



11-18-2004

The Grizzly, November 18, 2004

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Recommended Citation

Fund, Lindsey; Perotti, Lauren A.; Devlin, Dan; Hoban, Erin; Burke, Shannon; Wagner, Ali; Macconchie, Cecily; Swick, Eden; Good, Jared; Murray, Eddie; Strassburger, John; and McHugh, Caitlin, "The Grizzly, November 18, 2004" (2004). *Ursinus College Grizzly Newspaper*. 572.
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the grizzly

thursday, november 18, 2004

the student newspaper of ursinus college

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collegeville, pa

volume 29 issue 11

Inside Scoop: President Strassburger's letter to the Collegeville community

volume 29 issue 11

grizzly@ursinus.edu

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

At the very outset, I want to state that Ursinus College supports and admires the dedicated and faithful volunteers of the Collegeville Fire Company in their life-saving work and in all that they do so generously for this community. We all need and appreciate the countless hours these selfless men and women contribute to our safety and well-being.

Recently, after several years of negotiating, the Fire Company and the College have come to an impasse over specific plans for the company's much-needed expansion. Through this letter, I hope to make clear why the needs of the Fire Company, the community and the College are one and the same, in hopes that we may all arrive at a mutually satisfying resolution.

Ursinus College's concern about plans for a firehouse building on the Borough's most visible and central intersection, the corner of Fifth and Main Streets, stems from our mutual interest in making the Borough a vital place. The Joint Collegeville Trappe Planning Committee Main Street Revitalization and Beautification Plan details how a more attractive Main Street has long term potential for the health of the Borough. Its mission statement promises that "Main Street will be a better, more enjoyable place to live, work, recreate, and grow. The best aspects of its character will be strengthened and the weaknesses minimized or transformed into strengths." We applaud the Borough Council for its careful planning designed to make our community a better place to live and work.

Ursinus College recognizes the critical importance of working with the Fire Company, a contiguous property owner, as partners in making the Borough's vision a reality.

Some relevant facts:

- When the Fire Company initiated plans for a new building site in 1998, Ursinus agreed to purchase the existing property.
- When the community rebuffed the Fire Company's plan for a new site, Ursinus complied with its request to let the company out of the agreement of sale.
- Ursinus College sought to help find alternatives to the extent of offering its own land and \$100,000 plus additional land off of Main Street to avoid having a parking lot abutting Main Street.
- The Zoning Hearing Board denied approval of the Fire Company's new plans in 2002. When it granted an exception in 2003, the College did raise legal questions, and the Court of Common Pleas sent the matter back to the Zoning Hearing Board for a rehearing.
- Recently, the College offered to have an architect work directly with the Fire Company and community on any future plans for the corner in question.

The College has had two goals in mind: to support the Fire Company, and to continue to work toward the beautification of Collegeville. Ursinus took the lead in restoring the attractive row of Main Street houses that lend Collegeville so much of its current character. We were, of course, disappointed when in July 2001, the Fire Company wrote the borough manager that it absolutely refused to have any discussions with the College about "real estate."

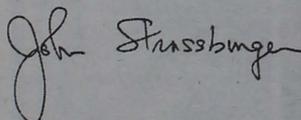
Ursinus has always made, and will continue to make, its facilities available to the Fire Company at no charge for drills, exercises and meetings. It has been said that the College is the Fire Company's biggest non-governmental contributor, and we will continue to be a generous supporter of its work. In fact, we have established an escrow fund specifically to support the Fire Company's building plan when it moves forward. The Collegeville Fire Company is, indeed, a proud and valuable part of the community, and we will always value and honor the sacrifices our volunteers make day after day.

As an integral part of Collegeville, Ursinus, we believe, enriches the community economically, culturally and aesthetically, positively affecting property values. We support local government and schools through taxes, and the local economy through the purchasing power of our considerable campus population. We have both a strong civic presence and economic impact on the community:

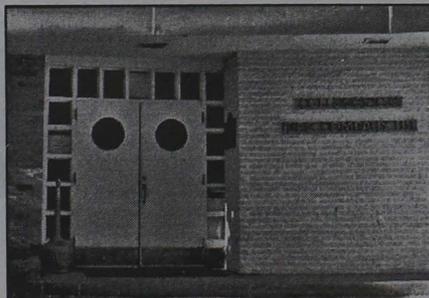
Our employees pay local wage taxes annually, a portion of which goes right to the Borough; we distribute donations to Collegeville, local schools and the Fire Company; we provide campus land at no charge to the county's Perkiomen Trail; we paid \$250,000 to make the Borough's Hunsberger Woods project possible; we provide free lectures, concerts, art exhibits and athletic events each year to which the public is cordially invited; we maintain an attractive campus where our neighbors are welcome to walk and visit anytime.

As long as the College continues to thrive, so will the community. A viable Main Street can be the core of an even stronger economy — one that supports all of us as we support each other. By working together to reach a harmonious resolution, the Fire Company, Borough and College can achieve this desirable, mutually beneficial reality.

Cordially,



John Strassburger
President, Ursinus College



Collegeville Fire
Company, located
on 5th Avenue

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LETTERS POLICY

We welcome and encourage Letters to the Editors. We reserve the right to edit letters for length prior to publication.

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The Grizzly is published by students of Ursinus College every Thursday during the academic year, except for vacation and examination periods. The opinions expressed in the Grizzly represent those only of the authors; they do not reflect the views of the Editorial Staff or the College. The Grizzly Staff meets every Monday in Wismer Lower Lounge at 5:30 pm. Those interested in photography, writing, and editing are encouraged to attend.

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Poe on Poe recommended for Theater Festival nomination

ERIN HOBAN

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The theater department has been working hard and Kennedy Center respondent, Judith Stevens-Ly, seems to agree. Ms. Stevens-Ly is a representative from the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF), who has recommended Ursinus to be a nominee for the Theater Festival. The production of *Poe on Poe* could be nominated in the regional festival which will take place at Muhlenberg College in January. Along with this production, a scene from both *The Tell-Tale Heart* and *The Cask of the Amontillado* will be recommended as a nominee for the scene competition.



In addition, three students have been nominated to compete in the Irene Ryan Acting Scholarships: Shane Borer, Dan Bruno and Katie Urlich. Nominee Dan Bruno stated, "I'm really excited the performance was so well received. I am tremendously honored to have been recognized." The three students who have been nominated will go through a series of critiques based on the performances where they will show off their talents. Once at the festival they will be able to show their skills through three main auditions which involve two two-person scenes and a monologue or song for candidates who advance to the final round.

The KCACTF is a non-profit organization that was started in 1969 by Kennedy Center's founding chairman, Roger L. Stevens. It involves 18,000 students from colleges and universities nationwide. This program has five main goals, the first of which is to encourage and

recognize the finest work produced in college theater programs. The second is to provide opportunities to students as a way of developing their skills. The next goal is to improve the quality of college theater programs nationwide. The fourth goal of the program is to give theater students incentive to create fine pieces of work. Lastly, the festival honors excellence of overall productions as well as offering students individual recognition through many different awards and scholarships like the Irene Ryan Acting scholarship.

A year-round program is held in eight regions in the U.S. Then in January and February of each year the regional festivals showcase the finest of each of the eight regions. There are also a variety of activities which include workshops, symposia and regional-level award programs that are held at the festival. Each of the nominated productions is judged by a panel of three judges which is selected by Kennedy Center and the KCACTF national committee. These judges then consult with the artist director and select four to six of the best regional festival productions to perform again in the spring at the annual non-competitive national festival at the Kennedy Center.

This particular program has given more than 400,000 college theater students the opportunity to have their skills critiqued and receive national recognition for such excellence. One of the nominees for the Irene Ryan Acting Scholarship, Katie Urlich, stated "I'm really excited for all of us who were nominated for the competition and think it is a really great opportunity." Although the theater major is a relatively new addition, it has proven its strength through the commitment and hard work of both the faculty and students.

Student reactions to Sigma Pi



DAN DEVLIN

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Not much seems to have changed following the approval of Sigma Pi by USGA two weeks ago. Students on both sides of the issue are still fervently sticking to their positions on the new national fraternity. Eden Swick, a sister of Omega Chi, believes that Sigma Pi should have gone before USGA for approval prior to recruiting new members. She noted that other colonies on campus, such as Kappa Alpha Psi, had been approved by USGA before they began recruiting.

The freshman members of Sigma Pi, she said, did not have a chance to look at other fraternities before they decided to join the organization. This is due to the fact that the rushing period at Ursinus does not begin until November 1st. "I think a lot of Greeks on campus would not mind adding a new organization if these things happened. I think they went about it the wrong way," she said.

Senior Joe Davido expressed similar feelings about the organization. "Basically, they wanted to start a fraternity that was solely theirs, and not join a group that already existed," he said.

Other students, however, see the group in a different light. Chris Rosci, a sophomore, feels that the local Greek organizations are not directly affected by Sigma Pi since it is a national fraternity. For this reason, she says, the local organizations should not interfere with the decision of USGA to approve Sigma Pi. Additionally, she feels that Sigma Pi has proven that they are a worthwhile addition to the Ursinus community. "Sigma Pi has shown that they are responsible through their activities involving community service, and through the strong bond that they have maintained with each other," she said.

"They're a nice group of guys that are trying to bring an experience to Ursinus that is completely positive," said sophomore Chris Fratz. He felt that the negative reaction to them stems from jealousy, since some Greeks think that Sigma Pi is just stealing pledges.

In addition, he noted that the existence of more Greek organizations on campus will have a positive impact on the overall Greek community, since more students will join fraternities or sororities if there are more of them. Furthermore, he expressed an understanding of their position in deciding to bring a new fraternity on campus. "I'm not going to join a frat just for the sake of joining a frat. I'd rather try to start my own than be in one that I don't belong with."

Now that approval has been given by USGA, Sigma Pi must move down the road toward approval and appear before the Student Activities and Services Committee, and finally, the faculty. Only time will tell what fate might bestow on the organization.

DSAC Updates

In the first week of November, Sodexho, our dining services provider, presented materials on their new initiative Balance, Mind, Body, and Soul. This program strives to promote general health and well-being by providing information concerning mental health, fitness plans, and getting in-tune with your inner self. More importantly, they provide guidance in eating healthy regardless of your dietary choice, such as a traditional balanced diet, vegetarian or vegan diets, or even a low carb diet.

You may already have noticed some of these suggestions on the tables in Wismer. You can also find them at www.balancemindbodysoul.com, and new issues are added every month. The website also has a database of all the recipes available to Sodexho, and their nutrition calculator allows you to look at the nutrition facts of each dish individually, or together as an entire meal. There is even a dietician you can e-mail with any questions you may have, or you can check out the questions already posted on the site. For anyone looking to eat healthy, this website is a valuable tool.

Food surveys were also distributed at the beginning of the month, and all of them were filled out over the course of two days. E-bites are also now being offered for the campus. This is a completely voluntary e-mail service that provides us with promotional items and new deals. The more people who sign up, the better the items are. You can sign up to receive E-bites in Wismer or in the dining services office.

If you have any questions or concerns for DSAC, you can email them at dsac@ursinus.edu.

Coming Next Week...
**"Behind Closed Doors:
 Secret Places on Campus"**



Men and women for feminism: a review of *from the Belly*

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Men can be feminists too. In the current edition of *from the Belly*, the Ursinus College women's publication, there are many insightful and controversial ideas and opinions expressed dealing with feminism. The focus of this particular edition is women and politics. This issue contains cartoons, articles, a poem, photographs, and images that deal with many different perspectives surrounding these issues. Some of the articles may evoke a feeling of empathy for those advocating feminism, while others may induce feelings of discord. Either way, however, many of the articles in *from the Belly* are thought-provoking and intuitive.

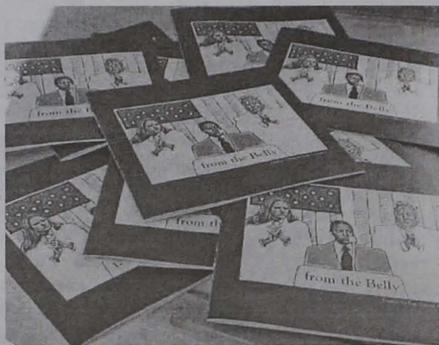
Freshman Britiany Gilbert comments that, "As a young woman, this magazine is very inspiring and contains articles that are both informative and interesting."

In accordance with this statement, the magazine includes some articles that are solely informative regarding different feminist groups, while it also contains a great mix of opinionated articles that defend, disagree with, and define the term "feminism."

Another freshman, Sage Corwin, asserts that "the opinion articles, like 'Prostitutes Got H.I.P.S.' by Amanda

Deibert, were intriguing and amusing, as was the political cartoon by Marlena McMahon-Purk."

Two items in this magazine containing strong stances and being both quite stimulating are the poem titled "Puppeteers" by Kelayne Minus and the article "Political Women" by Amanda D'Amico.



"Puppeteers" is a poem that highlights the role of women in politics as being the strong force behind a man, possessing the real power. This poem is quite inspiring for some, while for others it may be stirring or unsettling.

"Political Women" has the same effect, but gives a different viewpoint on feminism as being "ridiculous" and ironic due to the fact that women

supporting feminism usually advocate banding together, no matter what their political stance may be. The voice in this article is very potent, and quite clearly has the effect of offending some people, while enlightening others.

Another article that catches the eyes of most readers can be found on the last page of this magazine, "Prostitutes Got H.I.P.S." H.I.P.S., or Helping Individual Prostitutes Survive, deals with aiding prostitutes in a number of ways.

The writer points out that an existing movement that is pushing for the decriminalization of prostitution, which, for many people, may be quite difficult to accept. Other noteworthy contributors to this insightful magazine include Susannah Fisher, Editor and Professor Peter Kalb.

When asked about his view of *from the Belly*, B. Thomas McEvoy, a sophomore, responded, "In times like these, with the reelection of a president [whom] only half the nation supports and the focus on male political leaders, it is good to hear from the local female mindset..."

All in all, this publication is a must-read because its contents are both provocative and inspiring.

Ursinus College Dance Company concert debuts this week

CECILY MACCONCHIE

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Most of us know that there will be a dance performance here at Ursinus College this Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, at 7:30 p.m. in Ritter. What you may not know is that those who attend will be seeing the choreography of world famous dancer and choreographer Paul Taylor, who has been called "the reigning master of modern dance" by *Time*, and "the best choreographer in the world" by the *New York Daily News*.

Paul Taylor has studied dance at Julliard and has had his own dance company since 1954. He is the recipient of many different awards, including the National Medal of Arts by President Clinton, the 1992 Kennedy Center Honors, and in January 2000, he was given the *Légion d'Honneur*, the highest award possible in France, for his contribution to French culture. Needless to say, it is an honor to be performing a piece of his choreography, especially since the dancers are learning this dance with Taylor's main dancer, internationally known Ruth Andrien.

Andrien has been teaching the Ursinus College dancers the first part of Taylor's *Esplanade*, which is considered one of the greatest pieces of modern dance in the 20th century. She has been working with the dancers for a little over a month in preparation for this week's event.

Dancer and Ursinus sophomore Aimee Wright is very excited about it. "We've been working really hard,"

she says, "and I really like the dance. It didn't hit me that we were working with such an important piece and such a famous dancer until we saw a video of the original performance and Ruthie said 'that's me.' It's been really great working with her and I'm glad to have had this experience."

Other dances being performed in the presentation will be a jazz piece by Ursinus Dance Professor Cathy Young, two new pieces by Professor Chris Aiken, a movement piece entitled "Act Without Words" by Dominic Scudera, an improvisational dance by Sara Campbell, and hip-hop pieces by Ramon Clark and Brett Kuras, as well as Marlena McMahon-Purk.

Marlena McMahon-Purk, a sophomore at Ursinus, will be presenting her original hip-hop piece, which will include herself and 3 other girls: Dana Roach, Caitlin O'Connor, and Tracey Ferdinand. Although McMahon-Purk is not a Dance major, she has been involved in several arenas of Ursinus dance.

McMahon-Purk mentions that following the Dance Company performance on Saturday night, there will be a party in Wismer Lower Lounge to bring back *Escape Velocity*, a dance group which essentially faded after many of its members graduated.

So, come to the dance performance this weekend and celebrate by attending the party in Wismer Lower Lounge afterward! It promises to be a one-of-a-kind experience, thanks to all those students and professors who have worked hard to make it happen.

New room selection policies

How did Ursinus students vote?

A recent email was sent out to the Ursinus campus about the new housing policies that might go into effect during the 2005-06 academic year. The new policies being looked at are the following:

1. Instead of showing up in Olin Aud. and waiting in a long line to pick a housing number out of a bucket, students will receive a computer generated randomly assigned housing number. These numbers will range from 1-1200. You will receive a postcard in your mailbox (MSC) with your randomly assigned housing number for room selection.
2. Instead of giving housing priority to students based on the number of credits they have, students would be given housing priority based on their graduation year (2008, 2007, and 2006). This will be included on the post card mailed to students with their randomly assigned housing number. All class-years (sorted by housing numbers) will be posted outside of Wismer after postcards have been mailed out. This will allow students to see how their housing number compares with other students who have the same graduation year.
3. This change does not affect students who want to "squat" rooms.

the grizzly wanted to know if you agreed with the new policies, so we asked you to vote on blackboard! Here are the results based on 124 student voters!

52.5% agreed with the policies!

47.5% of students were not happy about them!

Review: what *did* the moon see?

SHANNON BURKE
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Ursinus College Theatre presented its latest play, *What The Moon Saw* or "I Only Appear To Be Dead," from Wednesday through Saturday, November 10-14, 2004. The play, written by up-and-coming playwright Stephanie Fleischmann and directed by Lisa Jo Epstein, is comprised of four stories that endeavor to show New York City after September 11, 2001. The play transports characters inspired by Hans Christian Andersen, such as the Steadfast Tin Soldier and the Little Matchstick Girl, into the modern world.

The short slices of life, accompanied by music, singing and occasional dancing, were set against a white three-walled background. Production design team Mark O'Maley, Perry Fertig, Lisa Jo Epstein, and Morgan Fitzpatrick collaborated to make the unobtrusive set. The three walls were semi-transparent and throughout the two-hour play, bright white lights occasionally were flashed to show the shadows of actors behind the scenes. The floor was brightly colored red and held a table, two chairs, a fridge, and a never-ending stream of actors running about.

The lighting by Peter Jakubowski was effective, and even through unforeseen technical difficulties, the lighting crew still managed to fulfill their task.

During the beginning of the play, a slideshow of scenes of New York City through history was shown, with a puppet walking in the light of the moon. Puppet Creator Morgan Fitzpatrick did a fantastic job making inspired and flavorful puppets that were presented throughout the play.

The music, composed by Brendan Connelly, was performed live by student musicians Lisa Injaian, Voula Giavis, and Katie Ringler. Their performance was deserving of numerous accolades and added a wonderful component to the atmosphere surrounding the play.

During the piece entitled, "The Egg Girl, or Why Birds Sing," all of the on-stage actors participated in a dance movement that simulated flight. Dance mastermind Chris Aiken created this fabulous piece which included lifting actor Candace Thomas into the air and making undulating motions with the assistance of the other actors.

The costumes, designed by Deborah Rooney, were a tad bit uninspired, however. Sweatshirts, sweatpants, ill-fitted suits, and mismatched colors were displayed several instances throughout the play.

On the other hand, two costumes stood out as different from the others. The Flaming Girl wore a swirled red dress that matched the diva personality of her character perfectly. The three moons wore sparkling silver caftans and matching hood pieces that shimmered in the spotlight and had the affect of a lunar appearance.

The acting by all involved was superb, with commendable performances by Nathan Dawley, Candace Thomas, Tracey Ferdinand and Jon Yoder. Actor Nathan Dawley sang, danced, played the violin, and effectively delivered his lines. Candace Thomas also sang as one of the moons, but it was her monologue as the Egg Girl that managed to really bring her talent to light. Tracey Ferdinand was good comic relief throughout the play, especially considering the gravity of the piece she was given. In addition, her singing was outstanding. Jon Yoder's Fireman character was subtly endearing, while his Dancing Bear character was hilarious.

Unfortunately for this play, the actual message was hidden to many. It was, at times, confusing and scattered. Speaking as an audience member for two nights in a row, the second night makes a difference, but still not enough of a difference. Being an abstract play, there is room for the possibility that perhaps it wasn't supposed to be plainly understood. But, if the average theatre-goer cannot grasp the concepts presented in the two hours they just spent watching this play, then what was it all for?

What The Moon Saw or "I Only Appear To Be Dead" was a noble effort by talented actors and a devoted production staff, but in the end it failed to really inspire.

Major highlight: Business and Economics

ALI WAGNER
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What advantages are there to being a Business and Economics major? You can learn skills that can later be applied to whichever career you choose, gain a greater understanding of what it is to be a leader, and enter into career paths ranging anywhere from government and international careers to banking and marketing.

The goal behind the Business and Economics program here at Ursinus College is to build leaders in our communities that will enter the work force with a broad understanding of the organizational structure of business and the economy. Our curriculum offers students the chance to delve into the subjects of business decision making, market forces, and human relations.

All students that wish to major in Business and Economics at Ursinus College are required to complete a minimum of 40 semester hours. There are six required courses, and an additional requirement of either Math 105 or 111, or Math 107 and 108. For those students that have completed high school Calculus, a waiver can be requested. The six required courses for this major include The Global Economy, Financial Accounting, Managerial Economics, Business Statistics, Management and Organizational Behavior, and Econometrics. In addition, all students must take three elective courses, one of which must be at the 300 level, as well as complete a Capstone experience.

Do you have a special career interest in the Business or Economics field? Well, you are in luck! There are quite a few special career interests offered here at Ursinus College. Accounting, Management, Marketing, Finance, and International Business are a few of the possibilities you could pursue. Furthermore, if you have an interest in teaching, Ursinus offers a secondary school teaching certification that satisfies the Pennsylvania State requirements in Social Studies. If this is your plan, however, it is important to note that further coursework outside of Economics and Education is required in order to prepare yourself for subjects taught in the secondary curriculum.

Still not convinced of the multitude of opportunities that can arise from this major? The overseas program here is yet another option. This program allows for learning and internship opportunities in Japan, Mexico, Europe, and many

other exotic locations. There are a great number of internships readily available to students with our close proximity to Philadelphia as well.

The Business and Economics program at Ursinus is run by seven faculty members, including Professors Economopoulos and O'Neill; Associate Professors Bowers (Executive-in-Residence), Harris (Chair), and McLennan; and Assistant Professors Cirka and Mudd. Each of these faculty members works hard to meet their goals for the students here, and is quite successful at doing just that.

Many Business and Economics students in the past have found employment in a variety of areas immediately upon graduation, which just goes to show how well this program prepares students for their future careers.

career corner

Internships equal success

How do college students spell success in today's job market? I-N-T-E-R-N-S-H-I-P-S. Academically oriented work experience can provide you with the tools you need to compete for jobs.

Finding an internship is a time-consuming activity. It is suggested that you start the process at least two semesters prior to the semester during which you would like to intern. Starting early will help you get the internship you really want!

Here are five easy steps to help you navigate the process of receiving credit for an internship at Ursinus:

1. Search for and secure an internship that meets the academic standards for the department through which you are seeking credit.
2. Complete an Internship Learning Agreement (ILA) with your Site Supervisor and Faculty Internship Advisor.
3. Register for the Internship Course with the Registrar's Office.
4. Complete 120 hours (for 3 credits) or 160 hours (for 4 credits) of on-site work.
5. Complete the academic requirements established by the department through which you are seeking credit.

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Welcome to Dubya's fun world



**MATT FLYNTZ
DAN SERGEANT**
Communism for Dummies

crossed, have elected President Bush to another four glorious years in office.

But frankly, that's old news. We all saw the election, and we all know what happened. Instead, let's focus on the future. Obviously, the next four years are going to be the greatest four years the world has ever seen, akin to the Second Coming, except instead of revolving around Jesus, it will revolve around George W. Bush. The war in Iraq will continue to go as beautifully as it is now, despite certain terrorist-loving peacenik commies pointing out the fact that over 1,000 brave American soldiers have been sacrificed on the altar of incompetence for a crusade that is suddenly becoming less a war for freedom and more a gigantic corporate orgy starring Halliburton.

Well, it's been an eventful first part of the month. Those of you with a sharp eye for political news may have noticed that red necks, proving that they are a voting bloc NOT to be

Sorry, I got a little carried away there. Anyway, the point is, the next four years will be beautiful, but what about America after the reign of George Jr.? How will we retain the compassionate conservative values that his administration has oh-so-generously impressed upon us? The answer: by appealing to popular entertainment! Already, we have drawn up plans for the first step. Ladies and gentlemen, let me be the first to welcome you to GEORGE DUBYA'S COMPASSIONATE CONSERVATIVE FAMILY FUN LAND THEME PARK!

Located in the heart of Texas (plans by the administration to build the park on Ground Zero were scrapped after heated debate), this sprawling complex of rides and games is a great place to bring your heterosexual female wife and your 2.5 kids! First, you should stop off at the Department of Homeland Security's Information Booth to get your hand stamped and your background checked. Then, it's off to one of the park's most popular attractions, the Axis of Evil Tilt-a-Whirl! Hop on one of the cars named after a famous rogue state (including Iran, North Korea, and Canada) and get ready to have a wild ride that is cut tragically short by military intervention. Then, it's off

to the War on Terror Roller Coaster, which as of this time is still undergoing some maintenance work. For some unknown reason, the coaster starts out great, but afterwards it keeps going into a downward spiral that seems to have no end. Fortunately, should you be injured on this ride, you can stop by the park's Army of Compassion First Aid Station, where we have all manners of medical treatment to cure your ills! (Note to those of you who suffer from Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, or any other neurological disease: because stem cell research is an abomination to all that is

holy, we do not have the means to cure *your* ills. Same goes for pregnant teens. However, we do have plenty of psychological therapy available for homosexuals, because, as we all know, in Dubya's world, homosexuality is not a lifestyle, it's a social disease that needs curing.)

We hope you can come back when the park is all finished. Remember, Jeb Bush in '08!

Matt and Dan are freshmen. You can reach them at maflyntz@ursinus.edu and



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The Wismer Incident: Issues of food and money

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An email from Dining Services drew quite a stir among the Ursinus student body that was generated by recent incidents that concerned food theft at Wismer Hall. The event that sparked this tug-of-war with the Dining Services authorities was students stealing excessive amounts of food from the college's cafeteria. Another recurring problem with the Wismer dining staff is the removal of food, plates, silverware and china from Wismer Dining Hall.

Jason Manwiller, head of Dining Services, admits that there have been more incidents concerning both these problems, but on this particular evening, "a student had handfuls of bagels and was told that they couldn't take them out. At that point, they went back to the salad bar, asked the attendant to get something for them and when she left, the person proceeded to fill their sweatshirt with bagels." He goes on to explain how his budget is becoming more hurt by the excessive stealing of cups and bowls from the cafeteria. "Since the beginning of the semester alone, I have purchased 27 cases of the plastic cups that are used in Wismer (for a total of 1944 cups) at a cost of \$861.54. This does not include the approximately 1350 cups that we still have. We are aware that some do break. However, at this point, it is far beyond a simple matter of wear and tear."

Manwiller would like to stress that Wismer was never meant to be a take-out

location on campus. Zack's was created for this purpose, and students are allowed to use their Zack's bonus for take-out items, such as coffee, to-go sandwiches, soft pretzels, etc. Manwiller asks the students to "consider that no All-You-Can-Eat restaurant allows the removal of anything from the premise, whereas we allow you to take a small plastic bowl or cone of ice cream or a piece of whole fruit with you when you leave."

Senior Brianna Lindsay admits that she is frustrated with this situation because, "Sometimes when I go to Wismer, I am finished with my meal, but would like a cup of coffee to go. Before, they used to have the plastic cups that I felt were not a problem taking them with me as I left the cafeteria. I feel as though Wismer would save a lot of frustration and expense if they reinstated such plastic utilities to cut down on students removing Wismer cups."

Senior Katie Rickerl chimed in: "Wismer just happens to have more options than Zack's if I want to make a sandwich before rushing off to class. I don't like having to be restrained to the Meal Deals that Zack's offers. It also eliminates the chance of having to wait in line at Zack's for several minutes, where I can just run into Wismer, take five minutes to make a sandwich and leave." After asking around, the popular opinion of students echoed Rickerl's statements. They feel cheated out of food they are entitled to and swiped their cards for, even if they have to make it in the dining area and then take it with them to class.

The students feel that, since they are paying to get into Wismer, they are free to take the food that they have paid for with their Wismer Meal Deals.

Price is another concern surrounding reasons as to why students are 'stealing' food from Wismer Hall. Junior Corey Bolander says her concern with Wismer and Zack's is that the pricing is not comparable: "I ran out of Zack's bonus at the beginning of October, so I have no choice but to eat at Wismer. I only take things from Wismer, because I know I do not have any other on-campus options later at night. Since I am a poor college student, I cannot afford to continue spending money on off-campus options, such as Wawa."

Manwiller disagrees with these price complaints, commenting that students' perceptions of how much food costs are drastically wrong. Manwiller states: "Students assume that the large sum of money that they pay for room and board covers much more than it actually does. If they took that cost and divided it by the number of meals that they actually ate (and how much they ate at those meals) and then compared that number to what it would cost to eat at Wawa, McDonald's or a grocery store for a semester, I believe that a great many would be surprised." He goes on to compare Wismer meals with an average meal at McDonald's. "For around \$5 at McDonald's, you can purchase a moderately sized burger, a medium fry, and a medium drink...all with no refills. At Wismer, for lunch you can have as many items as you

like, refill as many times as you want, and only pay \$4.00, or \$5.20 for dinner."

Senior Jennifer Johnson agrees that, even though Wismer meals might be inexpensive, she still thinks that Wismer employees are overreacting to students taking food out of Wismer for snacks later. "I think there are more things of concern for Wismer employees than students taking a bagel here or a sandwich there. If Wismer worked with the students at the college, instead of complaining about food that will go bad and they will throw away later, we wouldn't run into problems like this. I would think that they would prefer the students taking out food within reason than having students miss a meal, run out of Zack's bonus, and then go without eating. I just don't think this is as big of a problem as they are making it out to be."

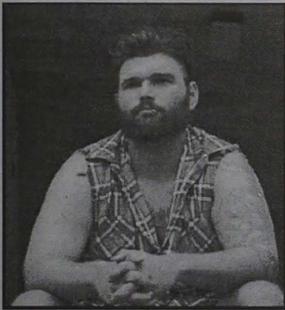
Basically, after speaking to Jason Manwiller, the Dining Services is willing to bend the rules to help the students as much as they can. However, with college students living the hectic and often late schedules that they do, it is just hard to accommodate everyone. After listening to both sides of the story, it seems as though if students stay within reason with their "take-out food" from Wismer, Dining Services is willing to turn the other cheek. So, for you bagel snatchers out there, before you go to grab a shirt-full of bagels for later, remember, "Zack's is open more hours than most of you are awake each day" and take advantage of the options that both Wismer and Zack's give you.

Color me bad

Let's be honest, I'm not real picky about what goes into my mouth (now if *that* topic sentence isn't an attention grabber, I don't know what is). I think it goes back to my boyhood when my parents would put me in the garage to frolic with the cats, as it was cheaper than a sitter. Well, one afternoon, me mum comes out to discover me seated by the cats, partaking in their wet cat food, using a large greasy screwdriver as a spoon.

It was pretty much all downhill from there: apple cores, worms, bugs, loose change, two-thirds of a textbook, goldfish, you name it. People have spit an ice cube across the table and to see if I can catch it in my mouth (somewhere, someone just thought "oooh, *that's* what they were doing! Gross!"). I've been fed like a baby bird...at rugby matches, I'm known to put a mouthpiece found on the ground to good use. And worst of all, (you may want to read this while kneeling by the toilet)...I eat the seafood gumbo in Wismer. Anyways, you get the idea.

However, there is one thing that shall never pass mine



GOODY
The Skipped Diploma:
Musings of a Social
Senior

lips: Green ketchup. Or Purple for that matter...I mean really though, wouldn't Heinz's money be better spent developing a 58th Variety than just altering an existing condiment so people buy it for their kids? What about using that money to develop a wonderful new condiment beyond our wildest dreams? Or perhaps it would have been better spent along the Kerry campaign trail? See, it's all purple and green ketchup's fault that we're in this mess!

Suppose the Atlantic Ocean decides to appeal to younger palates by unleashing its new line of green oysters? What about Stroehmann releasing "Fun Fuzzy Fungi" bread? How the hell am I going to tell when anything goes bad? What if one day I open my fridge to fix a burger, and the ketchup is so damn old that it comes out green? (If you say "that could never happen," you'd be right, because the only thing that's in my fridge is a variety of beers). I'd probably just eat it, thinking it's fun new color Ketchup and spend the next two weeks having my stomach pumped full of antibiotics.

What else bugs me is this new Crest Orange toothpaste that my roommate showed up with. I decided to give it a shot, as mouthwash and toothpaste residue dried on my toothbrush will only last so long. I'm not gonna lie, the flavor was not too bad, but the orange color was uncool. Toothpaste should be white, so I can tell its making my teeth white, not orange. Plus I kinda thought my gums were bleeding, which is always exciting.

Final thought: If "Yellow No. 5" of Mountain Dew fame supposedly lowers your sperm count, consider the potential side effects of ingesting large amounts of Green, Orange and Purple Dye. Besides, I think I consume enough green dye for the year each St. Patty's Day.

Goody has problems. If you have a problem you would like him to muse on, you can reach him at jagood@ursinus.edu.

And now... George Washington!

First in our series of the Great Presidents is the man who started it all, Mr. George Washington. Washington was responsible for setting many of the precedents of the office, several of which continue to be ignored to this day.

One of the most famous stories about George, or rather Young George, gives us an idea of what kind of man he was. One day, our future President chopped down a cherry tree. Why he did this is historically unimportant, he just did...maybe it was a whim. During intense questioning, Washington broke down, declaring "I cannot tell a lie. I did it." Had he been able to hold out longer, blame would have been placed elsewhere and his career as a politician would have flourished. But he did alright regardless. The point of the story is that it established Washington as an honest man. Also a feared adversary to cherry trees everywhere.

While being the first leader of the United States of America could be considered a pretty good gig, even more impressive was his leadership of another kind. I, of course, refer to the George "British Busting" Washington that was commander of the Continental Army. This Washington was famously depicted crossing the Delaware River. The less famous painting entitled "General Washington Burns Aide for Warmth - Valley Forge 1778" is sadly lost to the ages.

George Washington's presidency was largely a quiet affair. Nothing earth-shattering. The French had a revolution, but having just finished a revolution ourselves, it seemed a bit cliché. Not long after, France declared war on Great Britain. If the revolution seemed cliché, then the idea of Great Britain and France fighting had a casual

familiarity about it. As such, we refused France's call for help, much like they would do to us many, many years later. But I'm getting ahead of myself.

The first sign of strife in the newly created country came in the form of the Whiskey Rebellion. Of course like all good rebellions, this one involved taxes. You would think that a country who just overthrew their oppressors through violent revolution because of taxes on tea would be a little less quick on the trigger to jump back into the taxing of favorite beverages. But the government did just that, and a group of farmers in Pennsylvania rebelled when officials attempted to collect the tax. The federal government, a.k.a. Washington, leapt into action by invading Western Pennsylvania with a volunteer army. Most of the rebels, wisely, turned tail and ran. Through

such a stunning victory, Washington proved the overwhelming power of the federal government, and forever cemented in stone the phrase: "Don't Mess with Taxes."

Following something to do with the Northwest Territory that this columnist is too lazy to look up, Washington ended his term of office, saying in his Farewell Address in 1796 that the United States should avoid becoming permanently allied with foreign powers. This advice is still followed today, no matter how hard we try.

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CAM FURMAN
It's the Mind

What's real about reality TV

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From rising stars like "The Biggest Loser," to the classics "Survivor," to the original the "Real world," reality television shows have been raking in viewers since the first episode of reality TV aired in 1997. But what is so appealing about watching other people compete to lose weight, find romance, quite smoking, or win a dream job with Donald Trump? And what does the rise of reality television say about people in general?

Reality television exploded onto the screen because the shows were inexpensive to create. There were only one or two actors to pay, and thousands of regular people were willing to be exploited on screen. People would do anything for money, love, or just fifteen minutes of fame. All these things made reality television an addictive alternative to scripted dramas.

Viewers tuned in and immediately enjoyed watching human nature unfold onscreen. Some watched to see what challenges people would face to get what they wanted. Others tuned in because seeing contestants turn on one another made them feel better about themselves.

What does it all mean? Reality television is anything but realistic, which contributes to its appeal. People want to escape reality and experience the fantastical. Reality television allows contestants to do just that. Contestants on reality shows are swept away to live in Trump Towers, or to an exotic island, or a romantic chateau. They can have the adventure of a lifetime while competing with other people. People also enjoy watching human nature unfold without being caught in the middle. Reality shows demonstrate the best and worst of people. Contestants can sink to record lows to get what they want—whether it is a job with Donald Trump or the heart of a rich man. This implies that with the right environment and incentive, ordinary people can become extraordinary liars, cheats, angels, or heroes.

So what do Ursinus College students find appealing about reality television?

"I like to see the insane things that the people will do for money. Also how they react to the goals that they have to achieve. Although I know that nothing like those things could occur in real reality, it is funny to watch," says sophomore Stephen Edelman.

"I like them because they're a combination of game shows, sports, and real life dynamics," claims junior PJ Digiaco. Even the students that don't like reality television understand why others enjoy it.

"I see why people get addicted to it, but I think there are better things to do with your time," says junior Stephanie Sapok. "It's like a soap opera, but real."

Success does not equal playoff contention for the men's rugby team

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The Ursinus Men's Rugby team finished its season a couple weeks ago with an impressive 49-0 win over Bucknell. Scoring tries for the Bearcox were Dray Smith, Colm McCarthy/Robert Farley, Brenden "Burber" Shaw, and Cole "Cupcake" Racich, Dan Iwaniuk, Zach Stewart and Pops Matthews. Mike "Slyvester" Antonelli tacked on two conversion kicks despite the windy conditions.

The win boosted the Ursinus Men's standing to second place in the Division III West bracket of the Eastern Pennsylvania

Rugby Union. Unfortunately, second place does not qualify for a spot in the playoffs.

Ursinus pinned Bucknell against their own goal line early in the game, but were not able to punch the ball in for several penalty filled minutes. However, once the team scored the first try, it was smooth sailing from there. Dray Smith, who led the Bearcox in scoring with three tries from his inside center position, commented that, "After the first try, the team calmed down and started moving the ball better, which allowed for frequent scoring by a bunch of different players on the team."

However, the Ursinus team had their playoff hopes all but dashed the previous

week, as an injury depleted Ursinus lineup suffered a dismal 73-5 loss at the hands of a the more experienced F&M team, a division rival.

However, the loss gave the Bearcox something to aspire to for next season, especially after discovering that they had been the only team to score on F&M this season, whom went on to win the division with a combined score of 220-5. The lone try came when Colm McCarthy adroitly picked the ball off the base of a ruck and dove into the try zone. The play was set up by a Mike "Sylvester" Antonelli penalty kick that gave Ursinus excellent field position on F&M's five meter line.

The Ursinus ruggers compiled a 3-2 overall record during the season, going 2-1 in the division. Ursinus won their first two games against Gettysburg and Susquehanna, then the Bearcox were simply out matched in a loss to division I play-off bound West Chester.

Senior Bucky Farley summed up the season: "While I was disappointed that we missed the playoffs, I figured second place isn't too bad for our first year of divisional play. We had some key injuries that hampered us at times, so I'm just looking forward to getting back out there in the spring."

Happy NBA new year

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As the NBA New Year kicked off a few weeks ago, there have been many surprises and just as many disappointments.

First surprise, the Utah Jazz. After a mediocre season last year, the Jazz went out and made some key acquisitions in the off-season, bringing in Carlos Boozer and Mehmet Okur to go along with rising stars Carlos Arroyo and Andre Kirilenko. They are currently second in the Western Conference with a 5-1 record.

Another surprise is the Miami Heat. Everyone expected them to do better after trading for Shaquille O'Neal in the off-season, but an excellent 5-2 start and becoming the Eastern Conference front runner was not in the picture.

The Phoenix Suns may be the biggest

surprise so far this early in the season. After picking up Steve Nash and Quentin Richardson, the Suns may have the best starting five in the NBA with Shawn Marion, Amare Stoudemire and Joe Johnson. Look for them to be competitive in the Western Conference and seek a trip to the NBA finals.

As for the disappointments, how about the hometown favorite Philadelphia 76ers.

After picking up rookie Andre Iguodala in the draft and acquiring Corliss Williamson from the world champion Detroit Pistons, the 76ers were predicted to finish in the top 4 in the Eastern Conference.

Although they are currently 4-3 after a three game winning streak, their dismal 2-3 start had critics changing their opinions quickly.

The New York Knicks had high hopes entering the season after picking up Jamal

Crawford, but are off to a 2-3 start.

Also, the Memphis Grizzlies and the Denver Nuggets are off to 2-5 starts after reaching the playoffs last season.

Around campus, the consensus seems to be that the Heat and Suns are the teams to beat in the Eastern and Western Conferences respectively.

"Miami is the team to beat in the NBA right now because they have the most dominant player in the game with Shaquille O'Neal and also one of the fastest rising stars in the NBA with guard Dwyane Wade," says Derek Talley. He was also impressed with the Phoenix Suns start, agreeing that they have been the biggest surprise so far this season.

Dean Fox adds to the consensus by saying the Heat is the best team in the NBA because of their off-season blockbuster trade in which they received Shaquille O'Neal from the Lakers. As for

players to watch, Fox says to "look for LeBron James to step up being that it is his second year and is no longer a rookie."

Toronto opened the eyes of Dave Marcheskie, who thinks that the triple threat of Jalen Rose, Rafer Alston and Vince Carter can bring the team to a NBA Finals birth. He thinks they could be playing the Houston Rockets in the Finals who sport the 1-2 punch of Tracy McGrady and Yao Ming. He likes the defensive depth Dikembe Mutombo adds to the lineup.

The majority seems to say the Heat and Suns are the favorites, but there are other teams sneaking into the picture early in the season. However, it is still early, and that's why they play the games. Expect another exciting NBA season and get ready for that Christmas Day special when Kobe and Shaq go head to head on National TV.

Wrestling team puts yet another beating on its opposition

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The Ursinus wrestling team is starting the season off right taking home a team victory. Four wrestlers gained individual titles leading the Bears to a first place position out of eleven other teams on Saturday at the Messiah invitational.

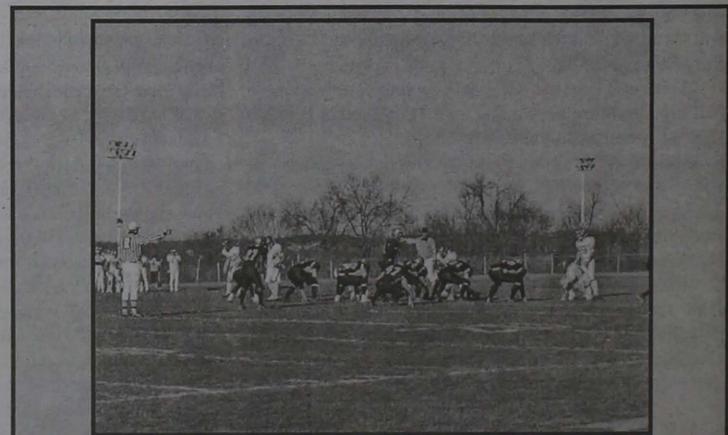
When talking about the Bear's success, junior Eddie Murray states, "Winning last weekend's tournament was rewarding because we got to see all our hard work in practice pay off by beating up on some other teams."

This seems to be quite a familiar feeling for Eddie who is ranked nationally in the top ten of his weight class along with three others, Mike Troutman, Brian Boland and Scott Roesch.

These guys are dedicated and determined to show their competition how hard they've been working.

The Ursinus Bear's are ranked thirteenth in the nation and have the entire season to work their way even higher.

The next match held at Ursinus is Saturday, November 20 beginning at 9:30am.



The Bears lost to Dickinson (7-10) this past Saturday, but Juniors Adam Schmidt and Justin Edwards were named to the 2004 All-CC football team.