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Airband 2001: 'Case to the Ex' claims victory
Event raises over $11,000 for charity; Hoof-and-mouth disease prevents President Strassbrnger from kissing actual pig.
Debate over the effectiveness, importance, and possible bias of the SATs is back in the national spotlight. What are students and experts saying? And where does Ursinus stand? By Dan Reimold

IN REMARKS MADE AT THE AMERICAN COUNCIL ON EDUCATION'S ANNUAL CONFERENCE on Feb. 18, University of California President Richard Atkinson stole the national spotlight with his call to eliminate SAT testing as a required component of the college admissions process.

"Applicants for higher education should be assessed on the basis of their achievements in high school," Atkinson said, "not their SAT scores." (Page 2)

Role in admissions

Many high school students dread the SAT as the single greatest factor in the college admissions process, a make-or-break event carrying far more influence than it should. As Urenis College freshman Chris Kellers argued, "If you fail to place so much weight on a test taken for four hours on a single Saturday morning." Mamta Patel, a sophomore at Ursinus, concurred, "I wouldn't want to get into a school for SAT scores." (Page 3)

Applicants for higher education should be assessed on the basis of their achievements in high school, not how they rate on an ill-defined measure of aptitude or intelligence.

-Dr. Richard C. Atkinson, University of California President

Penn State University, recalling the do-or-die mentality associated with the SAT.

"It was really nervous and scarred because I knew the SATs would play a major role in what school I would get," Patel said. "I wouldn't want to lose the chance to apply to or get accepted to a college that I really wanted to go to." (Page 3)

The Big Test:

University of California President Richard Atkinson stole the national spotlight with his call to eliminate SAT testing as a required component of the college admissions process.

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Penn State University, recalling the do-or-die mentality associated with the SAT.

"I really wanted to get into a school I wanted to go to."

What truly is the SAT's role in college admissions? How much weight does it actually carry, in comparison to other factors? As a number of accredited sources are quick to point out, not as much as applicants might think. There are handfuls of extremely selective colleges and universities, not more than 20 that can afford to reject more than half of their applicants, and for those schools, scores are very important," Urenis College President for Enrollment Richard DiFeliciano said. "But for the other 3,000 colleges and universities in the country, scores are a secondary credential." The National Center for Fair and Open Testing (FairTest), an advocacy organization working to raise awareness about the effects of standardized testing, concurred, "Students who had the top 10 percent ranking or the 3.5 GPA had, on average, a 3.3 GPA at their coursework at Ursinus," Cramer said. "The score on the SAT had little to no impact on that GPA." As more colleges recognize standardized test scores are not the single most important predictor of a student's comparative collegiate achievement, what are schools looking for in a qualified candidate? At Ursinus, with as many high school students across the county, the list is varied and subject to change with each and every applicant. "The most important factor is our admission decision is the strength of the high school curriculum," Cramer said. "Grades in those courses are the next most important factor, followed by standardized test scores." (Page 3)

Rating the Paying the Price

Even while holding less influence on a student's chances for admission, standardized tests such as the SAT have never been more nerve-wracking and, in some cases, expensive for so many high school students and parents nationwide. High school students hoping to gain an edge and improve their scores purchase a myriad of preparation materials, including books and computer-related help manuals, and sign-up for rigorous SAT-prep courses. "We are caught up in the educ­

ational equivalent of a matrimony form," University of California President Richard Atkinson said. "We know that this overemphasis on test scores has alienated, especially minority SAT-prep courses." (Page 3)

"I will say that I see a great irony in the preparation business. That is, stratospheric SAT scores are not as important in the admission process as parents and applicants think they are, and the 'market' for this business is in large part a fabrication." -Richard DiFeliciano,

Ursinus College Vice President for Enrollment

The Scholastic Aptitude Test was originally developed in the early nineteen twenties by Carl Brigham, a Princeton psychology professor and researcher in the relatively new movement of IQ testing.

The first high school students given the 1944 version, 300,000 people, across the United States. "That's a big event," national SAT expert and author of "The Big Test," noted in an interview with PBS's Frontline. "It complicated to give a high stakes test under secure conditions to hundreds of thousands of people at sites across America. So, that was the first time that the people...in charge of the SAT were able to show that they could give it on a mass scale."

In 1948, Conant became chairman of the board of the newly established Educational Testing Service (ETS), an organization familiar to students nationwide today as the supplier of the SAT. Conant's onetime assistant, Henry Chauncey, was named the testing agency's first president. Though ETS, the Scholastic Aptitude Test was administered to approximately 300,000 high school students in 1957.

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defining the SATs

"In evaluating students with a wide array of backgrounds, it is helpful to have a constant. If everyone took the same courses, with the same syllabus, and the same grading scale, the SAT's would not be a necessary part of our review."

—Paul Cramer, Ursinus College Director of Admissions

The SATs hypothesize, or any other triviality with very little bearing on college success." University of Delaware sophomore Sarah Wright remembers the all-encompassing nature of the test. "We used to study it in English part of every day. For the four weeks leading up to it," Wright related. "Then, I would go home and study strategies and math problems at night. It got to the point where I was so stressed about the SAT, I wasn't keeping up with my schoolwork."

Is bias present?

Apart from expenses, trivialities, and level of importance, critics of the SAT contend the test's greatest failure is in bias. Historically, some say, the SAT is biased against racial, cultural, and class lines, as well as failing to accurately present the aptitude of students who are poorly standardized test takers. Maryland professor Edwin Locke feels there is no inherent bias and that the very nature of the test ensures that the possibility doesn't exist. "The SAT's race-, gender-, blind, age, blind, sexual orientation-, and country origin-discrimination," Locke stated. "Scoring of it is not a matter of whether your teacher likes you, because it is usually objective."

Objections cast well, test scores historically find students of different ethnicities scoring lower than their white counterparts, getting various levels of success. On average, SAT scores for Asian students are higher than scores for white students, which in turn are higher than non-Asian minority students, including African-Americans. While critics contend that the numbers, in the case minority test scores, simply don't lie, experts say they are a human role, every student that can't be ignored when evaluating test scores. As Richard Rothstein wrote in The New York Times, March 28, 1992, "The SAT is not effective in any form of diligence given that the undemanding nature of most college admission policies encourages high school slackers."

"The SAT is faulted for increasing student's stress. But that means the SAT is an effective incentive for diligence...given that the undemanding nature of most college admission policies encourages high schoolers' sloth."

—George Will, Washington Post Writers Group Columnist

mending nature of most college admission policies encourages high school slackers. It isn't students working too hard, it is students not working hard enough. That means many SAT scores, but the frequency of the material they are testing. Obviously, the SAT authors are not college students." University of Pennsylvania professor Matt Lynch said. "If they were, they would not use the definition of aptitude, the length of the normal day, and more on individual achievement, most experts and critics agree the SAT will continue to be popular in the near future. And for some, including Ursinus' Cramer, the amount of students taking the test is the SAT's single greatest benefit. "In evaluating students with a wide array of backgrounds, it is helpful to have a constant," Cramer said. "If everyone took the same courses, with the same syllabus, and the same grading scale, the SAT's would not be a necessary part of our review."

University of Wisconsin student Matt Lynch believes that however flawed, the SAT is still necessary, apart from high school grades, to garner a complete picture of a prospective student. "The SAT may be arbitrary and uninformed in its goal of showing likely collegiate success," Lynch said. "But the goal itself is important: admissions offices need some way to judge candidates beyond non-uniform high school grades, some way to determine whether or not their applicants will succeed in a college setting."
The very reason these Greek organizations want a start at Ursinus is because they do not feel comfortable in the current Greek organizations.

They wanted more options. The current Greeks and those of the new orionizations can both get the 50 members that Ms. Tessena speaks.

The only difference is that ALL groups, not just fraternities, will have to work hard to recruit members. Also, I wish to know how many local fraternities or sororities actually have 50 members.

I believe only one fraternity exceeds that number, and I know that some sororities do not.

Does this mean we should create a system, which allows for expanded membership by eliminating current Greek organizations?

Clearly the answer is no.
The answer has to be the same when talking of refusing to allow other Greek organizations on campus.

The people who created these organizations did so because they wanted some different options than the ones already in place. Given this, those who would normally be drawn by this current system is likely to not join in the new organizations.

Rather they, perspective new members, are given more choice and the students not normally interested in the current structure can join a Greek organization with which they align.

Basically, the message get from the editorial is that we can either join the current Greeks or not join at all.

This is unacceptable and even goes against the American concept of Freedom of Association.

As I am asking here is to be given that American principle.

Ms. Tessena continues her editorial by attacking national Greeks simply because of the national part of their name.

The arguments that the three national organizations on campus promote leadership, scholarship and community service is beyond their reach, they are facts.

We understand the rhetoric of an organization promoting these values and that this rhetoric could be just that, rhetoric.

But Ms. Tessena neglects the heritage these groups have.

Since 1950, Phi Kappa Sigma has been academically rigorous, maintained social integrity, and shaken and acted upon that commitment to community service.

With the charter that Ursinus could stray from these values, but then the national offices would, and I say would to mean they will, revoke that affiliation to Phi KAP, the same way Alpha Omega had there charter revoked.

The final arguments Ms. Tessena gives are about accountability. Let me state this now.

As an resident of Ursinus College, all members of the national organizations will be subject to the same living rules as those not associated with those groups, simply because they are charters of the national organization.

Clearly, they live by those rules, despite a strong connection to the national organizations.

This would be like saying the College Democrats and the College Republicans are not subject to the same living rules as those not associated with those groups, simply because they are charters of the national organization.

The colleges will not control them, the national groups will, and they will therefore become ineffective.

I must say, I have never heard the argument too many options will hurt everybody.

Options create competition, which I argue is good for the consumer (New Members) and the producer (Fraternity or Sorority).

The very reason these three Greek organizations want a start at Ursinus is because some students do not feel comfortable in the current Greek organizations. They wanted more options.

Dispelling the rumors: National Greeks respond

Phi Kappa Sigma member argues national organizations at Ursinus are viable options for students uncomfortable with local Greek system.

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Dispelling the rumors: National Greeks respond

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"The very reason these three Greek organizations want a start at Ursinus is because some students do not feel comfortable in the current Greek organizations. They wanted more options."
Purpose of nationals: To build up not destroy, existing Greek life on campus

By Kelly Tessena, a junior psychology major and member of Phi Kappa Sigma, I was interested in the way the founding of a new Greek Presidents' Council (GPC) will affect the national organizations at Ursinus.

"We (Phi Kappa Sigma members) do not feel that our existence is a threat to the current system... We seek to promote the well-being of the school and all its community members, and want to build up what we consider to be true Greek organizations, rather than to destroy any of the current institutions." Although some of these organizations engage in activities contrary to national standards, Ms. Tessena argues, "there's no guarantee that any organization will actually follow what they say they will do," and therefore "the only organizations that we can really know anything about are the ones that already exist on this campus.

However, how are we to know whether or not the groups already on campus participate in activities that they are outwardly against? Furthermore, how can Ms. Tessena automatically assume that national organizations in general will engage in activities such as hazing their new members in order to improve our high standard versus our own campus?

Ms. Tessena claims that any organization having national status should have a no-hazing policy, even though it is not stated in the constitution. Ms. Tessena then asks why the national organization has not come out against hazing, or "whether we are afraid to lose our members because we do not have a no-hazing policy," evinner than to build up not destroy, existing Greek life on campus

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Therefore, how can a relatively new organization such as this still be regulated and overseen by a larger, national organization?

The idea of a new council holding itself as the highest standards of academia and gentlemanly behavior. Not only must we abide by the laws that are often conflicting. Just as all local organizations currently do, we would closely follow the guidelines set by the national organizations.

These national guidelines are more rigorous and demanding than the local one.

Next, Ms. Tessena argues that the national organization having national standards with any local ones, and that Ursinus has a responsibility to act as a host school for all national organizations. This statement would be further from the truth. The organization that Mr. Tessena is referring to is Phi Kappa Sigma, and it is not a local organization, as he claims.

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Furthermore, how can Ms. Tessena automatically assume that national organizations in general will engage in activities such as hazing their new members in order to improve our high standard versus our own campus? We were in no way attempting to destroy any of the existing groups. We were advocating to seek GPC's approval in order to exist as an organization according to the national organization's policy.

Since the GPC is not a voting body, it would be unjustified to force any organization to go before the USGA, SASC, and the faculty to engage in activities such as hazing.

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Phi Kappa Sigma Fraternity: The brotherhood of gentlemen

Christina Abreu
Griego Group Director

It seems as though we are becoming loner and lazier every day. How hard is it really to pick up a phone, send a text, or dial a phone number? Sure there are benefits to Instant Messenger and the Internet, but have you ever been disturbed by this inability to interact?

Today everything is computerized and the Internet, and I'm told that's the way it's supposed to be. Frankly, I think keeping the way we used to communicate alive is the way to go. Nobody wants to use the United States Postal Service and it's time, as we knew it. We are not going to buy computer screens and go out and buy big screen televisions. It's not like Instant Messenger is going to be discontinued. I have some serious disadvantages.

For example, if you have a slower computer and you want to communicate with the rest of your brothers or call a phone number? How is that going to happen? It seems to me that the internet is the way to go.

This may cause a violent temper, loud running of a telephone or, threatening someone with their screen on. I think you’re talking to your best friend about last night’s party and they’re saying you’re not very interesting.

Now, this person is mad at you and Frankly I think that situation is totally out of your control. You’re talking to each other and instant messaging is the way to go.

These messages are usually in a chat window or online items regarding your location. When you turn your ‘away mode’ on and off, you should let others know you are in.

When you are at the middle of completing a homework assignment, you have a choice. You are now faced with several people who are not going to be around your screen. This is probably the most stressful experience you would not believe.

Despite the fact that I use this device every day and I don’t really think it’s doing me any good, because I think it’s doing me a disservice.

Life is a series of choices. When you have to make a decision, you really want to consider all your options. With this device, you can choose among many different choices. This can make it very hard to make a decision.

Instant Messenger will be the demise of society.

However, when you take that away message off to speak to someone you are already on the phone. You are already connected with each other. Whether you are on the telephone or in person, you need to have a meaningful conversation.

In AOL Instant Messenger will be the demise of society

I am not sure that people will make as many decisions as they used to. I don’t think it will be a good thing for society.
Berman exhibit 'Zelda: By Herself' on display until Apr. 19

Paintings explore Fitzgerald apart from role as schizophrenic wife of novelist F. Scott.

Sarah Neideman

Art Editor

On Friday, March 16th in Berman Upper Gallery, a new exhibit was opened to the public and Ursinus Collegiates and staff entitled Zelda: By Herself.

The exhibit features Zelda Fitzgerald's paintings with F. Scott Fitzgerald who wrote "The Great Gatsby" and "Tender is the Night."

Zelda was born in 1897 and was a painter up until she met and married F. Scott. In 1920 she and her husband moved to France and were friends with the likes of Picasso, Ernest Hemmingway, and Gertrude Stein.

Zelda was a famous ballet dancer, story writer, and artist until she had a nervous collapse and was diagnosed as schizophrenic at the age of 36. During this time she was often quoted as saying, "Parfois, L'Appel de la Saguère", or, sometimes madness is wisdom.

After being hospitalized, she spent her remaining 12 years in a mental hospital. Her paintings in the exhibit do not involve stories or childhood fantasies are landscapes that are dreamlike with figures that float above the earth and are wrapped inlovli

The figures all are given large hats chiefly feet by Zelda because she considered dancing as one of her great loves, and because of these facts all her characters appear to be floating and dancing gracefully across her landscapes.

The exhibit also features beautiful paintings of flowers that Zelda would give away as gifts to family and friends.

In 1940, Zelda died in a fire that had broken out in her hospital, and left many beautiful paintings behind in the Upper Gallery.

The exhibit will be held until April 19th, 2001, and is a wonderful combination of many done by this talented artist.

Rivka Smorch

Arts & Entertainment

Summer X-men: "X-Men" preparation is underway.

It seems that the makers don't want to add any other characters to the x-men. As a result, um, the remainders of Gambit being in the movie is not true.

So the movie is going to be a lot more about Wolverine and Cyclops.

As a result, they have opted to put Gambit in the place of Waverr... and the film will be a lot more about Wolverine and Cyclops.

The mystery isn't about who the bad guy is or where he's hiding but how interesting the game is going to become.

Unfortunately, the ending just doesn't do justice to an otherwise promising film.

In fact the last quarter of the movie is such a disappointment that it damages the entire movie. What a shame that the film could have been so much better.

What it lacks is due to a lack of a director who doesn't know how to keep the audience interested.

The story builds up from there and then needlessly plunges into the absurd because of a disastrous ending that leaves no smile behind.

This is a promising thriller that has a strong premise and an interesting follow through for the first 75 minutes. Unlike many detective films,however, the bad guy gets a significant amount of screen time.

The director, Lee Tamihori, shows both sides of this story and is effective for the most part.

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The director, Lee Tamihori, shows both sides of this story and is effective for the most part.

Despite what the film lacks, Freeman gives a decent performance.

It's nothing to watch home about, with the exception that she looks a lot like Julia Roberts who is outsmarted and made a fool of.

Dr. Joel Hecker speaking

"Connecting to the Divine: Topics in (Jewish) Mysticism"

Monday, April 16

5 p.m in Olin 107

The Department of Religion and Philosophy, The Office of the Chaplain and Ursinus Hillel (Jewish Student Organization) welcome

Dr. Joel Hecker

High School varsity boys' tennis and varsity

girls' lacrosse coaches are needed for this spring season at the Kinbromo Waldorf School near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Any interested student contact Ed Matthews, Athletic Director, at (610) 933-8677 (Home phone) or (610) 933-3650 (Work phone).
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Grizzly Sports News

Thursday April 12, 2001

Women's LAX remains undefeated, in first place

Sue Patton
Grizzly Sports Writer

The Ursinus women's lacrosse team continued their undefeated season last week, winning both matches to raise their record to 12-0. The Bears maintained their perfect record by dominating their opponents.

The ladies gathered themselves during half time and came out with two quick goals at the beginning of the second half to put them ahead 4-0. The play was reminiscent of the first half, continuing as a physically and mentally challenging game. The Bears held a three-goal lead for only a few minutes until Rowan caught up, and time expired with a close score of 12-10.

Junior Jen Buc and Sarah Smith both put up the first two goals and held the ball from Ursinus until time expired. During the second overtime, the Bear defense became very strong. They were unable to steal the ball from Rowan's game of keep-away. With just 1:04 left on the clock, Buc scored one more time to increase the lead, and the final score was

5-0. The Bears were able to reclaim the game despite Swarthmore's lead in the second inning. Barrett was the first to score a goal with 58 seconds left. The Bears held a three-goal lead for only a few minutes until Rowan caught up, and time expired with a close score of 12-10. After time, the game was continued.

Women's Golf

The team placed fifth overall, finishing with a score of 331. Senior Ori Adegunwa and St. Katherine's Matty and Fitzgerald each had two hits in the first game. Senior Erin Fitzgerald scored 2:35 on Saturday and fought her way to a 7-3 win. The women led the game at 6-0, 6-0, and 6-0. The Neumann game has been rescheduled to be played on Saturday, April 21.

Softball

Senior Jamie Ruhling was the first to score a goal with 58 seconds left. The Bears held a three-goal lead for only a few minutes until Rowan caught up, and time expired with a close score of 12-10. After time, the game was continued.

Men's LACROSSE - 3:30 p.m.

March 30 - 3:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 14

Thursday, April 12

Tuesday, April 17

Wednesday, April 14

Thursday, April 19

Monday, April 16 - Eastern Pennsylvania Intercollegiate Track and Field Conference

Men's LACROSSE - 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 24

Tuesday, April 14

Wednesday, April 24

Thursday, April 19 - ALBRIGHT (doubleheader)

Wednesday, April 15

Saturday, April 21 at Johns Hopkins (doubleheader)

Wednesday, April 12

Wednesday, April 17

Saturday, April 21

Women's Golf

Saturday, April 14 3:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 17

Saturday, April 21 at Muhlenberg (doubleheader)

Tuesday, April 14

Neumann College on Tuesday for a doubleheader with Albright, winning 4-3.

Barrett was 4-for-4 from the plate, with a two-run double. She also added two RBIs and two runs scored.

Sophomore Jess Trunament scored runs for the Bears. Junior Jen Buc and Sarah Smith both put up the first two goals and held the ball from Ursinus until time expired. During the second overtime, the Bear defense became very strong. They were unable to steal the ball from Rowan's game of keep-away. With just 1:04 left on the clock, Buc scored one more time to increase the lead, and the final score was 5-0.

The third team doubles match of seniors Shannon and Meghann Kissel, 6-0, 6-0. The Neumann game has been rescheduled to be played on Saturday, April 21.

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