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The Grizzly, November 18, 2004

Lindsey Fund  
_Ursinus College_

Lauren A. Perotti  
_Ursinus College_

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Wrestling off to a great start

Bomberger Memorial Hall slated to receive much-needed renovations
Inside Scoop: President Strassburger's letter to the Collegeville community

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-Perkiomen Planning Committee and the 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-Perkiomen Planning Committee and the 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.

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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
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 Urich. Nominee Dan Bruno stated, “I’m really excited the performance was so well received. I am incredibly honored to have been recognized.” The three students who have been nominated will go through a series of critiques based on the performances 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 Urich, 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.

**DSAC Updates**

In the first week of November, Sodexo, 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 table 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 Sodexo, 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 at dsac@ursinus.edu.

**Student reactions to Sigma Pi**

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 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 befall on the organization.
Men and women for feminism: a review of from the Belly

ALI WAGNER
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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 Brittany 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.

“Political Women” 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.

“Puppeteers” 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.

Ursinus College Dance Company concert debuts this week

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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 Legion 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 Explanade, 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.

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, “It 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.

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 Olm. Aur. 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!

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47.5% agreed with the policies!
**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.

**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 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.

**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.

**Features**
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.

The Wismer Incident: Issues of food and money

EDEN SWICK
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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 strained 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 Rickett 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 Rickett’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 off-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 McDonalds. “For around $5 at McDonalds, 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 less expensive, 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 it 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 with 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.

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The handstamp required for admission to Dubya’s Fun Land.
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, my mom 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 see if I can catch it in my mouth (somewhere, someone just thought “ooh, 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 my bad teeth (now if...). 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, my mom comes out to discover me seated

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.

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 position, 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.” He had been able to hold out longer, blame would have been placed elsewhere and his career as a politician would have flourished. But he did admit. 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 Washington – 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, we tried to cherry trees everywhere.

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George Washington’s presidency was largely a quiet affair. Nothing earth-shattering. The French had a revolution, but having just finished a revolution ourselves, we tried to

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, quit 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 of these things made reality television an addictive alternative to scripted drama.

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. Contests 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 rock-bottom 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 Digiacomo. 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.”

the grizzly

November 18, 2004
Sports

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, Colin McCarthy, Robert Farley, Brendan “Burber” Shaw, and Cole “Cupcake” Racich, Dan Iwaniuk, Zach Stewart and Pops Matthews. Mike “Slyvester” Antonelli tackled 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 7-3 loss at the hands of 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 “Slyvester” Antonelli kick that gave Ursinus excellent field position on F&M’s five meter line.

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 Andrei 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 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 Roessl. 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.