" in WLL
10:00 Literary Society in Zwingli's Java Trench

Thursday, November 14
RED AND GOLD DAY
7:00 a.m. Step Aerobics in Helfferich 201
1:00 Ursinus Christian Fellowship in WPL
4:30 Step Aerobics in Helfferich 201
7:00 Brownback-Anders Premed. Society in Olin 107

Friday, November 15
PAYDAY
7:00 a.m. Step Aerobics in Helfferich 201
12:00 p.m. Organization of Commuting Students in Commuter Lounge
7:00 Ursinus Christian Fellowship in WPL
7:00 Brownback-Anders Premed. Society in Olin 107

Saturday, November 16
Cross Country at NCAA Championships
10:00 a.m. Wrestling at Swarthmore Takedown
1:00 p.m. Football vs. Dickinson
6:00 Movie "Primal Fear" in WLL

Sunday, November 17
9:00 a.m. Wrestling at College of N.J. Open
4:00 p.m. Mass in Wismer Parents' Lounge


Education 402, Identity and Diversity, is being offered for the first time Spring semester and will not be offered again until Spring of 1999. It is open to all students interested in diversity issues, whether or not they are interested in an Education minor or teaching certification.

NEWS

From Career Services
The Nation's Most Successful Employment Fair

Attention graduating seniors, if you're looking for a position with a successful company in the Philadelphia region, don't miss this opportunity to meet your match. Come to PNC Bank Operation Native Talent, on December 26 from 10am to 4pm, and December 27, from 9am to 4pm at the Adam's Mark Hotel, City Line Avenue, Philadelphia. Representatives from large and small companies are waiting to launch your career. Come dressed for success and employers will interview you on the spot. PNC Bank ONT, the nation's largest recruitment conference, is sponsored by the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce and PNC Bank. For more information, call their hotline at 215-972-3980.

Professors Nominated

by Teresa Green

Copy Editor

Five Ursinus professors, Dr. Andrew Economopoulos, Dr. Eileen England, Dr. Laurie Joseph, Timothy Schofield, and E. Jane Shinehouse, were recently nominated to "Who's Who Among America's Teachers" for 1996. Dr. Economopoulos, an associate professor of economics, has been teaching at Ursinus since 1983. Dr. England, an associate professor of psychology, has been teaching at Ursinus since 1989. Dr. Joseph, a former visiting professor of biology, began teaching at Ursinus in 1994. Mr. Schofield, an adjunct professor of mathematics in the Evening Program, has been teaching at Ursinus since 1981. Mrs. Shinehouse, a professor of biology, has been teaching at Ursinus since 1960.

All of the teachers nominated for this award were selected by one or more former students who were listed in either "Who's Who Among American High School Students" or "The National Dean's List." Congratulations to these fine teachers.

GUIDELINES FOR THANKSGIVING VACATION RESIDENCE HALL CLOSING

1. All residence halls will be closed and locked on Tuesday, November 26. (Students unable to vacate the halls by 5:30 PM will be required to wait with their belongings in Wismer Lower Lounge.) The Wismer Lounge will close at 8:00 PM.

2. The residence halls reopen on Sunday, December 2, at 12:00 noon. Please do not plan to return until that time. During the recess period, halls will not be open for procurement of personal belongings.

3. The Dining Hall will be closed after lunch at 1:30 PM on Tuesday, November 26. The dining hall will reopen for breakfast at 7:30 AM on Monday, December 2, 1996.

4. Zack's Place will close at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, November 26. It will reopen at 8:00 AM on Monday, December 2, 1996 for counter service.

5. The College is not responsible for personal possessions. Items of value should be kept home. (See Student Handbook, page 33, item 7.)

6. In an effort to improve security, students are required to do the following:
   A. Windows closed and locked, shades drawn.
   B. Lights out, door locked.
   C. Disconnect all electrical equipment with the exception of aquariums and refrigerators.
   D. Remove all trash to a dumpster.
   E. Sweep and clean floor.

7. Any student found on campus without a break pass will be asked to leave campus immediately.

BEST WISHES TO ALL FOR A HAPPY THANKSGIVING!
Roving Reporter (cont. from page one)

"President Clinton’s mind? All this and I inhaled, too!" — George Zeppos, Senior

"I’d have him make it cheaper to go to college." — Esther Fields, Senior

"He should mandate kegs on Ursinus campus." — Cliff Motley, Senior

"He should upgrade the school socially and give us something to do. Make the planet of Ursinus a universe." — Marshallene Clarke, Freshman

"I think I should expand the pool hours since they’ve been the same for twenty-four years. Maybe have scheduled swims: two hour recreational swim, one hour for laps, the time the swim team practices...etc." — Anna Amphibian, Senior

"He should install Plexiglas windows all over campus." — Pat "Gak" Snyder, Sophomore

"I wish he could make me not have to live across the hall from Wilson." — Gavin Kennedy, Senior

"I second that." — J.P. DeMarco, Junior

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"Ideas for Strassburger’s mind:

- Give back Phi Psi’s charter. — Heather Drongolo, Junior
- Legalize kegs on campus. — Harold Leroy Griffith III, Junior
- I would have President Strassburger give me a full scholarship.” — Sean Sarles, Junior
- I would plant in President Strassburger’s mind that the Roving Reporter must be stopped!” — Kristin Sabol, Senior
- There should be an edible garden on campus. We could plant apple and peach trees, black and red raspberry bushes, strawberries and blueberries... — Johnny Seed, an Apple Alum
- The President can stop giving Keith everything he wants and make the dolphins return to the sea.” — Hannah Sturgis, Freshman
- Clean the Flat.” — Dave Gaff, Junior
- I would plant in President Strassburger’s mind to look at the administration with a more acute eye. It seems to me that they are more concerned with what the students can do for the college rather than how they can guide us in what we want to do and be.” — Ed Corcoran, Senior

On Election Day, Ursinus Forged the Atlantic

by Carrie Haslebeck

Special to the Grizzly

On Election Day Dr. Nicholas Berry, professor of politics, had the world at his fingertips - or Barcelona at least. As he sat typing quietly on a computer keyboard in Ursinus' International Learning Center, passers-by would not have suspected the magnitude of what was happening had it not been for the small crowd surrounding Dr. Berry, watching the screen intently. Dr. Berry was discussing the implications of the election in a chat on the Internet, a seemingly commonplace event. What made this particular chat noteworthy, however, were the thirty-some participants with whom Dr. Berry spoke. Not only were their native languages Spanish and Catalan, but also they were participating in the chat from their homes or offices in Barcelona and nearby cities in Spain and Catalonia. In this way, both Dr. Berry and the various international participants were able to cross the Atlantic Ocean with a touch of their fingers.

This chat was one edition of a chat series moderated by Vincent Castells-Talens, director of the International Learning Center and co-organizer of the event, was on hand to help translate when needed.

To accommodate Dr. Berry, the chat was in English and to further facilitate the conversation Antoni Meets every Wednesday at 10 p.m. at the Java Trench in Zwingli Hall.

Read your fiction, poetry, etc. or simply listen.

Coffee and assorted yummy stuff are also available and served by the hottest literary chicks and he-chicks on campus.

Experience the best and the worst of student writing.
What A Friend
by Todd Brenneman

I was talking with a friend the other day. These conversations are usually one-sided. My friend doesn’t do much talking. “I have a lot of problems,” I was saying. My friend didn’t say a word. “I know what you would say,” I said. “You would tell me that my problems are really insignificant, that there are more important matters. And, you’d be right.”

I met my friend a long time ago, but we’ve only become really close over the past few years. I do lots of things for him, or at least I try. He really doesn’t ask for much, but I try to do whatever he asks. What do I get out of it? Obviously, you don’t know my friend. I call him my friend, but there is much more to that. He is the kind of friend who is always there for you, but he’s not someone you’d write for. He has over sixty books on the market. They are all number one sellers in many different languages.

The reason I’m telling you about my friend is that he asked me to. Not in so many words, but this is the best way for me to do it. You see, I’m not ashamed of my friend. In fact, I wish everyone who read this would actually get to know my friend. He’d like to know you—count on it.

I’d like to introduce you to my friend, but I can’t. You see, I’m not sure when he is coming back to this area. All I know is that he says he’s coming soon.

My friend is the wisest person I know. Some of his favorite sayings have gotten me through tough situations in my life. And for that, I’ll be eternally grateful. Let me tell you, if you receive a gift from him, it’s one you’ll never return, give up, or allow to get rotten (that is—if you understand its worth). His gifts are costly. No one has ever paid a more dear price. And for that, I’ll always love him.

My friend goes by many names: Prince, Counselor, King, Shepherd, Governor, Son, Advocate (he also likes to say—I AM alot), but the most famous of His names is simply—Jesus.

Diversity’s Downfall Through Apathy
by Mike Podgorski

In the October 28 issue of The Grizzly this year, the Roving Reporter interviewed people about the diversity issue on this campus, and a lot of unintelligent responses were given. By diversity, I am speaking in terms of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religious preference, everything. And you would have thought that students would have actually had some legitimate concerns about the question of diversity here, and some did. Regrettably, though, a lot didn’t.

As sad as it may seem, diversity on this campus is a big joke. Before I begin, I want to say I am not attacking the administration. The promotion of diversity on this campus is not solely their responsibility; it is also very much the responsibility of the students, the majority of whom have been very negligent with this responsibility. There seems to be nothing wrong with an apathetic attitude towards diversity. It’s just a fact, a fact that the majority of this campus takes for granted.

So, you may ask, “What’s the big deal?” Why do I need diversity in my life? I suppose I was under the impression that I was attending a liberal arts college. I guess I just thought diversity was one of the major tenets of a liberal arts education. I suppose I was misinformed.

Truthfully, though, the overwhelming sense of apathy found on this campus is quite near pathetic. I don’t think that there is necessarily anything wrong when the majority of the students attending this school are white suburbanites. I’m one of them. I just don’t understand why a lot of these people come to this school if they don’t intend to take their liberal arts education seriously. Musser would seem to be the most diverse house on campus, but Musser is no longer called the foreign students’ house. Instead it is labeled the international house, as if there exists a huge unbreakable chasm between the humans there and the humans on the rest of this campus. I don’t quite understand this.

I think that it is ironic that the only people who will read this article are those who are actually concerned about the diversity issue on this campus. Even if people who are apathetic to the issue read this, they probably still won’t be concerned enough to write a response. All those who really don’t care will pass over this article to read how well our football team is doing. Don’t get me wrong. I think football rules. By the time people read this, I will have already gone to the Vet to watch the Eagles (win, hopefully). But there is a hell of a lot more to life than just football. Like taking the liberal arts education offered here seriously, and being responsible to all that such an education entails.

Letters from Ireland
by Caroline Kurtz

Greetings from this Irish lass that I know you have all been longing to hear from. I know in the past I have been writing about traveling and school, but this time I think I will be writing about something that is near and dear to the Ursinus community. I will be discussing parties. Namely, the biggest party that Cork sees all year. The Guinness Cork Jazz Festival. It is held every year during the October Bank Holiday weekend. Yes, banks get their own holidays here, go figure. I just have this to say: it may not be Mardi Gras in New Orleans, but put some Jazz into this town and you’re in for some fun.

Every one of the numerous pubs and nightclubs hosts jazz bands during the weekend. Most are free admission, but (and here is the catch) you have to start queuing up (lining up) very early, like noon! Now I’m not talking about waiting a few minutes. This is like waiting all night outside an amphitheater to get Pearl Jam tickets, who by the way, could not even sell out their concert here.

Once you get inside the venue of your choice, you spend more time queuing. Queuing for drinks, queuing for seats, and for all of the women, queuing for the bathroom! I spent more time standing in line that weekend than I did all my life. But hey, I have become a very patient person because of it.

However, if you forget all of the other stuff, you will find out that the Jazz Festival is probably one of the best parties you have ever been to. I got very lucky because I was able to find places with great music and very few people. I even met the band members from Leeds and got the bassist’s number. Hey, what can I say? They are suckers for Americans.

Seriously, if you are into jazz at all, and if you have ever wanted to see Ireland, I suggest you choose this weekend to do it. You may even run into some famous people. At a coffee bar called Calypso’s, I offered to share my table with an older gentleman who was rain-soaked. Not only did he pay for my hot chocolate, but he gave me tickets to his concert. So, my friend and I got to see Van Morrison for free. Yes, ladies and gentlemen, Mr. Brown Eyed Girl himself. Let me just tell you, that had to be one of the coolest moments I have ever had.

Well, as usual, my classes call. Keep those letters coming; I enjoy every one of them.
**Intellectual Maturity: Not Just for Breakfast Any More!**

by Jared Rakes

Editor-in-Chief

The Grizzly has come under fire as of late, as some students, particularly those affiliated with the campus "unauthorized newspaper," The Gnome (edited by Steve Ziga) have contended that we are an insufficient vehicle for student forum—as well as campus information. One student sent an anonymous letter to the editor (anonymous submissions will, of course, not be published) in which he stated "Perhaps if our educational institution refrained from censoring student opinions and their rights to freedom of speech and press, the necessity to resort did you make it before such vital bring you. to stand behind what they write, reach your target audience, you'll..."

The Grizzly seems to think that such constraints, which I personally enforce, are too great. So what have they accomplished by creating an unauthorized paper that has no rules? Well, they've thrown around the above accusations a few times. Other than that, they've addressed some important issues ranging from the seeming inequities of the Ursinus College Dining Service to the effects of colored marshmallows in breakfast cereal. Students, I ask you: how ever did you make it before such vital information was brought to your attention? I think we should all thank The Grizzly for leading us from The Cave. Please. If this is "the light," somebody had better change the bulb. There is something fundamentally wrong with an "unauthorized newspaper" in the first place. The idea of transmitting news in a forum that has no rules, no legal constraints, nor any editors, is, well, stupid. News is supposed to be dependable and trustworthy, not

If the writers of The Gnome refuse to stand behind what they write, well, that says a lot about the potential value of their messages.

whatever someone who feels compelled to hide behind a pseudonym feels compelled to bring you. Furthermore, anonymity prohibits any chance of intellectual responsibility or mature ownership of one's ideas. Why, Gnome staffers, do you feel you must remain unknown? I have asked some of them personally, and I got lots of shrugs and assertions that "it's fun," or that "everybody knows who we are anyway." These responses are cop-outs. If you're actually still reading at this point, it may have occurred to you that I am, as Editor of The Grizzly, simply disgruntled because a few people have stopped writing for the campus newspaper. Perhaps that's true, but I have no time or space to complain about apathy this week. (To those interested, see page 10.) I simply disagree with people claiming to be news sources and not revealing their identities. Anything worth saying is worth standing behind, in my opinion; if the writers of The Gnome refuse to stand behind what they write, well, that says a lot about the potential value of their messages. The function of the student newspaper of the college is to serve as a source of news and as a forum for debate for students, faculty, and staff. In order to best meet that goal, we play by a few ground rules—as does every noteworthy source of information—but we will not tolerate censorship or any infringement upon any student's first amendment rights. Gnome staffers, if you have anything better to do than find ways to be oppressed and reasons to circumvent mythical authority, that's just dandy for you. You should not, however, ascribe the source of such oppression to anybody but yourselves.

Finally, I'd like to extend an invitation to those of you out there who seem to be plagued by the inequities here at Ursinus: write for The Grizzly. Not only will you reach your target audience, you'll send a message through an established route for which people have (well, at least a little) respect. Being able to do so in a forum with a few ground rules is simply part of putting your money where your mouth is.

**The Outsider Survives**

by Marshalee Clarke

An outsider is someone who is misunderstood or feels alienated based on the demographics of his or her current surroundings. In my opinion, one's cultural background and one's social attitude determine whether one is considered an outsider. Upon entry to Ursinus College, I assumed I could easily overcome social obstacles such as the lack of minority students and faculty and the dry social life, but obviously I cannot. What makes me an outsider at Ursinus is my race, my social attitude, and my moral beliefs. Based on these characteristics, I am incapable of fitting in.

I visited Ursinus only once. This visit was at the end of the school year when finals were being taken; therefore, I was unable to see how the students interacted with each other or what extracurricular activities were here for their entertainment. I entered the Ursinus Campus with open arms, awaiting anything surprising that might happen. I tried my best to speak to those who seemed homesick or those who had a hard time adjusting to college. As much as I tried to be friendly, surprisingly few people took my enthusiasm for college to heart. They all gave me the "cold shoulder." I never once looked at my race as a reason for this behavior. I thought that the days of ignorant behavior were over and done with, but I now see that, when the times move, not everyone moves with them.

Since I am a part of the African-American race, I am faced with many obstacles here at Ursinus. When U.C. visited my school in Maryland, they told me that this school resembled a huge family; this is not true at all. I also received a phone call from Ursinus College telling me that they were very interested in me because they were trying to increase the multi-cultural atmosphere at Ursinus. After speaking with the college representative that day, I thought that my race would benefit the college more than it would benefit me. I chose to attend because of these feelings, I tried my best to put these thoughts from my mind.

Here at Ursinus, due to the low ratio of African-Americans to White Anglo Saxon Protestants, the African-American culture is denounced and stereotyped. The word "black" is often used in a negative manner, which is very offensive. About a month ago, a couple of Caucasian males passed my window and recognized that I am a woman. One of the Caucasian males came back to identify who I was and he said in a very offensive manner, "Oh, she's just a black girl." I was very upset because he implied that if I was a Caucasian female, they would have stopped to talk. After thoroughly thinking about what happened, I felt that it was just another form of intolerable racism.

Separation is apparent in the gathering of cliques in Wissmer as well. I was puzzled because it seems as if everyone has one's own clique, but only African-Americans have their clique determined by their race. When entering the Wissmer cafeteria for the first time, I felt as if my seat was already designated for me. At one table I saw sororities, another table had fraternities, another table had football players. At this point I realized that cliques are another key to surviving here at Ursinus. Since I am a part of the Jamaican race, I felt as if my clique had already been foreshadowed at Ursinus. Because of my race, I felt as though I should be a student that follows and does not lead, or a student that stands in the light of the moon instead of the sun.

My social experiences seem very different than those of other Ursinus students. I cannot relate to some of the activities on campus, because the majority of the activities are centering around alcohol. A student once told me, "You can not have fun here if you don't drink, have sex, or do drugs." Hearing such an opinion from an Ursinus student was one of the most unpleasant truths I have heard about this campus; nevertheless, this is a reality. Regardless of race, gender, or sexual preference, there are certain morals that have been instilled in each and every one of us. One moral that has been instilled in me is to do what I want to do, or suffer the consequences of the decisions that I have carelessly made.

Due to my upbringing I have never been willing to survive here on campus. I have learned that the uniqueness that makes each and every one of us feel alienated is the reason why we are who we are. One of my unique qualities that I never see diminishing is my need to be in the presence of the sun and never the shadow of the moon.
On Our Growing Computer Dependency

by Brent Thompson

Special to The Grizzly

I read with interest Mike Podgorski’s article in the Novem-
ber 4th issue of The Grizzly, entitled “Are We Too Depen-
don Computers?” As the new occupant of a new position, Di-
crator of Computing Services, I am interested in anything con-
cerning computers here at Ursinus College. Mr. Podgorski makes three main assertions in that article: that we are highly depen-
dent on computers here on campus, perhaps too much so; that there are too many computers in need of repair and too many problems with the computer system on campus; and that keeping computers for student use functioning is a low priority. Let’s examine these points.

First, Mr. Podgorski says that we are increasingly dependent on computers here at Ursinus College, and that we seem to overlook the inherent danger in it [that dependency].” Both of these statements are true. As we increasingly incorporate computers into our academic and personal lives, and as those computers become progressively more powerful, we are able to do what used to be either impossible or at the very least impractical.

We can surf the World Wide Web for information and entertainment from around the world with more convenience than trying to find a parking space at the local mall.

We can exchange e-mail and “chat” with friends and colleagues at other colleges as easily as if they were in another building just a few yards away. We can edit research papers to add that missing paragraph on page 3 without having to retypew the next 8 pages. The list of activities goes on from the truly extraordinary to the extraordinarily mundane—when the computers work.

When I lose an important file because my computer has somehow turned it into scrambled eggs or when my hard drive crashes, I am painfully reminded that this wouldn’t have happened if I had been using pen and paper. When some part of my computer at the office or at home goes down, when I can’t get through to the network, or get my e-mail, I am at least as frustrated as the next person. And yes, these things happen to me, too. We ARE dependent on comput-

ers. Whether we are too depen-
don on them is open to debate. We are, however, certainly too sloppy and careless in our dependency, often overlooking “the inherent danger” in our dependency. More about that later.

Mr. Podgorski also indicates that “there are too many comput-
ers that are in need of repair and there are too many recurring problems with the computer system on campus” and that “nobody seems to care” about these problems. Perhaps we can examine these two issues together. To have any computer broken is surely at least one too many if you are the one trying to use it. Unfortunately, it is virtually impossible to keep all computers running all the time. This is true wherever you find large collections of computers, at Ursinus Fullerton College or anywhere else.

It is also true that some computers in a collection will be down at any given time whether the computers are intended for use primarily by students or by employees. Thus, when Mr. Podgorski states that he is “sure the business office’s computers don’t have little signs posted on them denoting them ‘out of order,’” he is both right and wrong. He was right in that there was no little sign when that happened recently—the user was already quite aware that the computer needed repair. But Mr. Podgorski was wrong in his implication that computers intended primarily for employee use never need repair, that only computers for student use ever have problems.

How, then, do we keep the number of non-working comput-
ers to a minimum? Three activities are needed in order to do this: preventive maintenance, repairs, and upgrades. Performing those activities requires two resources: staff and money. When I arrived on campus in August, the three full-time staff members in academic computing had all left the College. Thus, the two full-time staff members in administrative computing, Peggy Baer and Ruth Sprague, were doing double duty and then some to just keep things going. Since that time we have hired a full-time support person, have lost an outside contract employee who was doing repair work, and are currently actively searching for another support person, a repair person, and a systems manager for the VAX. Those increases in staffing, while not the final answer, will nevertheless help us to keep more machines running more of the time, and to reduce the occurrence of problems. The frustrating Olin server break-
downs which were particularly frequent earlier in the semester.

In addition, the administration is committed to the support of computing on the campus, for students, faculty, and staff.

Currently, the “growing but not yet grown” staff situation in Computing Services may give rise to an appearance of not caring sufficiently about student comput-
ing resources. Even though we care deeply, there is only so much that can be done with so few. We have had some occasional outside help, but there is no substitute for permanent staff on the scene. With your patience and help, we will continue to work to keep the computing resources functioning.

There are two other factors that influence computer breakdowns: use and abuse. The computers in the labs in Olin, Myrin, and elsewhere receive heavy use. This increases both the likelihood and the frequency of repairs. Because of that, we also now have two helping students who are being helped with repairs. We anticipate far less computer down time as these students make their contribution, and the added staff come on board.

As for computer abuse, that is a particularly nettlesome area. Let me first say that the overwhelming majority of students here treat the computers with respect and care. There are, however, a few, a critical few, who cause grief for the rest of us. It only takes one person to steal a mouse ball or a mouse, and the computer thus vandalized becomes useless until the problem can be reported and resolved. It only takes one person to put the wrong kind of clear plastic in a laser printer to try to make an overhead transpar-

ency, and the printer can be ruined. It only takes one person to tinker with a computer’s settings so that it doesn’t function as it should.

There is not much most of us can do about these sorts of problems, but there are things we can all do to avoid creating more problems. First, leave food and drinks far away from the comput-
ers in the labs. Coke and key-
boards do not mix well. Second, if something doesn’t work right, don’t “get a bigger hammer.” For example, if a floppy drive doesn’t work to go into a drive (or come out), there is probably a reason; trying to insert the disk or remove it by force may break the drive and possibly even ruin the disk.

And there are a few things we can do to protect ourselves against the worst effects of computer breakdowns from any cause. We all need to be much less sloppy, more methodical, in our depen-
dence on computers. Like most computer users, I have learned by sad experience that computer problems will strike us, seem-
ingly at the worst possible moment, although I am at a loss to say when the “best possible moment” might be for such problems to strike.

The most pressing and frequent computer-related problem that students raise is not that they can not find a working computer, but that having worked on a computer, they can no longer find their paper. Their floppy disk seems to have swallowed the paper whole. The best guards against this most frequent computing problem is both unimpressive and effective—save frequently and back up your data.

Save your paper, spreadsheet, or whatever at intervals that you match your level of tolerance for having to rewrite: for me that is about every five minutes. And always make a second copy of your paper on a different floppy disk.

We are dependent on computers. Short of heading to a desert island, we will continue to be so.

As individuals, each we need to be thoughtful and organized in our dependence. As a service organization, Computing Services will work to reduce the frustration associated with that dependence.

We welcome your suggestions for ways to increase the effectiveness of computing resources on campus. E-mail them to the HELP account on the VAX, or contact your student representatives to the campus Computer User Support Working Group, Amy Brungess and Alex Uy.

(Continued on page 6)

On Our Growing Computer Dependency

Miss Pennsylvania USA Pageant

Official Preliminary Miss USA Pageant

November 11, 1996

NO PERFORMING TALENT REQUIRED

If you are an applicant who qualifies and are between the ages of 18 and 27 by February 1, 1998, never married and at least a six month resi-
dent of Pennsylvania, thus college dorm students are eligible, you could be Pennsylvania’s representative at the CBS-nationally televised Miss USA® Pageant® in February 1998 to compete for over $200,000 in cash and prizes. The Miss Pennsylvania USA Pageant® for 1998 will be presented at the Palace Inn, Monroeville, Pennsylvania, March 8 & 9, 1997. The new Miss Pennsylvania USA along with her expense paid trip to compete in the CBS-nationally televised Miss USA Pageant, will receive over $2,000 in cash among many other prizes. All ladies interested in competing for the title must respond by mail. Letters to become a recent candidate must be accompanied by a brief biography, address and a phone number. WRITE TO: MISS PENNSYLVANIA USA PAGEANT c/o Tri-State Headquarters - Dept. CA 347 Locust Avenue, Washington, PA 15301 Tri-State Headquarters Phone (412) 225-5344

Application Deadline is December 14, 1996 Miss USA® Pageant is part of the Madision Square Garden Family. Miss Pennsylvania USA® Pageant is "A Carterfia Production"
**What’s Up in Wellness**

by Kerrie McKinney of The Grizzly

It is that time of year when the days get shorter and the nights become longer and longer. Most people become more tired, and some do not feel like doing anything. The same thing can happen on rainy or overcast days. However, is this problem simply in our heads, or does it really have something to do with the weather?

Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) is the onset and remission of major depressive episodes at characteristic times of the year. Most cases begin in the fall or winter and end in the spring. Consequently, very few cases occur in the summer. This disease is associated with the shorter fall and winter days which expose people to less sunlight. When thinking about this disorder, however, one must take into consideration the problems which come with the school schedule or seasonal unemployment; neither one of these things can be considered a factor of SAD.

The depressive episodes occurring in a seasonal pattern can be characterized by fatigue, lethargy, an increase in sleeping habits, overeating, weight gain, and a craving for carbohydrates. The prevalence of SAD appears to vary with latitude, age, and sex. The occurrence increases with higher latitudes, like in the temperate region or northern countries. Younger people are at a higher risk than older people for coming down with winter depressive episodes. Similarly, females comprise 60 to 90 percent of all people with the seasonal pattern of depression.

There are varying ways to treat SAD, or at least alleviate the symptoms. Depression usually improves within days of moving from cold to warm climates, or from areas that have short exposure of sunlight to areas that have a higher exposure of daylight. Changes in décor of the house can help alleviate the problem by making rooms brighter or more well-lit. Finally, the most common treatment is the use of a specific artificial bright light. This treatment has been found more effective when given in the morning hours. In addition, the intensity of the light is more important than the type of light being used. The effects of the light treatment can be seen over the weeks it is used, with most people experiencing the benefits of the light treatment within three or four weeks.

**Features**

The Silver Screen: The Sequel

Hollywood is notorious for making sequels. Are you being asked, who can forget the numerous Rambo and Star Trek films? Some sequels surprisingly turn out better than the first. Gremlins 2 is far more entertaining than the original. However, most of the sequels make you want to say “WHY!”

This week, the Silver Screen presents the better sequels to come: Holly, Dear Ruth and Dear Wife. Both films focus on the courtship and marriage of Bill Seacroft and Ruth Wilkins, played by William Holden and Joan Caulfield. (Some of you English majors and professors may notice the last names of the actors. Just think J.D. Salinger.) In Dear Ruth, Bill, on leave from the Army Air Force, comes to town to see his long time-pal/sweetheart, Ruth. However, unbeknownst to him and the girl’s family, the real pen-pal is Ruth’s younger sister, Miriam (Mona Freeman). Wanting to marry Ruth, Bill begins to woo her with a truck full of lilacs and a year’s supply of candy corn. Unfortunately, Ruth is already engaged to her co-worker, Albert. The ingredients are all here for hilarious comedy. In the sequel, Dear Wife, Bill and Ruth are married and living under her father’s roof — not a good way to begin a marriage. Bill is having a hard time adapting to civilian life and resents not being able to provide for his family. Things get even worse when the socially and politically active Miriam nominates Bill to run against her father, Judge Wilkins, for state senate. This gives Ruth’s old beau, Albert, the chance he needs to get her back. Both films are packed with quick-witted dialogue. Mona Freeman is especially wonderful in her role as Miriam. Both scripts are original and entertaining. Pleasant viewing!
Summer Research in Germany: A Cultural and Educational Experience

by Tarik Qasim of The Grizzly

I was extremely fortunate to be given the opportunity to visit Germany this summer, especially since the chance to do research abroad is a rare experience for college students. The experience was unique because I was part of Ursinus College’s summer pilot program in which students were allowed to study in their major overseas. In this way, I was privileged to further my studies in German, which is my minor, and at the same time, not detract from my major, which is biology. I found my sophomore summer in Germany to be a time of personal growth and of understanding in how other cultures operate.

My project in Germany this summer was to study and do research on the fat dormouse, a nocturnal mammal. The work on the fat dormouse project was actually part of an ongoing program at the Department of Animal Physiology at the University of Tübingen. The research lasted only seven weeks. This opportunity to work on the fat dormouse project in Germany was more than just an international research experience. It was also a chance to work with graduate students in an area of biology, animal physiology, which I had not previously explored. The students there were also extremely understanding and helpful in helping me to surmount the language barrier. I believe that from my experience I improved my German speaking ability and gained greater confidence and preparation to work in an international setting.

While doing research, three other students—Jason Kline, Jen Mintzer, and Christian Rice, along with the Clousers and I spent much of our time in a large white house we had rented in Tübingen, a city south of Stuttgart. Our house overlooked the Neckar, a small river. There was also a market place, as well as many small specialty stores which we frequented daily. During our seven weeks there, we became well acquainted with the town and its dialect.

There was also time to explore many areas of Germany. Overall I found my visit to Germany to be a very positive experience. I was particularly fond of Stuttgart because of its city-like atmosphere, and its elegant Mercedes Benz Museum. I learned a great deal from my experience in Germany, I believe it has helped me to change inwardly, and outwardly as well.
My Favorite Curses

by Brian Hanmrick

Curses are odd little things, mainly because when a curse is laid the victim does not realize the dire situation that he or she is now in, that their life is being threatened by a power far greater than one can understand. Well, that is, if you believe in curses. If you don’t believe in curses and things start to happen to you, then you can do one of two things; you can start to believe, or you can lie to yourself and DIE HORRIBLY, PAINFULLY, and WRETCHEDLY. Now, I’m not saying that either one is better than the other, I’m just trying to lay some thoughts on the table.

Thinner, Steven King’s latest afternoon snack for the screen, actually wasn’t too terribly bad. In fact, I found most of it quite entertaining. The acting was nothing special, the plot was pretty standard, and though the make-up special effects were good there wasn’t enough of anything to make it outstanding.

The basic plot concerns a 300 pound lawyer who, while receiving a bit of, umm, oral attention by his wife in the car runs over a gypsy’s daughter. There is a cover-up by the police. The eldest gypsy curses the lawyer by saying “thinner” and drives away. The lawyer begins to lose weight ... a lot of weight, anywhere between three and six pounds a day. He gets mad, tries to get the gypsy to take the curse off, has a friend cause a bit of mayhem, and eventually gets the curse transferred. What he does with it then is the real twist in the movie. Oh yeah, the lawyer’s wife is sleeping with the doctor, so that gets thrown in for a bit of tension.

The biggest problem that I had with the movie was the script. The individual scenes weren’t too bad, but the editing between scenes was horrible. The movie jumped from scene to scene without any type of smooth segue. This, I believe, is the fault of whomever adapted the book to a screenplay. In the book, between the scenes, there is a narrative voice which strings the whole book together; it supplies what the protagonist is thinking, or background on the town, or something. It seems like in this script they just took the action and dialogue, but left out the inter-scene narrative. This left a definite gap in the movie, one that could have been easily rectified.

A good point, however, was the total emotional breakdown that accompanied the lawyer’s weight loss. As he became thinner he became more and more paranoid and wacko, at first screaming (with conviction and belief) “There are no gypsy curses”, and ending up screaming (with sarcasm and cynicism) “There are no gypsy curses”; I like to see the disintegration of a person’s entire self, it makes me smile. Only in movies, though, of course.

Another small problem I had with the movie was the abundance of clichés. It seemed that every other line was a horrendous, pitiful attempt at drama that ended up being melodramatic and clichéd. “No one messes with Richie ‘The Hammer’”. Isn’t that one of the most horrible lines you have ever heard, especially from a mob guy trying to sound threatening? Come on now.

Joe Mantagna was cool. He plays a mob guy whom the lawyer helps in the very beginning. Mantagna feels indebted, says call if you need anything. Lawyer needs a curse removed. Mob guys grab a bunch of guns, rolls on down to the lawyer, secrets him away in a motel, and proceeds to kick some serious ass. After he accomplishes this mayhem he leaves, and he’s gone. An odd character that popped up for only maybe twenty minutes, but violence is always good to relieve the monotony of psychological deterioration.

Overall it was relatively entertaining, and a few of the scenes were really cool. Balance that with the fact that it tends to be melodramatic and somewhat jerky in its editing. Make up your own mind, and if you agree or disagree with me. I saw a matinee of it, so the price was cheaper. If you want to go to a movie at night, however, go see something else and save this one for video.

Rating - 5 out of 10

A few words on Romeo and Juliet. I saw that Saturday afternoon, and I thought that it was really, really well done. The opening scenes were shot like El Mariachi, the middle scenes were poignant, and the death scene ... sigh. I don’t know that I could give words to that scene. I thought the language worked very well, because it was consistent throughout the whole movie. If people in the background had been speaking in modern English, then maybe I would have felt the incongruities that Joe did. But, they did not, and I did not. I loved it, it was in tears for a good bit of it, couldn’t stop shaking for three hours after I left the theater (although that, of course, could be from my emotional state right now, a state that this movie did not heal all that much), and would recommend it to most people. Joe gave it a 6 and said wait for video. I give it a 9 and say go enjoy yourself.

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Amnesty International

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AMERICORPS
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PREVIEWING THE WEEKEND GAME

Dickinson (5-4, 3-3) at Ursinus (8-1, 6-0)
1:00

From Centennial Conference Notes

An outright Centennial Conference championship is on the line for the Bears in their 68th meeting with the Red Devils in a series that began in 1894. Dickinson holds a 36-25-6 series lead and has won six of the last seven meetings, including a 27-12 decision in Carlisle last season. Ursinus' last win came in 1993 at Biddle Field, 31-18, splitting the Devils' shot at an outright title. The Bears' last win in Carlisle was in 1988, pulling off a 29-25 win on the game's final play. The victory also spoiled Dickinson's undefeated season, its outright championship hopes, and its NCAA playoff dreams. Ursinus already has a share of the Conference championship, its first ever, and still holds a flickering hope of an NCAA berth.

NOTES: A victory would give Ursinus nine wins for the first time since the 1902 squad went 9-0. Senior WR Ron Floyd needs one reception and 54 yards to move into fifth place on the CC career list. He currently has 106 catches for 1,631 yards in CC games and 172 overall catches for 2,558 yards. A win over Dickinson would give coach Steve Gilbert his 41st win at the school, breaking the old mark of 40 set by Dick Whetley.

Grills and Frills
Hamburger..........................$1.90
w/ cheese..........................$2.10
w/ cheese and bacon............$2.45
Steak Sandwich......................$2.60
w/ cheese..........................$2.80
Chicken Steak Sandwich..............$2.85
w/ cheese..........................$2.95

Veggie Burger......................$2.25
Chicken Fingers.....................$2.90
Veggie Nuggets.....................$2.25
Mozzarella Sticks.................$1.95
Onion Rings.........................$1.45
French Fries........................$1.60

Baker's Junction
Soft Pretzel..........................$8.55
Chocolate
Chip Cookie..........................$8.55
Muffins..............................reg $1.50
low fat $1.00

Hers Tortilla Chips...$1.69
Salsa
Cheese Sauce.......................$1.99
Guacamole..........................$2.29
Chips/Pretzels.......................$1.55
Microwave Popcorn.................$6.00

By Joel Schofer
Sports Editor

There wasn't much sports action at Ursinus this past week, as you can tell by the size and quality of the sports section in this issue of The Grizzly.

This week's sports section is like Gerry Thorell's weak beyond cuteness, Pat Chilson Jr., or John Isom. The Bears' last win in Collegeville was in 1988, splitting the Devils' shot at an outright title. The Bears' last win in Carlisle was in 1988, pulling off a 29-25 win on the game's final play. The victory also spoiled Dickinson's undefeated season, its outright championship hopes, and its NCAA playoff dreams. Ursinus already has a share of the Conference championship, its first ever, and still holds a flickering hope of an NCAA berth.

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...but the urge to drink and the urge to see...
MEN'S SOCCER ENDS SEASON WITH LOSS

By Joel Schofer
Sports Editor

The Ursinus men's soccer team finished the season with a 7-0 loss to the Muhlenberg Muhls, finalizing their record at 7-11-1 overall and 4-5 in Centennial Conference play.

Senior Brad Getz, the Bears' all-time leading scorer, moved from forward to sweeper this season in an effort to shore up the defense. He played forward only when the Bears needed late scoring punch.

The Bears will enter next season with Getz and stopper/sweeper Angelo Terrigno as their only graduated seniors and should be led by a strong defense consisting of junior stopper Ed Luberski, junior wingbacks Josh Hartle and Pat Vesay, and freshman wingback Jamie Trout. A strong group of sophomores, midfielder Matt Finnegan, forward Mike Traud, and forward Ryan Costello, were the leading scorers this year and look to provide the scoring punch next season.

In order to be competitive next season in a conference dominated by Johns Hopkins, Gettysburg, and Muhlenberg, the Bears will need to recruit a sweeper from the incoming freshman. Freshman Andi Perri and sophomore Jay Wilkes also could help fill the void left by Getz's departure.

All-Time Leading Scorer Getz Plays Final Game

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FIELD HOCKEY FINISHES SEASON AT 2-16

Curry, Foster, and Minnich Receive Honors

The Ursinus field hockey team ended the season with 10 straight losses and fell to 2-16. On November 5th the Bears hosted West Chester in the annual Eleanor Frost Snell Cup game. The Bears relinquished the cup with a 2-0 loss. West Chester outshot Ursinus 17-15, but the Bears held an 11-9 edge in penalty corners. Nicole Gieder had 15 saves in goal for Ursinus.

On November 6th, Ursinus travelled to the Main Line to face St. Joseph's. The Hawks got a goal in the final 1:30 to earn a 2-1 win. Kristen Calore's first career goal, off of an assist from Amy Minnich, had tied the game, 1-1, with 6:42 to play. Gieder had 20 saves in goal for the Bears.

FIELD HOCKEY HONORS: Junior defensive player Dana Curry was the lone Ursinus field hockey player name to the All-Patriot League First Team, announced on November 8th. The team was selected by a vote among the league's coaches. The Bears placed two players, junior midfielder/forward Kelly Foster and senior midfielder Amy Minnich, on the second team. Foster led Ursinus with six goals and three assists for the season.

CENTENNIAL CONFERENCE FOOTBALL STANDINGS

Team Conference Games All Games

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* clinched share of championship

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black baseball caps with "Ursinus" and a bear paw in gold...............$15
black wool cap with "Ursinus" in gold..................................$10

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