The Grizzly, March 31, 2005

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Recommended Citation
Perotti, Lauren A.; Fund, Lindsey; McNamara, Hilary; Carrescia, Lauren; Helzner, Megan; Pastor, Matthew; Towles, Toyna; Partyka, Jaclyn '06; Carter, Kristin; Brooks, Bart; Berry, Hunter; Higgins, Ashley; Talley, Derek; Macconchie, Cecily; and Murphy, Kevin, "The Grizzly, March 31, 2005" (2005). Ursinus College Grizzly Newspaper. 581.
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Did you get a good number?
It's been talked about all around campus. Students have gone around requesting other kids to sign it. An e-mail has been sent to practically the entire student body. People have been talking about it for days. The petition to change to Comcast Cable is the big talk around Ursinus lately.

This request has been signed by over 300 students and that number continues to grow as more students become aware of it. The petition simply states that students have been talking about it for days. The petition to change to Comcast Cable is the big talk on campus. With a movie channel, students are guaranteed to watch great movies and new movies recently released from the theatres to watch and take pleasure in. Believe it or not, this can be a great way to have students interact with each other. When watching the Eagles or Phillies, most students here watch it with their buddies. It's a great way to spend some quality time with your college friends and relax.

If you haven't seen the petition or would like to sign it you can go to http://www.petitiononline.com/UCTV/petition.html. It's quick, easy and it is a great idea to have the cable here at Ursinus changed to Comcast. The petition is still going around campus and hopefully with enough signatures, this minor change on campus can be a major contributor to making college life here at Ursinus a little more enjoyable.

This is a great way to please the student body and make life outside of school a little more pleasurable. The students aren't really asking for much and the fact of the matter is that kids from this area love their teams and they would like to enjoy themselves when not in class and be able to root for their hometown teams. With a movie channel, students are guaranteed to watch great movies and new movies recently released from the theatres to watch and take pleasure in. Believe it or not, this can be a great way to have students interact with each other. When watching the Eagles or Phillies, most students here watch it with their buddies. It's a great way to spend some quality time with your college friends and relax.

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Senior speaks about giving back

LAUREN CARRIESCA
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Looking back on the past four years, there have been many things I’ve learned. Some things were bound to happen, such as the fact that I found that I can actually use a scatter-plot outside of the classroom (thanks, Professor Goebeler!), and now have a better grasp on what it “means to be human.” This knowledge will serve me well in the world, and I feel fortunate to have learned it at a great school like Ursinus. But classroom knowledge aside, do you want to know one of my most challenging and rewarding accomplishments at UC? I’ll give you a clue, it had nothing to do with science, as this psychology major only took “baby bio” and I’m not referring to breaking in three new swim team coaches in four years. Ok, because I’ve never had patience for guessing games, I’m just going to tell you.


Oh sure, it started out simply enough. A few friends and I signed up to, “make a few dollars chatting on the phone” with alumni. We knew some graduates that went to our respective high schools and had a blast talking with others at Homecoming that fall, how hard could it be? We trained and practiced calling and were set to go. But then I actually had a real phone number in front of me; attached to a name, a class year, and (gasp) an amount to ask for as a donation. I didn’t know who I was kidding, sitting in that booth with my headset on. I had trouble asking my parents for $40 for new contacts, let alone $100 from someone I’ve never met.

But once we started talking, it was smooth sailing. The alumni were thrilled to hear from current students on the happenings of the school. We connected over classes, professors, athletics and Greek affiliations. And they were happy to contribute to Ursinus, sharing how much the school did for them; from the fellowships to the network connections to the quality of education that other schools couldn’t match.

In turn, I informed them about what was happening at UC, and how their gifts were directly affecting students’ lives.

My work on the Phone-A-Thon segued into a job in the Office of Alumni Relations, where I learn all about how alumni stay involved in the life of the college. It’s not all just hanging out at Homecoming or cheering on the winning basketball team. These people are sincerely committed to giving back to Ursinus! They come back and advise students on career panels. They go to college fairs in their towns to represent Ursinus. And they give money to help the school.

Speaking of giving money, did you know that we are in the middle of a capital campaign? (Do you even know what a capital campaign is? Since I didn’t I’ll clue you in...) It’s a major fundraising drive to bring the college to the next level (think PBS Fund Drive kicked up about a thousand notches). In just 18 months, “Taking Our Place” (the campaign for Ursinus) has raised $85 million in gifts from alumni, parents and friends of the college (note: this is in addition to the donations that the school receives every year in the Annual Fund). This is money coming from people who believe so much in the mission of the college that they actually give back to Ursinus. Look around you. Contrary to popular belief, the buildings you see – most recently the field house, fitness center and new performing arts center – are not being built by your tuition dollars. Let me repeat that just in case you skipped over the information: these new facilities are built with donations from alumni and friends, not our tuition dollars!!

Campaigns help hire new faculty, keep the labs up to date, your scholarships funded and generally provide you with the means to keep moving forward with your education.

Not to mention, the great opportunities – many times at no cost to you (remember, according to college students, free = best thing of life)! Take those Wynton Marsalis poster you see on your Main Street house and in Wissmer. It’s a free concert with a jazz legend at the opening of our performing arts center – and the majority of tickets are reserved for students! Plus, if you’re quick enough to score a ticket, you’ll be able to meet some of the most significant benefactors whose donations made the new center a reality.

So go and camp out in Wissmer Lower Lounge starting at 11:30pm on April 1st for the free tickets to the Marsalis concert. Take advantage of those opportunities around you ... because sooner or later you’re going to find yourself less than 8 weeks left till graduation wondering where the time went (and for those of you who can relate – be kind to those Phone-A-Thon callers in the fall)!

Get ampéd for Airband!

MEGAN HELZNER
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You’ve seen the posters, read the emails, heard the talk – clearly, this year’s Airband on Friday, April 8th is not to be missed! Every year, Ursinus holds a huge lip-synching “dance off,” to a packed audience in Wissmer Dining Hall. Faculty judges carefully review the acts and award trophies to the best groups. For months now, the Residence Life staff have worked tirelessly to organize the event and devise strategies to raise funds for their very worthy charity, the Lea F. Sullivan Anti-Violence Scholarship Fund. Get ampéd for at least nine, amazing acts by your friends, classmates, and even your RA’s or HC’s! Look out for door prizes like the IPOD Shuffle and gift certificates to Philadelphia sports events and favorite Collegeville locations, as well.

Between the well-attended Drag Show, Date Auction, and other fundraising events on and off campus over the past months, Airband itself, while it will surely be amazing, is not all there is in terms of fun. The events leading up to Airband have added to the campus atmosphere. Student and faculty attendance and participation in events and sales such as the duct taping in Olin Plaza, bagging for donations at

the grizzly

March 31, 2005

No boredom allowed

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B-O-R-E-D-O-M is a seven letter word that certainly should not enter your vocabulary this spring at Ursinus. There are plenty of exciting activities planned for all students.

The much anticipated Airband is on Friday, April 8th. Airband is a lip-synching competition where groups of students and teachers dress up in wild costumes, choreograph dances, and lip sync to their favorite songs.

The next night, Saturday, April 9th, CAB, Campus Activities Board is sponsoring an on-campus concert. This year’s band will be Collective Soul, an alternative rock group who was popular in the mid-nineties. After being out of the public eye for a number of years, the band released a CD in 2004 entitled “Youth.” Buy your tickets for $5 in the Student Activities Office now!

Another event on campus is the Ursinus Jazz Ensemble concert on Saturday, April 2nd at 8 pm. The concert, held in Bomberger Auditorium, will be performed by the talented musicians of Ursinus College and will include Jazz selections such as Morgan Lewis’ “How High the Moon” and Kurt Weill’s “Mack the Knife.”

Taking a break from homework during the week or spending a few hours at a sports game is the perfect way to support our Bears and even get a great tan! To see a complete list of all spring sports schedules, check out the Ursinus website and click on “Athletics,” or check out the backpage of the Grizzly!

With all of these events happening on campus there should be little time for boredom. Spring into April by getting involved and showing support!

Don’t even say you’re bored!

Here’s your guide to Spring events.

MARCH

31 - Digital Sculptor’s Lecture, Pilffer Aud.
31 - Poempalooza, Wissmer Lower Lounge
31 - Tsunami Relief Concert, Bomberger Auditorium

APRIL

2 - Ursinus Jazz Ensemble Concert, Bomberger Aud.
2 - Bowling Trip (RHA)
3 - Salvador Dali exhibit, Philly Art Museum (CAB)
6 - Marlin Simon & the Nagual Spirits, Bomber. Aud.
8 - AIRBAND, Wissmer Dining Hall (Res Life)
9 - Collective Soul Concert, Helfrich Gym (CAB)
9 - Choir Concert, Bomberger Aud.
*Meistersingers & College Choir
9 - Hol Dukko Drummers, Berman Museum
10 - Basket Bingo (USGA)
13 - Day of Silence (GSA)
15 - Tsunami Relief Movie Marathon, TBD
17 - MS Walk @ Elmwood Zoo (Hobson Hall)

Week of 17th - Spring Fling Events


21 - Performing Arts Center Opener
12-4pm, Various Events (More info TBA)
8pm Wynton Marsalis performs
27 - Jello Wrestling for Tsunami Relief, TBD
30 - Gospel Choir Spring Concert, Bomberger Aud.
Features

Erectile Dysfunction (ED) in young men

There are many words that can alter the face of a relationship: commitment, infidelity, and honesty, to name just a few. When a word or phrase such as one of these makes a person uncomfortable, one's first instinct is avoidance, despite understanding that things we hide away tend to appear despite our best efforts. This week, I'm proposing another method of handling situations—confrontation. Specifically, we will be confronting an issue involving a great deal of stigma for men and couples: Erectile Dysfunction (ED).

Erectile Dysfunction is such a tough topic because many men who face this condition feel inadequate, that their masculinity is somehow lacking. Recognizing that ED does not degrade one's character or gender identity is an important first step in managing this condition. I sought the advice of the Net Doctor at http://www.netdoctor.co.uk/index.shtml, courtesy of the United Kingdom, who informed me that in men our age, ED is not often caused by an underlying medical condition. In fact, the most common cause of temporary ED in young men is anxiety. This means that mental anguish may affect your plans for the evening. Often, stress and problems in the relationship affect sexual activity, emphasizing the importance of communication in a relationship.

Depression and bereavement can also hinder one's ability to maintain an erection. When these feelings take over, ED often accompanies them. The amount of sleep you get can also affect sexual performance, which is easy to solve, as soon as you're willing to put down the game controller and pick up a pillow. An additional feeling that may lead to anxiety is guilt. Often, people who feel guilty about their sexual activity find it difficult to enjoy, and for men, this can manifest itself in Erectile Dysfunction.

Common causes of sexual guilt are unresolved feelings that the specific activity one is involved in is dirty, inappropriate, or wrong. If these feelings persist, the best treatment is counseling. Alcohol use is another possible cause of ED, meaning that drinking too much won't just affect class in the morning and a clean carpet. If a large amount of alcohol is imbibed on a consistent basis, drinking less will improve blood flow and the ability to achieve an erection.

If anxiety is not affecting one's daily life but he is still suffering from Erectile Dysfunction, there are several medical conditions that can induce this problem. Arteriosclerosis or other heart or vascular diseases increase the risk of ED. Smoking also increases the risk because it decreases this risk of heart and vascular diseases. Major surgery can increase the risk as well, especially surgery involving the abdominal cavity and prostate gland. Diabetes has a harmful affect on blood flow, and as a result has claimed the title as the most common cause of ED. In addition, certain medications, including those used to treat high blood pressure, ulcers, and depression, can inhibit sexual appetite or blood flow to the penis.

However disheartening this may sound, I am happy to report a substantial silver lining. Modern medicine has made impressive advances in the treatment of erectile dysfunction. For those who suffer from dysfunction due to medication, the cure could be as simple as talking to one's doctor, who can prescribe a medication that does not affect sexual activity. Other options include talking to one's doctor about treatments specifically for erectile dysfunction, such as Viagra, Cialis, or Levitra. For those who find these prescriptions ineffective, they can talk to their doctors about several surgical options, although this step is not usually necessary.

LANE TAYLOR
Everything You Never Knew You Wanted to

Help Hobson help others

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If you have not noticed the emails you have been receiving from Resident Director (RD) Brian Stephenson about SPINT house projects, stay vigilant for your opportunity to get involved and contribute to some good causes. The Ursinus College House Coordinators (HCs) of Special Interest Houses on campus Tia Larese, Meg Bickel, Dina Yarmus, Joe Potts, Anna King, Chantell Johnson, and Kari Baker, as well as Assistant Resident Director (ARD) Laura Bickert have been busy planning some projects for which they need your help. Recently, Tia Larese, HC of Hobson House (the community service house), has helped in promoting several projects her house is doing.

Hobson House is collecting Teddy Bears to be donated through the Methacton Women's Performance Group to Nehemiah's Way, which will go to shelters to help give comfort to some needy children. Collection is occurring from Wednesday, March 23, until Friday, April 1. All the Teddy Bears must be new, but there is no need for them to be expensive—all contributions are greatly appreciated! Drop-off boxes are located in Corson, Olin, Pfahler, and Wissmer.

Another Hobson Service Project is taking place on Saturday, April 2, from 9am to 12pm. Hobson House will be volunteering to clean up Valley Forge National Park. Students will clean hiking trails that were damaged during winter by the weather. Please email Dennis Vondran (devondran@ursinus.edu) for more information regarding this particular project.

In addition, Hobson House just recently conducted Data Match surveys. Tia Larese and some of her residents sat in Wismer lobby last week, bringing Ursinus students the opportunity to find their perfect match for just $2 in support of Airband. Students who participated in Data Match will receive their top 10 male and female matches on the weekend of Airband, which is April 8, 2005.

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT

APPLICATIONS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED

Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc. has positions available at various locations in Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Montgomery counties beginning on or after May 16, 2005 through September 15, 2005. Candidates must be at least 16 years old (with working papers) in order to be considered for employment. Laborers and ground workers have a minimum age requirement of 18 years of age and also require a current valid driver's license.

POSITIONS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:

LABORERS
Maintenance, Construction, Distribution, Treatment Plants, Ground Facility Sites

CLERICAL
Accounting, Customer Service, Engineering

Applications Are Available in Human Resources MONDAY - FRIDAY, 7:30 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M.
Or: Call 610.525.1400, Ext. 2343
Fax your resume to 610.525.7658
Apply online @http://applicant.aquaamerica.com.
Ursinus students build house during Spring Break

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For most college students, Spring Break is a week to relax after midterms, get a tan, or visit friends. However, for the 20 Ursinus students that went to Kansas City, Missouri, the week was a chance for them to give back to the community. Alternative Spring Break has been running on Ursinus' campus for a number of years and typically involves students working together on various community service projects. This year, students drove 18 hours to Kansas City, where they worked with Habitat for Humanity.

Habitat for Humanity is an internationally run nonprofit Christian organization. Its programs encourage all people to assist in building affordable and decent housing for those without adequate shelter. They have built homes for over 900,000 people worldwide since 1976. Volunteers along with homeowners join together under trained supervision to build these houses.

Seniors Laura Bickert and Nicole Borocci have been attending Alternative Spring Break for three years now. They began planning this year's trip all the way back in October. They contacted Habitat's headquarters in Georgia to make sure that the host site was approved.

Nicole Borocci says, "We usually pick a warm area to travel to so that we have a break from winter." Campus-wide emails were then sent out to Ursinus students to generate interest. Unfortunately, interest exceeded availability, as over 60 students responded, and only 20 students were able to attend.

Funds for the program were generated by the attending students. Students raised $300 each through coin drives and various donations from churches, local businesses and professors. These funds were used to rent vans, pay for meals, and finance extra excursions, such as going to the movies and attending a comedy show.

While in Kansas City, students stayed and ate at a local homeless shelter near the construction site and got to learn a lot about the local area. However, the real project began when they reached the construction site and received their building assignments for that year. This year, students accomplished the preparation of siding, building a porch, and finishing inside the house as groundwork for painting.

Cynthia Ritter, a junior who attended Alternative Spring Break for the first time, mentions, "I felt like I was being productive and doing something really worthwhile."

Aside from construction, students had many opportunities to socialize with each other. Laura Bickert states, "My favorite part of the week was that I got to meet people from Ursinus that I wouldn't usually meet on campus." Other favorites included a Kansas City barbecue and riding around in the backs of trucks with contractors. "I wouldn't usually get to do things like that," asserts Nicole Borocci.

To follow up with this philanthropic effort, a Habitat for Humanity Club is in the making at Ursinus College. The program intends to travel to Norristown to work. Interested students should look out for campus-wide emails with more information. Students looking to attend Alternative Spring Break next year should expect to see information announced next fall.

Study Abroad cancellations

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Upon arriving back at campus after Spring Break, many students received a huge shock and great disappointment when they were informed that the acclaimed Ursinus Study Abroad programs in London and Ursinus in Madrid programs are not taking place for the fall 2005 semester. These two faculty-directed programs needed a certain number of students in order to continue, but were cancelled due to a lack in interest.

Unfortunately, the faculty had to make the difficult decision to sacrifice Ursinus in London and Madrid because running them with a lower number of participants would have created a tremendous financial strain on all the study abroad programs for this upcoming year.

It is important to recognize that not only were students very disappointed by the cancellations this year, but faculty as well. Dr. Jay Miller, director of the London program, Paula Alvarez, director of the Madrid program, Melissa Hardin, and Dean Lucas were among those faculty members most disappointed because they were personally invested in the programs; a great deal of time and effort was lost because of these cancellations. Melissa Hardin expressed that it was very unfortunate that these two particular programs had to be cancelled because both programs provided excellent and unique internship opportunities to Ursinus students.

Fortunately, the students who applied to the UC in London and Madrid programs who met the criteria were offered other options, such as applying to Study Abroad independently through a Butler program. Those students who applied and did not meet criteria, on the other hand, can apply again next year. Ursinus in London and Ursinus in Madrid may be offered in upcoming years, but after their sudden cancellations this year, this is not certain. The faculty must now consider what programs and how many programs to offer in the future, because it is clear that offering all five Ursinus programs for the fall (London, Madrid, Florence, Tuebingen, and Seville) may result in one or more cancellations due to low numbers.

Melissa Hardin, director of Study Abroad at Ursinus, urges students to express what places interest them the most so that in the future faculty will have a better idea of what locations will receive enough applicants. This year, while London and Madrid did not receive enough applicants, Florence and Tuebingen received a surplus of applications, resulting in many students being turned down.

So, these disappointed Ursinus students will have to make the choice to either put in the work to go to these locations independently or to reaply next year in the hopes that the same programs are offered. The Ursinus community can only wish the best for its renowned Study Abroad program.

Features

Uncle Sam wants you--look for a red, white, and blue job

Did you know that more than half of the nearly 1.9 million full-time federal employees are eligible to retire in the next five years? This creates incredible opportunity for young people interested in public service careers. Unlike some other employers, the federal government is never going to go out of business. So, good government will always need good people to protect the interests of American citizens.

A recent study identified the top five growth areas in the federal government. These include

1. Security, Enforcement and Compliance Assistance. This area includes jobs as inspectors, criminal investigators, compliance officers, security guards and airport screeners.
2. Health. This includes all healthcare personnel, including physicians, nurses, pharmacists, and medical technicians.
3. Engineering and Sciences. This includes jobs as biologists, botanists, chemists, and all engineering disciplines.
4. Program Management and Administration. This consists of a very broad category of administrative positions, including program managers and analysts.
5. Accounting, Budget and Business. The Internal Revenue Service is the predominant area of growth, as it steps up hiring of revenue agents and tax examiners.

For your questions about jobs with federal agencies, attend a special Career Services program on Public Service Careers on Wednesday, April 6, at 4:30pm.

You can also look for more information on the Web at

- www.opm.gov. The government's HR agency, the Office of Personnel Management, provides employment forms and benefit information.

March 31, 2005
A conversation with Mike Ditty

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On my way to class this morning, I observed something strange in the Ritter parking lot. There was a blue SUV running idle in the middle of one of the lanes, and nearby was a man sticking bits of paper on assorted vehicles.

It was the first time I’ve ever seen Campus Safety in action in giving out tickets to cars at the Ritter lot. Intrigued, I had managed to meet with Mike Ditty, head of Campus Safety, later that day. In the back of my mind, I held all the various complaints from different people about parking at school—namely that there are no convenient spots, and when they do find a spot (illegally), they get ticketed.

That in itself isn’t so bad, except when they note that for the previous days (or weeks, or months, or semesters, depending on who is telling the story), cars have been in that very spot and have not been ticketed. This painted a mental image of a bunch of campus safety officers hiding behind trees and waiting for a certain person to park their car in a certain spot, then jumping out and nailing them with a ticket.

After talking to Mike Ditty, I found that this was not the case. “Because you don’t see a ticket on the car doesn’t mean it’s not there,” he said.

Ah, so he’s suggesting that although the physical evidence is not present, doesn’t mean that it hasn’t been ticketed. Since I’ve heard many students’ perspectives on what it is like to get ticketed, I asked Ditty what it was like from the Campus Safety perspective.

Experiencing the London perspective

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During the last semester, I was in London with the Ursinus program. While there I was placed in an internship with an English literacy charity. The social atmosphere within the charity was markedly different than any workplace I had seen in the United States. The social atmosphere within the British workplace was notably more open than within the American workplace.

The first of these differences was in the way Brits break up their workday. The amount of tea breaks that my internship staff took within a day was almost unfathomable. They also never went to a pub just for a single person; they would make a cup of tea for almost everybody in the office. Furthermore, the amount of time wasted socializing within the office was in many cases quite excessive as business oriented conversations would usually degenerate into social banter.

However, from these multitudes of social conversations, I learned many things about the general world view of the British people. I was particularly impressed by the amount of world political knowledge almost all of the members of my office possessed. They all had taken a very deep interest in the American political and were as up to date on the current events of the topic as I was. They all also had a very firm grasp on the current European politics. More surprising than that, especially coming from a very un-environmentally conscious culture, I was amazed by how aware of environmental issues most of the members of my internship were.

The more social aspect of the British office culture that I came into contact with was their great affinity for drinking at almost any point in the day. Jackie Taylor, the administrator of the office, was well known for splitting bottles of wine with the office secretary during lunch, and she was quite open about this practice. A few other members of the office often went drinking at the pub on late lunches, came back to the office for two hours, and then went back out to the pub after work. Though the excessive amount of drinking that sometimes occurred appeared like it might sometimes be detrimental the functioning of the office, it did seem to provide for very strong friendships among the office employees. On one occasion I went out with the group to a pub after work. Though I knew that they enjoyed drinking, I was surprised that they were all prepared to drink on a weeknight.

All the above mentioned characteristics of my office differed strongly from the jobs that I have held within the United States... It is not nearly as common for co-workers to go out socially with their co-workers. As a country, we generally keep our social life and our work life as two separate entities. From the great friendships that I saw all around me at my internship, it seems that the British method might lend itself to a more cohesive, though sometimes intoxicated, work place. Furthermore, it opened my eyes greatly to how ignorant Americans are of the world around them. Hearing all the global political conversations that took place within my office made me realize how very little I know about global politics. Though I knew I was not an expert on the subject, I do feel that I am more aware than most of the citizens of my country. Realizing how ignorant I was by a British standard was truly eye opening.

Also, there are no designated parking lots. In other words, students who live in Reimert are not designated Lot B by the gym, where students who live in Musser are not designated the lot behind Hobson and Sturgis. Ditty informed me that it is unlikely that there will ever be designated spots.

However, with campus drive being closed soon, they are greatly expanding the B lot. “There will be more parking, but a bit more walking,” said Ditty.

Then again, it is not as if the campus is that big. Chances are, unless a student is coming from somewhere as far off as Clamer, a walk from Musser to Ritter takes about five to ten minutes. Compare that to larger schools where students who live on campus still have to drive forty minutes to their nearest class. Suddenly, a little walk doesn’t seem so bad.

The last thing Ditty pointed out to me was that if any students had any questions or issues, those at Campus Safety are very willing to talk to students and address any of their concerns.

I have to admit, after my visit, I no longer picture the officers of Campus Safety as a bunch of masochistic people hiding behind trees out to get me and slap a ticket on my car. They’re actually reasonable and kind human beings who are willing to listen and talk to students. They try to be as fair and consistent as possible in giving out tickets to illegally parked cars. And to be honest, except in a case of an emergency, there should be no reason why people should park illegally. There’s probably a good reason for that spot being illegal in the first place.

A new drink: Water from the body

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According to Kevin Chumers, managing director of Crestridge, a Nevada-based investment firm, 1.8 billion people in the world’s population have never had a drink of fresh water. This is especially a problem in third world countries where there are no water purification devices. Crestridge has been researching water purification technology for the past two years, as has recently teamed up with NASA to propagate a bizarre new technology.

This new water purification system, as invented by NASA scientists, can change an astronaut’s sweat, respiration, and even urine into drinkable water. Scientists boast that the water this new technology produces from bodily fluids is even purer than regular tap water.

According to Robyn Carrasquillo, who is chief of the environmental control and life support division at Marshall, the facility in which this new technology was invented, “They just breathe and exercise, urinate into the urinal and our system handles the rest.” Amid cacophonous groans and eews, scientists still plan to use this technology, which is the size of two large refrigerators, and will be providing fresh water to an American astronaut and a Russian cosmonaut in space in about 2 years. In the meantime, smaller versions of this technology will be distributed on earth.

Humanitarian organizations are already planning taking the technology over to Iraq and tsunami-ravaged countries in Southeast Asia. Before this new technology there seemed to be no way to transport clean water affordably across the globe. With this new technology, water costs $0.0679 per liter as opposed to $0.39 per liter without it.

The lower costs of water under this new system could be caused by the incredible accessibility of urine and sweat as opposed to sending trucks and building massive pipes to pump water up out of the ground. Though this prospect of drinking recycled human urine does make some squeamish, the possible worldwide benefits that this technology could provide way outweigh any minor hesitation.
**Around the city in 80 hours**

So yeah, remember spring break? That glorious week you spent procrastinating the shitload of work you were assigned over it? Well, while most flocked to sunny beaches, I found myself swept on a whim to the historic Carter Hotel in New York City. The lobby and elevators were beautifully decorated with quilt-like arrays of area rugs, as were the hallway walls. In fact, carpet was even nailed to the wall to serve as a headboard... talk about luxurious.

Now for $79.99 a night (I guess that’s cheap; I usually pay by the hour), I wasn’t exactly expecting a feather Duvet and wireless internet (Ok, let’s be honest, I just searched “duvet” online and I’m still not sure what it is). However, I did expect functioning heat. And it didn’t help that the wireless internet (Ok, let’s be honest, I just searched... talk about luxurious.

We called down to the front desk and got their typical terse response: “We have problems; we can’t help you.” Earlier, we called to ask where the towels were, and they replied “look in mirror,” and hung up. I thought they were advising deep introspection, but it turns out we didn’t notice the towel rack above the mirror (perhaps the towels would have been more noticeable if they weren’t so small that only a five-foot-nothing hundred-pound-soaking-wet girl could use make of them...luckily, I had brought one along...a five-foot-nothing hundred-pound-soaking-wet girl, that is...just had to make due with the little towels).

Plan B was to steal some extra blankets from the uncleaned, unlocked room next door. We figured since our blankets would be between us and the stolen sheets, we wouldn’t touch whatever the previous occupants of 1133 got on the sheets (we managed to spill an ash tray on our hundreds of pounds-softening-wet girl that is...just had to make due with the little towels).

But also, the aliens just kept coming.

Since the cold-assed room’s cable consisted of four channels, we decided to leave the room and actually see the city. After being forcibly dragged to every shoe store in NYC, I skipped some quarters across the pond in Central Park Holden Caulfield-style and visited FAO Schwartz for fun.

For those of you who are blissfully uninformed, the Minuteman Project is group of some 500 flag-waving American citizens who are concerned about the amount of illegal immigrants entering the country, particularly in the Arizona area. They watched as the U.S. Border Patrol raised the number of agents operating in Arizona from 1,700 to 2,100 in 18 months. But still, the aliens just kept coming. So instead of sitting around for Congress to do something about it, these Minutemen decided to do take responsibility into their own hands. They grabbed their guns and headed for Arizona.

That’s right – the goal of the Minutemen Project is to gather up a group of civilians and have them “assist” the local border patrol by tracking down illegal aliens entering the U.S. Because, as we all know, when adding 400 more trained federal agents doesn’t solve the problem, adding a bunch of untrained hillbillies to the mix will certainly cure whatever ails you! In fact, most of those recruited so far seem to have absolutely zero experience in border security. But hell – how hard can it be, really?

Before signing up to be a Minuteman, one must undergo a rigorous, foolproof background examination check (gotta weed out those wackos!), including answers to these tough questions: name, address, brief statement why one wants to participate in this project, and amount of time one desires to participate. Oh, and if you have a gun, feel free to bring that along too!

Surely by now you are all thinking, “If ever there is a recipe for success, it would read: mix a bunch of rednecks, a healthy sampling of hunting weaponry, and a dash illegal immigrants into a remote desert region, and bake for as long as humanly possible! BUT WAIT! Surely our wet-blanket federal government will find some way to rain on this parade of wonderfully competent thinking!”

Actually, no.

The U.S. government has no plans of stopping this heavily-armed vigilante group from going on their glorified hunting expedition to the Arizona border. What they do intend to do, however, is keep a close eye on those little rascals, and so help them if even one illegal immigrant is hurt/maimed/kill by a Minuteman, by golly, that Minuteman is going to be grounded for the whole week!

On a much more forbidding final note, Mr. James W. Gilchrist, the man at the head of the Minuteman Project, ends his website, www.minutemanproject.com, with a quote from Ezola Foster:

> It is a sad day in America when the law-makers side from the law-breakers against the law-abiding citizens.

> There’s a joke in there, Mr. Gilchrist. The truly sad thing is I don’t think you get it.

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

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**Mr. Cassotto**

One must applaud Kevin Spacey for having a good heart. He risked a great deal in an effort to bring the late Bobby Darin’s music back into the spotlight. And his attempts, in the movie Beyond the Sea, its soundtrack and subsequent concert tour were good, no matter what the critics might say.

But as the true fans know, Darin’s legacy will never fade so long as we continue to celebrate and pass down his music. I first heard Bobby Darin singing “Splish Splash.” I was just past baby stage at the time, and I remember jumping up and down. That alone was not significant, as I jumped up and down a lot as a child. But when I heard that same song, years later, I danced along to it once more, as if I was a child once again. I knew then that this was a song, and an artist, I would have to seek out. And so my dedication to Mr. Darin began.

How could one man accomplish so much in only thirty-seven years? He played several instruments, he sang, he acted, he wrote, he was an all-around entertainer. It was sheer enthusiasm, the need to accomplish something and to do it well. How else could one explain an artist who recorded rock and roll, folk, big band, and an album of Ray Charles covers?

Of course, with so many styles and so little time, he was never fully on top of his game. He was a perpetual rising star in whatever field he tried. When he started getting noticed as a rock and roll star, he switched to Sinatra-style crooning. Who knows where his movie career, with one Academy Award nomination in the bag, could have gone? His folk period was, undeniably, not the strongest stage of his journey, but then it wasn’t as bad as many of the groups that spent their lifetime recording folk music.

There are those who argue that Darin would have never reached the top of his field in any musical genre, because he simply wasn’t great enough. He was good at any number of things, but not great in any one particular. Maybe this is true, but that he was good in so many ways makes him great. His collective effort, the heart and soul he poured into every attempt he made, is more than enough to secure his place in a musical Mount Rushmore.

And there is something that one automatically catches onto when listening to Bobby Darin sing. Something you don’t always get listening to his contemporaries. That is a sense of fun. He sounds as if he is enjoying himself immensely, and as a result you enjoy yourself as well. And if I had to guess, I would imagine he was enjoying himself as he ticked another goal from the list. One is left only to guess how many more hits Bobby Darin could have successfully worn had his weak heart not finally given out. I for one would have loved to hear the Bobby Darin punk album.

But what he has left us with is a catalogue of passionate, fun, and, dare I say, great music, which will endure far longer than, no offense to Kevin Spacey, any tribute to him could.

Cam Furman is a senior. You can reach him at cafurman@ursinus.edu.

**Rednecks and Hillbillies: The New Border Patrol for the US**

Five years into this new millennium and all I see are reruns; the same reality shows, same crappy, non-flying cars, and the same wars. First we had Persian Gulf II, and now we’re facing down the barrel of the Mexican War: Part Dos. And we owe it all to the Minuteman Project.

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Fitzgerald returns to coach women's lacrosse

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Since graduating from Ursinus in May of 2003, life for Erin Fitzgerald has been anything but normal. In the two short years she has been away from campus, she has kept herself quite busy. She spent the last two seasons as the assistant coach for LaSalle University Women's Lacrosse, coordinating the defense and designing and implementing a new recruiting program for the Explorers. She also has served as the head coach of a SEPA Club Team, spent one season as a member of the Burnside Lacrosse Club in Adelaide, South Australia, and has worked the Princeton, Villanova, Swarthmore and Future Stars lacrosse camps.

Just this past spring, it was announced that Fitzgerald would be returning to her alma mater as the head women's lacrosse coach. She returns to coach one of the most successful Division III women's lacrosse programs (5 national championships) in the country, a program which she contributed to greatly during her career.

Fitzgerald became the first woman in Ursinus College history to be named First Team All-American and First Team Academic All-American. She was named Centennial Conference Player of the Year in 2003, and graduated Magna Cum Laude.

Fitzgerald returns to coach a young, talented team that saw their 2004 season end in a tough 24-11 loss to fifth-ranked Gettysburg in the Centennial Conference semifinal playoffs last season.

Led by 2005 preseason All-American selection Kyle Kauffman, the Bears have the leadership and experience to make a strong run at the Centennial Conference championship. Kauffman welcomes fellow senior Aubrey Andre into the midfield, as well as junior Ashley Ettinger. Ettinger is the team's leading goal scorer so far this season with 7 goals.

After a brief trip to Florida for spring training, the Bears returned home and opened their regular season against non-conference opponent Stevens Tech on March 3. A strong performance by Ettinger (4 goals) and sophomore midfielder Logan Conklin (2 goals) wasn't enough as the Bears fell in double overtime 7-6.

The women's lacrosse team opened Centennial Conference action with a big 10-7 win over rival McDaniel in Westminster, MD on March 19. Ettinger and Andre each had 3 goals along with a pair of goals from junior midfielder Erikah Weir.

The Bear's tough non-conference schedule continued on March 22 with a match up with nationally ranked (4th) College of New Jersey. A pair of goals from sophomore attacker Lindsay Givens and 15 saves from sophomore goalkeeper Aimee Wright wasn't enough to tame the Lions who won the game 16-3. The Bears will hit the road for a pair of away games Thursday, March 31 at Haverford and Saturday, April 2 at Franklin and Marshall before returning home again Wednesday, April 6 against Muhlenberg. Game time is 4:00 p.m.

Erin Fitzgerald has played and she has coached. She knows how to score but most importantly, she knows how to win. With the combination of the new head coach and the talent and experience of this team, the Ursinus Women's Lacrosse team will certainly be a force to reckon with in the Centennial Conference this season.

Chemistry is the ingredient for success

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Spring is in the air. Fresh from spring break, we can all feel the weather beginning to warm up. And what better sign of the arrival of the new season than that softball has begun.

The Ursinus softball team is off to a great start this season, led by captains Eileen Caldwell, Marc Logan and Ellie Knise. So far, the record is 12 wins, 2 losses, and we can only expect to see this trend continue.

The team is working hard this year, with two hour practices five times a week, in the hopes of hosting and winning the Centennial Conference Championship, which Ursinus hosted and lost last year. With strong defensive players like shortstop Marc Logan, and catchers Eileen Caldwell and Kelly DeBow, along with a constantly improving offensive game, there is a good chance of winning the championship this year.

The softball team spent their spring break in Florida, where the girls had the opportunity to bond with one another, as well as play together.

“Our freshmen are amazing,” said captain Eileen Caldwell. “They’ve added so much depth to an already powerful team, especially offensively, which we’ve lacked in the past. Everyone is pretty positive, too, which only makes us stronger.”

This strength will certainly help the team as they enter the upcoming week, which is sure to contain some challenges. On Tuesday, the team faces Rutgers – Camden, which, although not a conference game, is a Division One school, and is a tough team to compete against. Then on Saturday, the girls face McDaniel, the team that beat them to win the Conference Championship last year. The team is confident in their abilities, however.

According to Caldwell, there is “amazing team chemistry on and off the field,” which is sure to help them face any challenges they may meet throughout the rest of their already successful season. We can only hope to see them continue their success and finish the season with the championship.

Men's lacrosse team loses in a nail-biter to F&M

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Last Saturday, the Ursinus Men's Lacrosse team dropped a heart breaker to conference power house Franklin and Marshall. The Bears entered the game with a 1-3 record, but were optimistic about facing a conference opponent.

The Diplomats came out strong and hopped on the board first, but the resilient Bears answered with a goal from Anthony Tori. The Diplomats again got on the board to make it 2-1, but again the Bears countered and tied the game. The game continued to go back and forth leaving it tied at four a piece going into halftime. The Diplomats took the field in the third period, and turned up the pressure out shooting the Bears 21-3. Franklin and Marshall broke the tie at 12:17 with an unassisted goal.

Although down once again, the Bears kept their composure and clawed their way back with a goal from Matt Davis to retie the score. But Franklin & Marshall again fought off the resilient Bears and finished off the period with a pair of goals to take a 7-5 lead.

The Bears’ Mike Stein made the game interesting to start the fourth period, netting two goals off assists from Anthony Tori and Dane Mangin to knot the game at 7-7. In the sixth minute, the Bears were given a penalty and the Diplomats smoked one by the solid Matt Orlando with 5:57 remaining. Following the goal, another penalty was given to Ursinus, keeping Franklin and Marshall up a man. The Diplomats finished the game scoring with 5:26 left on an unassisted goal by Matt Orlando with 2:38 on the clock to make it 9-7. The Bears continued to fight, but ran out of time and had to settle for a tough loss.

Overall, F&M out shot Ursinus 51-19 in the game, including a 30-8 margin in the second half. Matt Orlando helped the Bears stay in the game with 25 saves, but the Diplomats proved to be too tough. The Bears take on first place Washington in a Centennial Conference match up this Saturday at home.