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The Grizzly, February 29, 2000

Stephanie Restine  
*Ursinus College*

Emily Callaghan  
*Ursinus College*

Dan Reimold  
*Ursinus College*

Sean Killeen  
*Ursinus College*

Lauren Flanagan  
*Ursinus College*

See next page for additional authors

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It's winter here at Ursmus, and along with all the exciting winter-time activities also comes the unwelcome flu and cold epidemics. Students at Ursmus always associate winter weather with basketball games, pledge activity, and Reimert tri-level snowball wars. Unfortunately, this semester it seems that more and more students are finding themselves bedridden and out-of-sync, suffering from all forms of flu and cold related ailments.

For what is supposed to be "the most wonderful time of the year" it seems that most of the Ursinus Community just can't wait for this winter to end. "I've felt sick since we got back from break," said sophomore Kate Peterson. "It hasn't been anything major, but the constant cough and congestion is just getting annoying. I am definitely ready for spring."

Others haven't been so lucky. For example, sophomore Heather Potts has suffered from ear and sinus infections and strep throat in the first five weeks back from holiday break. All of her illnesses required Potts to visit an important resource available to all sniffing, sneezing, aching UC students: the Wellness Center.

According to the medical providers at Wellness, they have seen only a typical amount of students so far this semester, instead of being constantly swamped with appointments as one would think.

Dolores Arnold of Wellness related, "Sure, we have had our fair share of sick visits, but to be honest, this has not been one of our busiest winters."

According to Arnold, the Flu and Meningitis Vaccinations offered to students in the fall have become quite popular and are helping to keep many healthy. "Wellness has seen very few student come in for sick visits after having received the vaccine," Arnold said.

Although the flu shot dose not

PHI PSI SANCTIONED

Stephanie Restine
Editor-in-Chief
Following the suspension of sorority Phi Alpha Psi's pledging activities on Feb. 18, the Greek Presidents Council met on Monday, Feb. 21 to discuss the disciplinary sanctions appropriate for the charges made against the sorority. After GPC submitted a suggested punishment to the Executive Judicial Board on Tuesday, Phi Alpha Psi was permitted to retain its charter.

In lieu of revoking the sorority's charter, other forms of punishment were imposed beginning with the termination of Spring 2000 pledging. However, the sisters of Phi Alpha Psi maintained the right to determine the status of the current pledges.

"Some organizations thought it (the punishment) was too severe," GPC Co-Chair Carolyn Schweitzer stated. "A loss of charter and actions against the pledge leaders never came up (as suggested punishments.)."

According to the memorandum issued by Dean of Students Deborah Nolan, the sorority will have to complete "40 additional hours of community service" during the spring of 2000 and will have its party privileges revoked for four school weeks.

The sisters will also have to revise their current pledge outlines in order to eliminate any activities that fall under the definition of hazing; these plans will be submitted to Dean of Students Todd McKinney for approval.

After the conclusion of pledging, Phi Alpha Psi members will organize an assembly for the entire Greek community encompassing the "rules and regulations of pledging" at Ursinus.

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Winter Weather Illnesses

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"cure" its recipients from all winter illnesses, it does diminish the severity of many of the ailments.
Arnold stated, "Most of the students that come in to wellness are suffering from symptoms of the flu but not many have had it full blown."
Therefore, Arnold highly recommends that "every student get their shot next fall, because it is most definitely worth it."
This season, several cases of mononucleosis have been also been evident around campus. This illness is very easily spread, especially within close-knit communities, such as college campuses.
Mono is characterized by such symptoms as extreme exhaustion and overall fatigue. Students need to be careful not to share contaminated objects such as cups or soda cans in order to prevent the spread of mono to others.
On Feb. 2, it was reported that the famed groundhog did in fact see his shadow, but many on the Ursinus College campus are hoping that, as legend tells it, spring is now well on its way.
Students got a glimpse of warmer weather late this past week but more frigid temperatures were expected to return until mid-March or early April.
Until then, Arnold has recommended that we "do (our) best to get plenty of sleep, eat healthy, and dress properly when outside."
Also, if you are feeling a bit "under the weather" don't hesitate to schedule an appointment in the Wellness Center.

Been There, Dung That

Researchers in Bangkok, Thailand have successfully managed to produce electricity from natural gas originally obtained from elephant excrement. A spokeswoman for the project related to the press that experiments had been conducted since August with the sole purpose of generating ways to use elephant dung as a low-cost, environment-friendly energy source. Upon fermentation of the dung, researchers discovered, natural gas is produced which is suitable for cooking or for use in electric generators. A normal-sized elephant unloads close to 100 pounds of excrement a day, which, researchers believe, can provide natural gas suitable for cooking a family of two or three.

Weeky Weather Forecast

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College.
"Deb Nolan and Todd McKinney were as supportive as their jobs would entail," Phi Alpha Psi president Stephanie Sullivan commented. "The Greek organizations were equally supportive. I think the reason we had so much support was because we were honest in admitting our wrongdoings."
"We had the opportunity to work as a group toward a fair resolution," Dean of Students Todd McKinney concluded.

House Heist Still A Mystery

After losing all his money and purchasing a log cabin home, a Georgia man is now instead entangled in a police investigation. The police are currently conducting an intense search for his stolen house, piece-by-piece.
John Rhoads originally purchased the home in Spartanburg, South Carolina and had it disassembled in preparation for its transport to his Martinez, Georgia farm, where it was to be rebuilt.
Yet, before the trip had even begun all the logs stacked at the Spartanburg property suddenly turned up missing.
Estimates indicate that between 40 and 75 logs, all measuring at close to 20 feet in length, were stolen and, according to Rhoads, the only possible way to pull this type of house heist off without a hitch is to steal one log at a time.
Police are baffled as the present as to the whereabouts of the disassembled home and, upon exploration of the probable motives for the grand theft, are beginning to wonder if this could mark the first instance in history a house has been stolen and sold for parts.
As a sheriff investigating the case commented, "This is rather unique. This is just a true testament that anything is possible."
"Cats" Off Broadway...Santana "Supernatural" at Grammy's...McCain Beats Back Bush in Michigan

Dan Reimold
Editor

After close to 18 years, over 7,000 performances and an estimated ten million tickets sold, the award-winning, beloved Broadway musical Cats will utter its last meow Jun. 25. The hit show, with music scored by Andrew Lloyd Webber, has been a phenomenal smash hit and top New York City tourist attraction since its inception in October 1982. Yet recently, matinee crowds had dwindled to less than half the capacity of the theater and buzz had been circulating for months among insiders speculating the longest-running Broadway musical had at long last run its course. Upon news of the imminent closure, cast member Marlene Danielle stated, "there were tears, sure, and hugs. And believe it or not, there was lots of laughter. Somewhere, everybody knows in their heart that nothing goes on forever."

The 2000 Grammy awards held this past Wednesday, Feb. 23 featured the previous Grammy, garnered a record-crowd during one of his many acceptance speeches. Indicted on multiple counts of domestic violence charges stemming from the recent dispute, Harding has pleaded not guilty and has repeatedly told her lawyers and the media that she acted in self-defense. If convicted, Harding, 29, could be slapped with a five thousand dollar fine and ordered to spend up to 365 days in jail.

A riot begun in the exercise yard between hundreds of African American and Hispanic inmates imprisoned within one of California's most violent jails this past Wednesday, Feb. 23 left one prisoner dead and 28 others wounded. The sudden violence erupted in mid-morning in the highest-security wing of Pelican Bay State Prison, escalating rapidly and finally ending a half hour later. Lieutenant Ben Grundy commented, "All indications are there was no single inmate who started it. It was more of a group effort. The main groups of people involved were black and Hispanic. A lot of them are in street gangs, but this was more of a racial issue than a gang issue." Prison guards used tear gas, pepper spray, and rubber bullets in an attempt to quell the violence, finally succumbing to the use of lethal force when there appeared to be no other option to end the fighting.

A Sicilian parish priest is currently in critical condition after sipping tainted holy wine from a chalice during a Catholic mass this past Thursday, Feb. 24 at a local Basilica located in Catania, Sicily. Police reports indicate Rev. Alfio Giueseppe collapsed while standing at the altar only moments after sipping the Eucharist wine always traditionally prepared by the sacristan of the church. The wine he drank later tested positive for traces of herbicide. Hours after the priest's collapse, police arrested the fifty-three year old church sacristan after discovering a bottle of herbicide similar to the type used in the wine stashed at his home. Apparently, as of late, the priest and sacristan had been involved in an acrimonious dispute over the sacristan's benefits.

Arizona Senator John McCain beat back Texas Governor George W. Bush in two more important state primaries this past Tuesday, Feb. 22, to hold a slight lead over the GOP frontrunner heading into "Super Tuesday" March 7 when many key states send voters to the polls. In the state of Michigan, McCain earned an even fifty percent of the popular vote, edging Bush by a full seven percentage points. In Arizona, McCain's home state, the popular senator scored 60 percent of the vote, compared to Bush's 36 percent. (See Sean Killeen's report on page 4 for further Decision 2000 news).

Betsy Lou Beets, a 62 year old Texas woman convicted 12 years prior for the shooting death of her fifth husband, Dalllas, Texas fire captain Jimmy Don Beets, was executed via lethal injection this past Thursday, Feb. 24. Beets became only the second woman to be executed within the borders of Texas since the time of the Civil War and only the fourth U.S. women put to death since the Supreme Court began allowing the death penalty to resume as punishment for violent criminals in 1976. Texas governor George W. Bush rejected a last-minute request for a reprieve claiming Beets had acted in self-defense, instead signing an order to have her become the 129th convicted killer to be executed during his five-and-a-half-year tenure as state governor. Bush stated, "After careful review of the evidence...I concur with the jury that Betty Lou Beets is guilty of this murder...I'm confident that the courts...have thoroughly reviewed all the issues raised by the defendant."
Ursinus' Own Superbagger

Lauren Flanagan
Advertising Editor

A supermarket cashier. A position that calls to mind long hours on your feet, a meager salary and menial tasks. Yet one Ursinus College freshman has recently acquired a unique collection of adjectives to describe her position at Genuardi’s Family Market. Her job description now consists of words such as fame, cash, prizes, vacation and fun! How exactly does this vocabulary relate to a job at Genuardi’s?

Almost one year ago, freshman Susan Goll entered a bagging contest at Genuardi’s Family Market in Feasterville where she has been employed for two years. About 50 baggers from neighboring Genuardi’s came together one night to “bag off!” The object was to fit 35 objects into two bags. A judge scored the contestants on the technique and structure of the bags, their speed, the weight distribution of the bags, as well as their appearance and attitude. Goll placed first and won a color TV, $100 and two tickets to Hershey Park, where she would go on to compete in the statewide contest.

Months later, Goll competed with 22 contestants at Hershey Park, where she was awarded paid vacation time for her first place finish. Goll received $200 in cash, a Superbagger in Pennsylvania from the Pennsylvania Food Merchant’s Association (PFMA). Once again victorious, Goll received $200 in cash, a large plaque and certificate, an invitation to compete in the national contest in Las Vegas and the title “Best Bagger in Pennsylvania” contest.

In February, Goll and her family headed out to Nevada for an all-expense paid visit. The competition was held in the Las Vegas Convention Center and was sponsored by The National Grocer’s Association Convention. The competition was between 24 baggers from different states.

“The Las Vegas contest was fun since there were about 200 spectators there to cheer us on. They played upbeat music while we bagged,” remarked Goll. “I remember hearing Dave Matthews right before I bagged, which, being one of my favorites, helped me calm down and focus myself.”

Although Goll did not win the contest, she walked away with $500 from the PFMA and NGA for participating in the contest, not to mention the four day trip to Las Vegas...which, by the way, she received paid vacation time for!

And what does Susan Goll have to say about the experience? Certainly, this cashier will not remember the unpleasant customers or sore feet that came along with the job. Instead she’ll look back on this great experience, remembering, “I was glad to receive some help with my tuition from the PFMA and NGA. It was fun to see myself in the paper and on the news. I’ll never forget this time in my life, and I’ll never forget how great it felt to be the hometown hero” of the little town of Feasterville, population 4,000.

“It was great to be involved in a fun event and have the support of my Feasterville store, my Eagleville store near Ursinus, David Genuardi, the PFMA, the media, my customers, and my family,” Goll concluded.

“I had a lot of fun! I’m so glad that I was persuaded to get involved in the first place. I never thought that I would be where I am today less than a year from the first time I bagged-off,” Goll concluded.
Profile of Meghan Gualtieri: True UC Role Model

Continued from page 4

director of Halves, as part of her interdisciplinary honors project.

On campus, Gualtieri works as a curatorial assistant in the Berman Museum of Art and the House Coordinator for Zw ingli Hall. Off campus, Gualtieri works as the Education Assistant at the People's Light & Theatre Company in Malvern where she interned last semester.

Looking to the future, Gualtieri has been accepted to Brown University's Masters program in Theatre Arts and Cornell University's doctoral program in theatre arts. Gualtieri is also currently a semi-finalist for an Andrew Mellon grant for doctoral work and will fly to Michigan in early March to interview.

As an Ursinus Steinbright Scholar, Gualtieri is the Ursinus College valedictorian for the class of 2000, the President of Sigma Tau Delta (the English Honor Society) and the Vice-President of the Gay/straight Alliance.

Gualtieri has portrayed a variety of characters while acting in eight plays at Ursinus including

a Jewish wife in Brecht on Brecht, a psychiatrist, French singer, woman, and poetess in A... My Name is Alice; and Antigone in Antigone. The senior has also done ensemble work in a number of those plays, as well as directing a staged reading of her play Quarters in 1998.

Gualtieri’s play Halves recently debuted and has earned rave reviews from fellow students (see review on page 8). Featured in the play are Professor Patti Schroeder as Elizabeth and students Melissa Moyer, Jeffrey Church, and Rick Bechtel as Fiona, David, and Max respectively.

When asked what was her greatest inspiration for the writing of the play, Gualtieri related, "Twenty-two years of books, ideas... I cannot answer that question concisely. Nothing and everything..."

Gualtieri treasures the time she spent researching, writing, directing, and producing the play.

The senior's self-made major is Theatre Arts, which she created upon arriving at Ursinus in her freshman year. Gualtieri proposed a major that would include theatre-related English classes, theatre classes, independent studies, study abroad, an internship, summer fellowships and an interdisciplinary honors project.

"The administration approved the proposal and has been of the utmost support with regard to my self-created major," Gualtieri commented. The group of professors involved with Gualtieri’s Theatre Arts major includes Dr. Patti Schroeder, Dr. Jena Osman, Dr. Joyce Henry, Dr. Carol Dole and Professor Domenick Scudera, among others.

When asked why she decided to create her own major, Gualtieri replied, "I have a passion for theatre. As academic disciplines, English and Theatre Arts complement one another in a dynamic and fascinating way."

Gualtieri is inspired by the writings of German lyric poet, Rainer Maria Rilke who once said, "Live the questions now.” Perhaps it is by living the questions that Gualtieri has enabled herself to go the extra step, take risks, and succeed in her endeavors.

Aging Space Station or Tourist Hot Spot???

Investors to Transform Mir Into Out-Of-This-World Hotel

John Grebe
Staff Writer

A group of investors from MirCorp have signed a $20 million deal to rent the space station Mir from the Russian government.

MirCorp plans on renovating the aging space station into a luxurious vacation resort 125 miles off the ground with an ultimate view of earth.

For only $20 million, a guest will travel on a Russian Soyuz rocket to the space station that will be able to accommodate up to five guests at a time.

MirCorp plans on spending $200 million to renovate Mir and $100 million a year to maintain and operate Mir.

However, nobody knows how practical the proposed project is. Mir is now 14 years old and was only designed to last for five years.

The station was abandoned by its crew last August. MirCorp understands the many potential pitfalls associated with the project.

Mir is still damaged from an almost deadly fire and devastating crash that forced the crew to seal off a compartment after a hull breach earlier last year.

Regardless of the incident and other negative factors, MirCorp plans to move ahead with its idea to house the ultimate global tourist attraction.

Be sure to stay tuned to find out what happens.
LETTER TO THE EDITORS:

Author's note: This letter was not originally intended for public consumption. Dean Deb Nolan and the head of Dining Services, Mr. Charles Staker, were both very receptive to my concerns and I am very thankful to them. The powers that be who control tuition, however, decided that my situation was not worthy of a refund. This is the letter that circulated through the U.C. dining and financial departments.

I am writing in regard to an incident that occurred last week at Zack's. In between classes I went to Zack's to grab a quick lunch. I opted for a pizza "meal deal." Since there were no "meal deals" premade, I had to wait about 10 minutes. I chose a drink and a cup of soup to complete this "meal deal." While I waited for the pizza, I had a few spoonfuls of soup, and I refilled it before I went to the register. I was then informed that since I had refilled my soup, my "meal deal" was no longer a "meal deal" and that I would be charged for two soups. At this point I became very angry, and used some harsh language. I apologize for the blue language, but as for the food and the argument as to whether or not a few ounces of soup qualifies as a "meal deal," I believe I am the one owed an apology.

Rarely do I make it to Wismer. My schedule simply does not allow for me to get to a cafeteria that is only open for a grand total of six hours a day during the week and four hours a day on the weekends. As a result I am forced to eat almost all of my meals at Zack's. The "cash equivalency" offered at Zack's, however, is woefully lacking as are the Wismer hours of operation. What exactly is three dollars and forty or seventy-five cents supposed to be equivalent to anyway? If I am unsatisfied with Zack's whopping choice of three entrees I can either choose the everyday "meal deal" or order from the regular menu. The problem with the everyday "meal deal" is that it is, just as it says; everyday. I cannot eat a cheese pizza or a sandwich twice a day, every day. Ordering from the regular menu becomes a problem because any entre item, at around thirty five a piece, does not allow for a drink or a side item under the pitiful three dollar and change, "cash equivalency."

Another problem with Zack's mister would a student's money become void if he/she did not spend the allotted amount. The practice of voiding meals that one cannot make during the hours of "cash equivalency" is ridiculous. This holds especially true for those students who are ineligible for the bonus plan either because they are a freshman or missed the cutoff date for changing meal plans.

Must I touch on the overall quality of food on campus? In my four semesters in Collegeville, I have learned the universal notion that the food at Ursinus is awful. Referring back to the "meal deals," the soup is usually bland, and the fruit is often dry. Basics such as chicken fingers and burgers are often over or undercooked. Creative selections are also a problem. Perhaps the chicken fry and the chicken cake are both derived from the same part of the chicken, but whatever part that is, it tastes horrendous.

Service is also a problem at Zack's. I am often ignored for quite a while as employees tend to do nothing in particular. If I come in any time after eight o'clock, there are no soup or pretzels, and other various items have been put away. I have even been to Zack's at five thirty and been given a hard time by an employee who was trying to close the wrap station.

The woman who told her manager that I was "stealing" soup by refilling my cup probably thinks that I am some smartass kid trying to rip off her employer, but this is far from the truth. The fact of the matter is that I have no kitchen in my dormitory and no other place to eat other than at Zack's. My meal plan has been paid for in full. I have never stolen from Zack's in my two years at this school, nor do I appreciate being accused of stealing. I have worked in the food service industry since I was 14-years-old. I have worked at every type of restaurant from fast food to fine dining (including two years in a McDonald's drive thru). As a result, I am usually polite and respectful to any and everyone in the service business.

In conclusion, the hours of operation at Wismer, and the hours of "cash equivalency" at Zack's are unacceptable. No matter how hard I have tried, I cannot force myself to eat when someone else has arbitrarily decided that I should. The service is sub-par, and the food quality is praised by almost all students who live on campus.

I know the woman who told her manager that I was "stealing" soup is part of the insanity that exists during lunch time. She is probably thinking that I am some smartass kid trying to rip off her employer, but this is far from the truth. The fact of the matter is that I have no kitchen in my dormitory and no other place to eat other than at Zack's. My meal plan has been paid for in full. I have never stolen from Zack's in my two years at this school, nor do I appreciate being accused of stealing. I have worked in the food service industry since I was 14-years-old. I have worked at every type of restaurant from fast food to fine dining (including two years in a McDonald's drive thru). As a result, I am usually polite and respectful to anyone and everyone in the service business.

In conclusion, the hours of operation at Wismer, and the hours of "cash equivalency" at Zack's are unacceptable. No matter how hard I have tried, I cannot force myself to eat when someone else has arbitrarily decided that I should. The service is sub-par, and the food quality is praised by almost all students who live on campus and are subjected to the mandatory meal plan. As a result, I have been forced to go through other channels in order to eat three square meals a day. I shop at Redner's or Acme and cook at my friend's apartment. I eat out as often as money will allow. In other words, I pay twice for every meal, not only for a full meal plan on campus, but also for the food that I actually eat. Due to the school's complete failure to meet my needs, I am asking for a refund for my meal plan on the remainder of the semester.

--- Jeremy Trucker
Class of 2002

Open Your Eyes: Food and Diversity at Ursinus College

Debora Sarmento
Special to the Grizzly

There is just no possible way I could write all of my arguments in one double spaced page, but still, I insist in bringing up the discussion.

While reading Steven Sheafer's article for the last issue of the Collegevillain, I couldn't but think about the most basic complaints of students at Ursinus - at least the ones I hear the most: the food and the people.

1. Food. Why do people complain so much about Wismer? How many different dishes do they have per meal?

From the top of my head I can think of about eight hot dishes, three or four kinds of pizzas, two kinds of soups, breads, sandwich bar, salad bar, fruits, ice cream, frozen yogurt machine, six or seven types of cereals, at least two different kinds of baked deserts, soda machines, juice machines, milk machines, iced tea, hot tea, coffee, and I am sure I am forgetting a few other things. At how many places on Earth, do people think they are going to find this variety of food in large quantity and availability? And how many times do people try eating different things? If there is no pepperoni pizza one day, one might likely say, "There is nothing to eat," although there are four other kinds of pizza and at least ten options of food to choose from.

2. People and their "not" diverse character. I have heard not less than 20 colleagues say, "I will never part of the insane 60 percent that marries another Ursinus student." Perhaps I will have to agree on that one, "just because," but diversity is a touchy subject and of incredible relevance. How does someone at this school dare to say there is no diversity? Diversity exists, the problem is people don't communicate, they don't exchange ideas, they don't try making conversation with others, they don't allow themselves to leave their own little groups.

Try noticing the funny and sad division that exists during lunch and dinner at Wismer's tables. Yes, you will find the Zwinglei people (very nice by the way), the international students, the football players, the African Americans, sororities' and fraternities' tables, and a few other divisions or sub-divisions, but the fact is, people do not move or mix. And why is that? Why do people remain doing the same things over and over, with the same people? Steven, is the food really a problem? Is Ursinus lacking diversity in reality?

Maybe the problem is not the food or the lack of diversity among students at Ursinus, but the fact that most of us recognize one them.

--- Jeremy Trucker
Class of 2002

February 29, 2000

Oppressed?

Want your voice heard?

E-mail letter to the editor to "chococa" or drop off an editorial of your won (with a copy on disk) in the box on the second floor of Bomberger by Thursday at 5 pm

SOUND OFF!
Fox's Marry a Millionaire Fiasco Sends Wrong Message

Dan Reimold
News Editor

A further step in the de-evolution process of the human species occurred in front of a national television audience three Mondays ago. Feb. 15 on a two hour Fox Network special entitled, "Who Wants to Marry a Millionaire?"

For the show, fifty women of all colors, shapes and sizes from all walks of life strutted their stuff in swimsuits and evening gowns before a live studio audience, up to twenty-two million viewers around the nation and, most importantly, a faceless man whose riches, we were brainwashed, entitled him to anyone of the fifty women he so desired. The over four dozen female contestants were competing for a handsome cash prize, Caribbean cruise, new car, expensive diamond wedding ring, a chance for fifteen minutes of fame and, of course, the opportunity to spend eternity with a man they'd never met.

Yet, in reality, the stakes were much higher and the risk much greater, with the potential pitfalls far outweighing the possible gain. So was the case for "winning" bride Darva Congers, 34, a nurse and Gulf War Veteran, who declared days after the event, "I don't think I was thinking clearly. I committed an error in judgment. The honest truth is I was very uncomfortable around him... He's just not a person...that I would ordinarily have even a friendly relationship with. I have worked my whole life to be a credible person, a person of integrity. Unfortunately, in two hours I destroyed much of that credibility." And the same can be said of the Fox Television Network that aired this bizarre spectacle as a sweeps-month prime time special.

Truly, what message are we aiming for children and young adults to witness with this winner-takes-all, arranged marriage, bride-a-thon broadcast without remorse into waiting American homes? We are teaching that the Almighty Dollar usurps the Almighty God in respect to the sacred vows of marriage when the stakes are high enough. We are teaching that modern-day relationships are competitions and may the best man or woman win. We are teaching that men should have their pick of whatever subservient female they feel has the brains and the beauty to be their bride.

These are dangerous messages to send via basic cable to a generation already spiraling down a long and winding staircase of moral ineptitude.

As Congers, the once astonished bride now blushing from embarrassment, related in a nationally televised interview over a week after the incident, "I only wish I had had the moral fortitude to walk away." And in truth, don't we all.

Fox's plans for a sequel to the ratings sensation have been mixed due to angry vocal protests from various women's rights groups and amid serious allegations discrediting the already shady past of the supposedly upstanding million-dollar man.

But alas, who believes that with even the original airing of this bride-auction that the damage, embedded within the collective consciousness of the American public, has already been done? I'll tell you who. "I do."

I wasn't going to approach the subject, but in light of recent developments, I can't seem to ignore it. Fox's latest disaster, "Who Wants To Marry a Multimillionaire," is quite possibly one of the least programs to ever hit the airwaves. Now, it has been pulled due to the rather appalling scandal that erupted following the show's debut, a scandal that is almost as outrageous as the show itself.

Consider the concept for a moment: fifty bachelorettes vie for the attention of an eligible multimillionaire bachelor who in turn chooses his future bride on the basis of surface-level impressions ... in the span of one hour. Actually, make that 45 minutes — the final portion of the show is dedicated to the Las Vegas-style marriage ceremony. Sound a bit too demented to warrant watching. Perhaps the 23 million viewers who tuned in did so to see sensationalism at its best, or simply for a good laugh.

The show's first and last millionaire bachelor, Rick Rockwell, is now at the center of a controversy that involves his past and the background check, or lack thereof, performed by the show's producers. Only after the wedding and the start of the honeymoon was it discovered that Rockwell's past may not be as pristine as once thought. In fact, it has been reported that the self-proclaimed real-estate developer not only lied about his background but was once issued a restraining order by a former girlfriend.

As far as one can tell, Rick Rockwell is not an actor, but a real person who chose to enter into marriage with a complete stranger on national TV. And as a result, I find it hard to muster up even a morsel of compassion for Rockwell or his new bride; they deserve all the humiliation and invasive media coverage that comes their way (but please, let there not be too many talk-show deals — he's already a multimillionaire, and now, so is she).

The millionaire and his wife on their three hour tour — Rick Rockwell, left, and his wife Darva Conger during Rockwell's honeymoon cruise. (http://abcnews.go.com/)
Church on Film

Tobey Maguire: Boy Wonder?

Jeff Church

A & E Editor

Wonder Boys

Michael Douglas...Grady Tripp
Tobey Maguire...James Leer
Frances McDormand...Sara Gaskell
Katie Holmes...Hannah Green
Directed by...Curtis Hanson

As Neil Young poignantly sings "Old man, look at my life, I'm a lot like you," the "Wonder Boys," Professor Grady Tripp and student James Leer, stand eye to eye, their lives irrevocably compared and implicated.

One side of this universe: Professor Tripp, stricken with old age and disillusionment, plods along through life mechanistically. He is a famous writer, although seven long years ago his only masterpiece was released, so his shadow is beginning to wane. He lives cynically under the influence of marijuana and codeine. He lives because he has to, stuck in a meaningless existence. His novel stretches to 2610 pages, a metaphor for his long and unending life.

The other side of this universe: James Leer, a depressed genius, studies under Tripp. He is so enthralled by writing fiction that he creates his own identity as he goes, like a writer creates a character. However, he can read Tripp like a book. Leer represents the idealism that Tripp has lost sight of under the pressures of life.

Douglas is uncanny in his portrayal of Tripp: I could read his time-battered eyes and hear his sardonic voice. Maguire acts with his distinct, straightforward, un-emotional style--this time it works--he seems ready-made for the brooding role of James Leer. Wonder Boys explores human life, delving into what it means to live, meaningfully: tapping into raw emotions, taking chances, and doing what one wants to do. Despite an unsuccessful final act, Wonder Boys wonderfully captures life when it is comic, stoic, weak, defeated, or glorious.

RATING: (out of 4) ***1/2

A Student's proTheatre: Halves

Stephanie Restine

Editor-in-Chief

The capacity crowd departing the proTheatre production of Halves on Friday, Feb. 25 seemed aghast with wonder. Although this tale of mystery and romance left each audience member to draw his or her own conclusions at its end, Halves was without a doubt an extraordinary combination of writing, directing, and acting.

Written by Ursinus senior Meghan Gualtieri, the story revolves around two couples during two different time periods yet within the same small cottage near Boston. At the turn of the 19th century, Elizabeth, a feminist writer supporting women's suffrage, and Fiona, a naive, young painter, inhabit the cottage. In the present, friends David and Max are vacationing at the cottage, while separately putting together the puzzle pieces remaining of Elizabeth and Fiona's life together.

The production was set in the living room of the cottage. Decorated with dried flowers and Fiona's paintings, the room was picture perfect right down to the overstuffed couch, the antique desk, and the porcelain tea settings. The offstage exits were well designed, leaving audience members free to imagine the cast members in the kitchen or climbing the stairs to the second floor.

Gualtieri's work as the writer and director was exceptional. Due to the juxtaposition of the separate storylines in the same setting, the exits and entrances of the actors throughout the production were crucial. Gualtieri made what seemed to be a difficult intertwine merit look simple. Although the dialogue in the exposition of the story seemed slightly weak, Gualtieri was able to quickly envelop the crowd in an in-depth look at same-sex relationships.

Not to be overshadowed by Gualtieri's writing debut, junior Rick Bechtel stole the show as the blatantly homosexual Max. Bechtel brought down the house on several occasions, chatting with the "phone guy" and discussing the nature of classified ads.

Junior Jeff Church complimented Bechtel's outrageous humor in his portrayal of David, the ultimate upright straight man. Encumbered by an unknown burden concerning his familial ties to the cottage, Church was truly frightening when confronting Max about his plans of deception.

Senior Melissa Moyer and Professor Pattie Schroeder portrayed Fiona and Elizabeth, respectively. Moyer was quite convincing, revealing Fiona's innocence in matters of men while standing up for her convictions. Schroeder's performance was intriguing, leaving one unsure of Elizabeth's manner at the start but allowing one to warm to the strong yet vulnerable character as the story continued.

Although many seemed disappointed with the lack of closure at the play's conclusion, an "ending" did not seem completely necessary and may have been anticlimactic after the suspenseful build-up of emotions. Augmenting the mysterious nature of the story, audience members were not handed a tidy summary of events and had to utilize their powers of intuition to form their own conclusions.

After four nights of nearly sold-out performances, Meghan Gualtieri's Halves are deemed a success, not only as a proTheatre production, but also as a triumph of student and faculty ingenuity.

OSCAR WATCH:

Best Picture of the Year

NOMINEES:

AMERICAN BEAUTY
THE CIDER HOUSE RULES
THE GREEN MILE
THE INSIDER
THE SIXTH SENSE

Jeff Church

A & E Editor

The Cider House Rules
Tobey Maguire...Homer Wells
Michael Caine...Wilbur Larch
Charlize Theron...Candy Kendall
Directed by...Lasse Hallstrom

The Academy's choice for The Cider House Rules as a Best Picture nominee was, at first, an awful one to me. Given the great progressive, innovative films that came out in the latter quarter of 1999, The Cider House Rules seemed like another conservative, overly-sentimental pick by the predictable Academy.

But then I put my bias behind me, saw the film, and I changed my mind.

The Cider House Rules portrays desperate situations of moral conflict. John Irving, screenwriter (based on his novel), presents characters who must "make their own own rules" in human conduct. It is easy but all-too-ignorant to generalize and offer a blanket set of rules for all situations. However, acting according to these rules (especially those set down by society) is not necessarily the best action to perform. Intuitively, we all have a sense of what is right, according to Irving. We can "play God" (in the sense of creating morality) when it comes to acting in certain situations.

Michael Caine acts with incredible, visceral power in this film (rightfully nominated for best supporting actor). He is a scientist, emphasizing utility, but strongly aware of his own movement toward old age. Delroy Lindo strongly plays a migrant-worker and father stricken with desperation and regret.

Although not perfect, The Cider House Rules is a beautiful film with an important discussion about the ambiguity of human ethics.

RATING: ***1/2
John Gwinn: Post-Modernist Extraordinare?

Matthew Terenna
Staff Writer

On Wednesday, Feb 9, the show "Love Struggle," by John Gwinn, opened in the Main Gallery of the Berman Art Museum. The show, which includes paintings, poems, and sculptures, inundates the art patron with images of love, longing, and lust. Following in the tradition of Duchamp, who famously installed a urinal as an art object, thereby challenging the definition of art and exhibit, Gwinn is here toying with the romanticism of the images of the love struggle being depicted by his color choices, which are resonant of the hues that dominate in comic books and black velvet Elvis paintings. When I first saw the show, my reaction was "is he kidding?"

Knowing that we can no longer be content simply placingready-mades in a gallery to remind us that something is art if we say it is, Gwinn takes legitimation questions a step further. Installing camp imagery in a sober setting, he announces his postmodern aim through the sheer over-the-topness of the works. By presenting paintings that are almost parodies of themselves and blithely exhibiting them in a traditional setting, Gwinn makes us pay attention to the fact that if a painting is in a museum, we automatically assume it is good. Yet, these are not the sort of paintings we usually think of as good. Which is why I wondered if he was kidding.

Then I saw the poems. And I knew he was more than kidding, that he was creating a carefully integrated show that deconstructed the very notions of art and art museums. These poems, which break every axiom learned in English 206, are reminiscent not of serious adult verse but of the angst-ridden rhymes we made in middle school. I actually felt a sense of relief when I read them, for they confirmed that the show was pure postmodern kitsch, a total revelry in popularized images of male sexual power and conquest, just the sort of thing no one takes seriously anymore. People who haven't had the chance to learn about art criticism and about postmodernism, though, might look at the paintings and poems and think that they are to be taken at face value. And that Risk makes the decision of the Berman staff a gutsy one; they had to present the show absolutely seriously in order for Gwinn to achieve his aim. But they also had to trust that we would see that the real love struggle is the study to make art meaningful in a world where we can 't even count on knowing the rules anymore.

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Calendar of Events

**February 29 - March 5**

**Tuesday, February 29**

- 5:00 p.m. Aerobics, Helfferich Dance Room
- 6:30 p.m. S.U.N., Unity House
- 7:30 p.m. Film Society: "Heathers," Olin Auditorium

**College Choir, Bomberger Auditorium**

- 8:00 p.m. The Curtis Institute of Music Opera Theatre presents a one-act version of Bizet's Carmen. Tuesday through Friday at the Curtis Opera Studio, 1726 Locust Street, Philadelphia.
- 9:30 p.m. Tau Sigma Gamma, Bomberger 108
- Omega Chi, Bomberger 109
- Beta Sigma Lambda, Bomberger 200

**Wednesday, March 1**

- 7:15 a.m. Aerobics, Helfferich Dance Room
- 11:30 a.m. Career: Bettinger Temps, Wismer Lobby A

**Thursday, March 2**

- 12:00 p.m. Faculty Meeting, Pfahler Auditorium
- 4:00 p.m. Reception for Joyce Henry and Louis DeCatur, Berman Museum, Upper Gallery
- 4:30 p.m. Aerobics, Helfferich Dance Room
- 5:00 p.m. The Philadelphia Museum of Art, 26th and Parkway, celebrates Mardi Gras with live music, film, and design
- 5:30 p.m. Spanish Table, Faculty/Staff Dining Room

**Japanese Table, Faculty/Staff Dining Room**

- 7:00 p.m. U.C. Blue Skies, Wismer Parents' Lounge
- 9:00 p.m. Literary Society, Zwingli Java Trench
- Black Movie Night, Olin Auditorium

**Intervarsity Christian Fellowship at Ursinus, Wismer Parents’ Lounge**

**Friday, March 3**

- 7:15 a.m. Aerobics, Helfferich Dance Room
- 5:30 p.m. Spring Break Begins
- 8:00 p.m. The Pennsylvania Ballet presents Romeo & Juliet at the Academy of Music, Broad & Locust Streets: Runs through March 12.

**Saturday, March 4**

- Spring Break Gymnastics at ECAC Championships at MIT

**Sunday, March 5**

- Spring Break Classes Resume on Wednesday, March 15

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UC Film Society Presents

**Heathers**

Starring Winona Ryder and Christian Slater

Tuesday, February 29, 2000

Olin Auditorium, 7:30
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Gymnastics Sustains Record-Breaking Run at Rutgers

Freshman Desiree Yahusz Triumphs over UC All-Around record

Stephanie Restine
Editor in Chief

The Ursinus gymnastics team took on non-divisional rival Rutgers University on Saturday, Feb. 26. Although falling to the Scarlet Knights by a score of 195.400-181.475, the Ursinus squad shattered the school team score record (180.375) for the second week in a row.

In besting the team score record, the Ursinus gymnasts also broke the event records on vault (46.450), uneven bars (44.325), and floor exercise (45.975).

Freshman Desiree Yahusz stole the show for the Bears on Saturday, breaking the school all-around record (37.025) set by sophomore Christina Ng in 1999. Yahusz tallied a score of 37.100 for third place, while surpassing the school beam record (9.750) and bringing home the high floor exercise score (9.375) for the Bears.

"We definitely have a chance of going to Nationals," --Freshman Desiree Yahusz

UC Grad Bill Stiles Becomes Sports Information Director

Kevin Wilson
Staff Writer

Winter break is not only a time for students to relax from exams but also it is a time for the campus to undergo some changes. One of those changes included the new sports information director in the athletic department, Bill Stiles.

Stiles is a graduate from the Ursinus class of 1996. While here, he was a four-year starter on the baseball team. He also was awarded All-Centennial Conference while playing catcher.

"Coming back to UC was an opportunity that I just couldn’t refuse," Stiles said. "Some of the fondest memories I have are my experiences as a student-athlete at Ursinus. The chance to give something back is exciting."

A major difference between Stiles’ years at Ursinus and the present, is the Internet. "Clearly the Internet is a new tool for recruiting, alumni relations, marketing, etc.,” Stiles said. "This was largely untapped when I was here and I have focused on working towards changing that."

The other major difference is how Ursinus has become a contender. "When I was here, we had maybe one or two teams which contended for a conference title," Stiles stated. "Now, the wall of champions outside of the athletic office is full. In most sports, we have established ourselves as powers in the Centennial Conference."

The power on the field is also enhanced by the influence of the student workers. Student-athletes comprise the work study staff who help out Stiles. "They are all hard-working, responsible and fun to be around," Stiles said. "They have been a huge help to me."

As sports information director, he is responsible for the design and implementation of all marketing and promotion activities, as well as producing media guides, and updating the web page.

"He’s very helpful whenever I have a question or need sports information," sophomore Lauren Cyrsky, said.

Before coming to Ursinus, Stiles worked as an assistant director of athletics for Chowan College in North Carolina.

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UC Grad Bill Stiles Becomes Sports Information Director

Kevin Wilson
Staff Writer

Winter Track Season Ends Strong

Stephanie Ott
Special to the Grizzly

In the women’s competition, sophomores Eboni Woodard and Whitney Daniels helped the team by winning second and fourth respectively in the triple jump. These spots enabled Woodard and Daniels to qualify for ECACs this coming weekend.

The track team has been improving consistently this season and many team members are attributing this to the influence of the coaches. "We are doing great. We only have three guys on the guys team, but we continue to place in meets," Adegunwa said. "We beat three teams at the Conference Championships, and the women did great too."

In the men’s events, junior Yori Adegunwa led the team taking second in the high jump with a height of 6’6”, second in the 400 meter dash with a time of 50.39 (only a tenth of a second behind first place), and fourth in the 200 meter dash. Adegunwa also qualified for ECACs in all four of his events.

Freshmen John Mohl contributed to the team’s success taking second place in the shot put, missing first place by only three inches.

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Bears Capture Last Three Wins

The Bears proved their mettle in their trying season capturing a 75-32 win against Bryn Mawr on Feb. 16. It was the contest the Bears had been anticipating all season. Senior Shana Goane scored a game high 22 points, and had six steals to push the Bears past the Mawrters for the victory.

At halftime the Bears led the game by a 18 point margin and shot 47 percent in the second half. Freshmen Bridget Hussey had 13 points for the Bears and junior Kate Maxwell added 11. Sophomore Katie Shearer had nme pomts and eight rebounds.

Due to an inclement of weather the Bears postponed their game Feb. 3 against Immaculata to Feb. 17. The Bears dominated the Mighty Macs, 66-37 in non-conference action. Goane scored 26 points, five of which were three pointers. She also led the team in rebounds with nine. Shearer added 16 points while freshman Devon Plum grabed eight rebounds. The Bears forced 33 turnovers and held the Mighty Mags to 22 percent from the field.

The Bears traveled to Muhlenberg Feb. 19 to battle with the Lady Mules in Centennial Conference play. Goane added 25 points and six assists while junior Jackie Cooper scored 14 points. Hussey contributed with 13 points to put the Bears past the Mules 68-62.

"We went out with a bang and shocked Muhlenberg. We played an all-around good game, both on offense and defense. Shana was a big factor for us. She had an incredible night from the free throw line and she took charge. She led us through the whole game," commented Shearer. Shana Goane was named the CC player of the week for the week of Feb. 21.

Shana Goane was named the leading scorer for the Bears averaging 13.4 points per game; finishing sixth in the conference. Goane led the team in assists with 52 and 46 steals. She ends her career at UC with 872 points.

Sports Profile of the Week: Yori Adegunwa

Yori Adegunwa
- Courtesy of UC Track and Field pamphlet

Andy Owens
Staff Writer

Year: Junior
Major: ESS
Sport: Track and Field

Accomplishments:
- '98-'99- 2nd in the nation in the 400 meter hurdles
- 2nd in the conference in 400 meter run
- marked 6'9" in the high jump
- ran 22.64 in the 200 meter dash
- ran 50.39 in the 400 meter race

at Indoor Centennial Conference Championships

What teammates say:
Senior Marc Clymer: "Yori is like a machine. He is capable of accomplishing whatever he wants. Aside from focusing on his own goals, he also works very hard to encourage and motivate others. The way that he gives everything he has to the team, pushes the rest of us to keep up and get that little extra bit out of ourselves everyday."

Best college sports moment:
"I would have to say that my best memory takes me back to freshman year. I was in five different events in the conference championships and I placed in the top three in each one."

Favorite class at Ursinus:
Sociology 100 taught by Dr. Murchado

"In the next few years..." "I plan to earn a career as a physical therapist and to spend the rest of my time training for the Olympic games."

"Ten years from now..."
"I would like to be married with a family. Also, I would like to donate money to Ursinus as a thank you for what it has given me."

Yori Adegunwa qualified for ECAC's in four events

Basketball
Juniors Richie Barrett and Luther Owens were named to the All-Centennial Conference first team

Gymnastics
Freshman Desiree Yahusz broke the school all-around record (37.025) taking third place

Swimming
Team combined for a total of 43 personal bests at CC Championships

Track
Yori Adegunwa qualified for ECAC's in four events

Wrestling
Pat Curry will represent UC at NCAA Division III Championships at Ohio Northern University on March 4