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New Member Education begins at Olin Plaza
A preview of Black History Month at Ursinus

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Riding the momentum of the widely successful Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. commemoration last month, Ursinus kicked off its Black History Month celebration with a series of events for the campus community that will continue to raise awareness and celebrate African-American history and culture.

The activities continue today with two events featuring Brenda Dixon Gottschild, a dancer and cultural historian who studies the African presence in European-American concert dance. She will attend an afternoon tea at the Unity House at 4 p.m. today and later present a lecture, “Black Dancing Body,” at 7 p.m. in the Kaleidoscope’s Lenfest Theatre.

Two films are scheduled for noon on Wednesdays at the Unity House. Christina Burton, class of 2006, will present “Boycott,” a tribute to civil rights activist Rosa Parks, on Feb. 15. Senior Rachel Daniel will facilitate “Black Women and Power” on Feb. 22, discussing the influence of black women in organizing and maintaining many black institutions. According to Director of Multicultural Services Paulette Patton, the presentation may also include some thoughts on the life and work of Coretta Scott King, who recently died at the age of 78.

Black History Month began Feb. 1 at Ursinus with the film, “Religion and the Civil Rights Movement.” Seniors Alison Walker, Claudia DeCourcy and Arley Styer shared their experience on the Civil Rights Movement tour during the lunch and presentation held at the Unity House.

On Tuesday, Ursinus welcomed the visit of Arthur Flowers, self-proclaimed “literary hoodoo man” and professor of English at Syracuse University, for a storytelling performance at the Kaleidoscope. His performance, “Stories Around the Sacred Fire,” examined the complex intersection of African-American oral tradition and literature. Flowers considers himself a contemporary griot, referring to the traditional storytellers who were essential to preserving the oral history and culture in many African societies.

Yesterday, Robert L. Shepard, founding executive director of the Science and Engineering Alliance, gave a Sigma Xi lecture titled “Historically Black Colleges and Universities: Myth and Misunderstanding” in Olin Auditorium. The Science and Engineering Alliance was founded in 1990 with the goal of integrating historically black colleges and universities into federal research and development.

As Black History Month continues, there are also ways for students and staff to celebrate off campus. The African-American Museum, located at 701 Arch St. in Philadelphia, offers a variety of cultural events during February. This includes storytelling, African dance workshops, and free admission on Sunday afternoons from 2 to 5 p.m. for the New Black Hollywood Movie Series, which includes “The Color Purple,” “Malcolm X,” “Sankofa” and “Hotel Rwanda.”

Other local places of interest for Black History Month activities are the Johnson House Underground Railroad Museum, located at 6306 Germantown Ave. in Philadelphia, the National Liberty Museum, located at 321 Chestnut St. in Philadelphia, and Freedom Theatre, stationed at 1346 N Broad St. in Philadelphia.

Official celebration of black history in the United States first began in 1926 when Dr. Carter G. Woodson, Harvard scholar and black historian, established Negro History Week as the second week in February to coincide with the birthdays of two important figures in the struggle for African-American freedom: abolitionist Frederick Douglass and President Abraham Lincoln. February was officially established as Black History Month in 1976.

Wellness Center relocated

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Many changes have come to the Ursinus campus this semester, from the closing of Bomberger Hall to the shift of many Bomberger offices to the recently renovated Ritter.

One major change to the campus is the new Wellness Center.

The campus medical facilities had resided in the ground level of Sprankle until last semester. Now, the Wellness Center has moved to a new, larger facility. Since the Wellness Center has moved from one end of the campus to the other, it is important that students take note of this change. The Wellness Center is now located at 789 Main Street, right across the street from Todd. To get there, students should walk from Wismer toward Reimert and take the path between Reimert and Thomas to the Wellness Center’s driveway.

Denise Walsh, the Wellness Coordinator, took some time to answer questions about the Wellness Center move. One of the main catalysts for the move, she explained, was the fact that in the fall, they added a second counselor, Katherine Patel, and there was not enough room in Sprankle to house both her and the current counselor, Phyllis Osisek. This caused both counselors to separate from the rest of the staff and move to the second floor of the Unity House.

“Our medical staff remains the same,” commented Denise Walsh. “Our new facility is much larger and brighter than Sprankle, and the students who come in have stated that they really like the new Wellness Center.” That sentiment seems to be the consensus among students. “It feels so much less like it belongs in a prison,” one student said. “It’s like the place gives off a newer and better vibe, one that I think will help a lot when sick students go there for help.”
Relay for Life kick-off exhibits large turnout and hope for event

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The Ursinus community took steps toward fighting cancer last Wednesday night in Wismer Lower Lounge as students organized and attended a kick off event for Ursinus’ first ever Relay for Life.

Relay for Life is an activities-filled, overnight event that mourns the losses that result from cancer, celebrates the survivors and their stories, and raises money for research and programs for the American Cancer Society. Relays are typically held at schools, fairgrounds or parks, or any place where there is easy access to a track. Before the relay, participants create teams of 10-15 people and throughout the 24 hours of this event, each team makes its goal to keep at least one of its members on the track at all times. This symbolizes the sufferers who face cancer 24 hours a day.

Wednesday’s ceremony lasted roughly an hour, during which the 16 student committee members presented some of the logistical aspects of the Relay. Guests also in attendance included Debbie Nolan, Associate Dean of the College and Dean of Students, and Keith McLennan.

Mr. McLennan’s wife, former Ursinus College Business Professor Dr. Michelle McLennan, died last October after a valiant fight against ovarian cancer. Dean Nolan spoke and praised committee co-chairs, sophomores Joe Joyce and Aileen Dalton, for their ongoing commitment to this project and to the cause. Mr. McLennan, accompanied by daughters Kali and Madalyn, explained the important role that funds raised at the Relay will have in cancer education and further research and pharmaceutical development.

Following speeches and presentations, attendees took part in a luminaria ceremony. Luminarias are bags with tea lights in them that may be purchased so as to honor someone who fought or is fighting the battle with cancer. The crowd sat in a chilled silence following the reading of “One Little Candle,” a poem by Carol Dunn. They watched the candles light up the dark room, symbolizing the hope that Relay brings for thousands of people every year.

Co-chair Joe Joyce, who has been involved with Relay since his sophomore year in high school, was pleased with the turnout at the kick off. “I was amazed by all of the support by the student body,” Joyce remarked. “The turnout shows how great the campus community is. By doing this, the Ursinus community will be providing so much hope to those that need it.”

Joyce is also enthusiastic about Relay itself. “I have no doubt that it is going to be an incredible experience for all,” he said. “It will be a place where new friendships are made while learning to support and guide each other for 24 hours.”

Relay for Life will be held from Friday, March 31 at 12pm to Saturday, April 1 at 12pm. If anyone is interested in forming a team, or is looking for a team to join, please contact Joe Joyce, jjoyce@ursinus.edu or Aileen Dalton, adalton@ursinus.edu for more information.

is your resume ready?

URSINUS COLLEGE

JOB & INTERNSHIP FAIR 2006

Wednesday, February 22, 2006

The introduction should include your name, class (senior, junior, sophomore, freshman), major, opportunities sought, relevant experience (work, internship, volunteer work), highlights of skills and strengths, and knowledge of the company. Tailor your introduction to each employer based on your research. Avoid a list what the company does (you should determine this from your research ahead of time) and don’t say you will do anything; focus on a position in which you are interested.

Your overall manner is critical to a strong introduction. Be confident, charming, and cheerful, but most of all, be professional! Be conscious of your nonverbal communication: eye contact, facial expressions, body language, posture, etc. And, of course, dress to impress!

Excerpts from Job Web, a service of NACE
Le Metropolitan

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Getting around Paris is easy... unless of course, you happen to be going in the wrong direction on the train and are unaware until it's too late. It's not fun. Believe me, I was in that position, and I am living proof that, once mastered, the Metro isn't as bad as it seems. And sometimes, it's actually rather annoying.

The Metro in Paris is made up of 14 Metro lines (1-14) and five RER lines (A-E). The Metro lines run through the city, and a few stops into the suburbs of Paris. The RER lines are the bigger trains with fewer stops and are much faster. They run throughout the city and much further into the suburbs.

To access the Metro system, all you need is a billet (ticket). They are 1,40€ (roughly $1.69) for one, and 10,70€ ($12.94) for ten. However, these tickets are "one time use" tickets, and once you leave the Metro, they are no good. But, to make a change of trains at another station, you don't need a new ticket. So if someone really wanted to, they could ride trains all day on one ticket. But that's rather boring and I don't recommend it.

What myself and the other 20 students have instead are les cartes oranges, or simply, orange cards. As opposed to the bland monochromatic purple billet, les cartes oranges are orange and white with some silver trim. You can purchase these for one week or one month. These are more practical for vacationers and groups like us. However, they are more expensive (in the $50 range for a month) but these tickets can be used for the entire month, at any time, on any train, in any direction.

For les cartes oranges, you also get a plastic case and an identification card. On the ID card there are lines for your nom (last name) and prenom (first name). You also need a picture for the ID card. These picture booths are located in most Metro stations and cost 2€ for four pictures. (Has anyone seen the movie Amelie? Those are the pictures that her love-interest collected when unsatisfied customers ripped and threw them away.) It's necessary to sign the ID card with you signature and where you are staying in case un policier asks to see it. That doesn't happen much, but it's better to be safe than sorry!

The next noticeable thing about the Metro is the people. If I were to take the Septa from Wilmington, Delaware (my home town) to Philadelphia, I would see people of all social classes. People on the Metro in Paris are different, but similar at the same time. The great majority of them using the trains themselves range from lower-middle to upper class. The lower class and homeless people are also in the Metro, but not on the trains. Some sleep in the hallways and sit and beg for money. Others will be so bold as to get on a train, give a monologue and tell the rest of the passengers how they are without home, shower, and a good warm meal. Sad as that may be for him, no passenger really pays attention, nor gives him any money when he walks around.

I had seen these people before, so it wasn't really a big shock to me, but to some of the other students who had never experienced this, I had to explain to them that you: don't look at them, pretend like you don't know what's going on, and if they come up to you, just ignore him, no passenger really pays attention, nor gives him any money when he walks around.

Rodin curator to lecture

COLLEGE COMMUNICATIONS

A lecture in conjunction with the current Rodin exhibit at The Philip and Muriel Berman Museum of Art at Ursinus College will be held on Feb. 28 at 4:30 p.m. in the Main Gallery.

The lecture, titled, "Rodin's Reputation: American Reception of Rodin's Art," will be given by John Zarobell, assistant curator, Department of European Painting Before 1900 at the Philadelphia Museum of Art, in conjunction with the current exhibit, RODIN: IN HIS WORDS - SELECTIONS from the Iris and B. Gerald Cantor Foundation, which is on view until April 9.

Zarobell will present a special lecture on Rodin's American collections, and particular connections of note between the Cantor Foundation exhibit at the Berman Museum of Art and the collections of the Rodin Museum in Philadelphia.

Zarobell oversaw the 75th anniversary reinstallation of the Rodin Museum in 2004, with the exhibition "Echos: Celebrating 75 Years of Rodin in Philadelphia." The special installation illuminated the artist's working process and how
Residence Life Creates Exciting New Housing Options

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With housing lottery numbers already posted outside of Wismer, so begins the scramble for freshmen, sophomores, and juniors to find satisfactory dorm rooms for next year. Well, luckily, the options are increasing as Ursinus expands its quaint "residential village" to include two more houses. The Residence Life Office announces the incorporation of two themed group-application dorms: the Richter-North (Science Office) and the Environmental Science House.

The Richter-North will take over Yost House at 33 Sixth Avenue (previously the Continuing Education Building). In this house, Residence Life has two doubles and one single available. On the bottom floor of the house, Richter-North's student organization will have community and office space.

Those who are part of Hillel or have an interest in Jewish culture are encouraged to apply. The Environmental Science House will be at 325 Ninth Avenue and will include two double rooms and a single. As of yet, Residence Life does not know if the Hillel or Environmental Science Houses will be single-gender or co-ed.

Due to lack of funding, these themed special-interest houses will not receive additional money for student projects as SPINT houses do. The concept of special-application but non-SPINT is a new one. Residence directors hope that this concept will not result in too much confusion, but rather will provide some exciting options for students not totally satisfied with the current choices.

"I think the department in general is very excited to have these two other options to encompass the other interests of students on campus. And, we hope to add more when the new residence hall [near Richter-North] opens in fall, 2007," enthusiastically comments residence director, Marissa Tappy.

Applications for both houses are available starting Feb. 10 and are due March 6. Interested students will be expected to answer approximately four questions regarding their interest in the house's theme, and concerning what they can give to the house community, and what they expect of other residents, in turn. Both houses are open to rising sophomores, juniors, and seniors; students will be placed based on their lottery numbers and applications. To pick up an application or have any housing questions answered, visit the Residence Life office on the first floor of Corson Hall.

Getting around: why biking is better

Having a car on campus is expensive. Not only do you spend money on gas, insurance, and registration, but you also have more opportunities to become poor since King of Prussia, the liquor store, and the supermarket are just a short drive away.

And, of course, you're subject to the iron fist of campus safety, whose fines seem to defeat the purpose of convenient parking since all the good spots are either illegal or for faculty.

I have often questioned my own spending when I find myself lugging heavy bags of groceries or clothes halfway across campus. The answer to this paradox is quite simple. With different transportation comes different spending. If I had a bike, for instance, I wouldn't be able to carry as many purchases as with a car. I would also be getting a work out at the same time.

Saving money is just one reason Ursinus should become a more bike-enthused campus. Since we all have to park so far from our actual destinations anyway, it is much easier to lock up your bike next to the building, perhaps on one of the many lamp posts. It is the best parking spot on campus. Not to mention riding a bike is far more environmentally friendly than driving your car to Wawa for a hoagie or driving from Main Street to behind Wismer. (Sadly, I am guilty of both.)

Plenty of other colleges and universities such as Stanford, St. Lawrence, and Loyola supply a fleet of bikes for students to rent. When the college, in exchange for a small deposit or fee, provides bikes (and bike locks), theft is less likely to occur since the bikes are of the same (usually low) value and are recognizable if anyone were using one of them illegally. At St. Lawrence, students simply show their ID and are allowed the use of a "Green Bike" for an entire day. To get our own fleet of rental bikes, Ursinus would definitely need to install more bike racks, encourage bike registration (for those that are not rentals), and there is a possibility that students would be legally required to wear helmets or at least sign a waiver.

If implemented at Ursinus, bikes could be used on the Perkiomen Trail, Evansburg Park, Waterworks Park, Haunsberger Woods, etc. Bikes could replace cars to get to the supermarket, Blockbuster, and Dairy Queen.

Encouraging bike use could also be another way to promote community ties in Collegeville since, usually, a bike ride is more enjoyable than a car ride, and often you see things or meet people you would not have otherwise noticed. Last summer, I had a bike on campus and found quite a few cute shops like Tweet's Sweets, the consignment shop across from Wawa, and the Horn and Hardart near Clemens.

If you are having trouble picturing yourself biking around town, try to remember how fun it was to get your first bike as a kid. Once you remember how awesome it is to coast down a hill with the wind in your face, think realistically. No, you won't bike much in the winter, and you may need to mooch a friend's car to pick up those cases of beer, but could you survive with just a bike and some loyal friends (with cars)? Most likely, yes.

The college is always on the lookout for new ways of improving student life. Why not rental bikes? The possibility that they could save students money, partially solve the parking woes, cause less air pollution, and encourage college and community interaction is more than enough reason to try it.

Getting around: why biking is better

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Features

Monkey Business takes on a whole new meaning

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A new trend has just hit the Ursinus community. Online procrastination is a fun way to take a little study break, whether you have actually begun studying or not. It comes in several forms, from checking the away messages of everyone on your buddy list to checking out a funny website (such as ebaumsworld.com) to checking your Facebook or MySpace profile once every 20 minutes.

Well here is the latest in online procrastination. It is called Monk-e-mail, available from careerbuilder.com. Monk-e-mail is a program that allows you to select a picture of a monkey (you have the choice of the boss, the co-worker or the receptionist) You then get to dress up your monkey with different hairpieces, clothing and accessories, and then place it in the location of your choosing.

Then comes the really fun part. You can either type in a text and select a voice or call from your phone to use your own voice, and the monkey will say exactly what you want it to—and I mean anything, appropriate or not, so be sure what you say will not offend anyone. You then enter your name and e-mail as well as that of the person you want to receive the message and you have successfully sent a message that will be delivered by a monkey.

So the next time you find yourself staring at your computer in desperate need of a study break, or if you just want to have a little fun and let your friends and family know that you are thinking of them, head on over to www.careerbuilder.com and click on the Monk-e-mail icon at the bottom of the screen. Have fun!
Opinions

Real love, I’m looking for real love

Valentine’s Day should be different this year. “What the world needs now is love sweet love. It’s the only thing that there’s just too little of.” These powerful words sung by Jackie DeShannon are as applicable in 2006 as they were in 1971. Love is very needed these days.

The world has been very unstable. War, genocide, pandemics, and mass destruction are daily headlines in the news, and it does not seem to be getting better. Many people believe these are the last days, which the book of Revelations in the Bible talks about. In Mark 13:7, it predicts that in the last days there will be wars and rumors of war. Fear seems to be the dominant emotion in most people.

During these difficult times, a day of love would be the perfect solution to ease the souls of many. Is Valentine’s Day what we need? To keep it simple, the answer is no. I am not the Valentine’s Day scrooge, but there are a few things that puzzle me about such an ideal concept. As with most holidays in America, Valentine’s is a day that presents a chance of increased revenue for business. Undoubtedly, there are more flowers sent on Valentine’s Day than any other holiday on the American calendar.

Where are the flowers on the other days of the calendar? Even in romantic relationships, Valentine’s Day should only be a day that reflects any other day you are existing in said relationship. Although the concept seems rather cheesy: Everyday should be like Valentine’s. Do you show more love on Valentine’s Day than any other day? If so, there is more you need in the relationship, more than giving flowers.

Love is not something you bottle up, package, or even put in a vase. Some people will go broke in the attempt to buy gifts for a loved one in order to avoid being chastised for not doing so.

The story of St. Valentine is that he was executed on Feb. 14, 269, CE, for refusing to give up Christianity. The emperor of Rome, Emperor Claudius II, banned marriage because he felt it made men weak. Valentine, a bishop at the time, would marry young lovers secretly. He left a letter for the jailer’s daughter whom Valentine miraculously healed of blindness. He marked it “From Your Valentine.”

This is a story of a brave courageous martyr, not a lovesick capitalist. While I think it is important to do things for one another, especially the ones you love, there must be more than gifts given. This Valentine’s Day, let’s do more than just give gifts, do something different—spend sometime talking to each other about how we’re going to erase hate around the world. Write a letter to a family member whom you haven’t heard from in a while. The day after Valentine’s Day talk to someone different, call another person. The day after that, talk to someone different…

Fighting for a spot: the pains of parking on campus

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There are many things which one can complain about on the Ursinus College campus. One of the most common things next to the “food in Wismer sucks!” is “there is no place to park on campus!” I am now one of the many students who share this complaint.

We say “there is no place to park on campus,” but what we really mean is “there is no place close to my house to park.” There are many on-campus parking spots, in fact there are many in the new parking lot next to the PAC.

As some of us who live on Main St. can attest, we don’t like the spots marked Faculty which occupy the lots next to Musser and Todd Hall. After talking with the Campus Safety Officer John Bera about the parking, something was brought to my attention which benefits those students looking for parking in the Musser lot and on the campus itself. He said, “Students can park in faculty spots between 5 p.m. and 8 a.m. on the weekdays and on the weekend starting Friday at 5 p.m. till Monday at 8 a.m. as long as their car is registered, is in the spot correctly (not taking up two or more), not in a fire lane or a handicapped spot.”

There are parking spaces on campus. We might have to walk from the spot to wherever we live, but on the weekends you can park in some closer spots.

Another problem with parking on campus is student made spots. I saw someone the other day got a boot put on their truck. I see this and I wonder is it worth it? Does not having to walk very far to your house outweigh the price of a parking ticket or the price of having a boot removed from your vehicle? I would like to think the answer is no. Now I am just as lazy as the next college student, but I must say I am also just as broke and I think I would prefer the walk.

The many faces of Beck

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Beck is a little bit pop and a little bit folkly. He is also a little bit psychedelic, hip-hop, country, blues, R&B, funk, indie-rock, noise rock, experimental rock, jazz, lounge, and Brazilian music.

Beck is one of the primary figures to emerge in the 90s alternative music scene. His music is a vibrant and messy collage of past and present. Beck is, at heart, an adventurer who shares his travels in postmodernism through warped imagery and free-associative lyrics.

Beck was born in 1970 from creative parents. His father was a conductor and string arranger and his mother was a regular on Andy Warhol’s Factory scene and appeared in the movie Prison. Beck’s grandfather was at the forefront of the Fluxus art movement, most noted for launching the career of Yoko Ono.

After Beck’s bizarre white-boy rap song “Losers” became a hit in 1994, his debut album Mellow Gold followed quickly with similar success.

His second album, Odelay, is acclaimed as one of the most important records of the 90s for its genre-bending catchiness.

Mutations followed in a low-key and unlikely progression from Odelay; Beck and his producers claim that his funky, Prince-protégé 1999 release Midnight Vultures is the true follow-up to Odelay. In 2002 Beck released Sea Change, a haunting, confessional masterpiece that has been featured on soundtracks such as Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind.

By 2005, Beck appeared to have bounced back from the hyper-depressive existential funk of Sea Change and reverted to his charming total loopyness on Guero. Though every Beck album has received critical acclaim, Guero in particular is loved by critics, who feel it is a compilation of all his previous work. Standout tracks include the single “Girl” and the gospel-infused “Go it Alone.”

WVOW played Guero on Sunday, Feb. 5 from 4-6 as part of the new Album of the Week feature! Tune in every Sunday (and all those other days too) at www.wvouradio.com! The next Album of the Week will be the new self-titled disk from Broken Social Scene.
A distasteful Christmas special

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After finding last year's winter break uncearably long for someone unemployed and retailers hesitant to hire some­one for less than three weeks, I decided that this year I would allow my mother to advertise me to her neighbor­hood friends as a babysitter. So, on Dec. 23, while the young­est of my charges perfected his cartwheels in the basement, I witnessed the Ed. Edd. and Eddy Jingle-Jingle-Jingle Christmas Special on the Cartoon Network.

In this particular episode, Edd, after opening his Christ­mas presents early and finding them unsatisfactory, searches for a new family with whom to spend Christmas. Edd comes upon a fellow dressed in all sheepskin who invites him in­side. This curious fellow owned furniture made entirely of raw meat products. His entire house was bedecked in vari­ous chopping and prancing about (playing an accordion) to some ditty about being a farmer. I recognized the name immediately. Abraham, the founder of the Jewish religion, is mentioned in the Bible and is also considered the father of the Muslim prophet Muhammad.

Abraham was the first human to walk. He gave up his life for his son, Ishmael, to be saved. In the story, Abraham was willing to sacrifice his son to God. However, the story also shows the possibility of a better future for humanity, as Ishmael survives and his descendents include the Muslim prophet Mohammad.

With waning, though still prevalent, anti-Muslim senti­ment in the U.S. since 9/11 coupled with the recent race­ riots in Australia, I found the reference to be in terrible taste. The Christmas season is, no doubt, an alienating time for anyone who happens to not fall into the Judeo-Christian category. Though I realize this is a children's show, the reference could be taken as a jester at Islam, or more specifically the lineage of Mohammad. So, I took it upon myself to contact the Cartoon Network and explain my feelings thoroughly. As of yet, they have not replied, except to cheekily thank me for my feedback.

Opinions

How low can you go?

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You may have heard last month that the Catholic Church is considering removing the concept of Limbo from its doctrine. But what if you were to ask the Pope himself? He has put us here at Communism for Dummies in charge of getting rid of Limbo — and as a result, we are proud to announce the first semi-annual Catholic Af­ferlife Savings Extravaganza!

You heard right — we are giving Limbo away to the highest bidder! Whether you are a small-time pangan nature-worshiping politician who is just starting out or one of the established "Big 5" religions, come on down to Wismer Lower Lounge (WisLow for all you hip cats out there) as we auction off this prime piece of afterlife real estate!

Do you love children? How about ancient Greek philosophers? What about Gandhi? (We are pretty sure he is in there somewhere). Well then, Limbo has just about everything you need! Populated primarily by in­habitants who died before being baptized as well as aborted fetuses and persons of exceptional moral standing whose only crime was not being Christian, Limbo has everything for the discerning religious leader. Do you live in an area with an unusually high infant mortality rate? Well then, Limbo is the answer to your prayers! No more awkward confrontations with grieving would-be parents, demanding to know what is going to happen to their dearly de­parted child. Just tell them he is chilling out with Aristotle and Socrates! That will shut them up.

And let us not forget development opportunities! According to Church officials, Limbo is technically not so much a physical place between Heaven and Hell as it is a state of mind wherein one is eternally content but separated from the glory of God. Some would take the lack of actual physical land as an impediment to development, but we here at Communism for Dummies take this to mean that since Limbo is a state of mind, then the only limit to development is your imagination! Let us say you want to build a shore-front condominium in your new afterlife. Well in Limbo, there is no need to hire a legion of dead construction work­ers to do the job! Instead, just-concentrate really hard on the image of your luxury high-rise and POOF there you go! A more lucrative business venture has never before existed!

So do I hear $25 million for this exotic and rare property? $25 million? 25 to the gentleman from the Presby­terian delegation! What's that? $35 million from man in the yarmulke! Do I hear $50 million? Wait, yes, that's $50 million from the Hindus! $50 million going once, going twice...

MATT FLYNTZ
DAN SERGEANT
Communism for Dummies

The Back Row: Shaun of the Dead

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I have a confession: I am an unreformed zombiephile. I love zombie movies in all forms: from George Romero's Living Dead quadrilogy to Sam Raimi's Evil Dead. On this note, I have been planning my Ash Halloween costume for years, lacking only a chainsaw I could comfortably attach to my hand. That brings me to my review of the week, Shaun of the Dead (2004); "a smash hit romantic comedy... with zombies," and last year's Halloween costume. I learned the hard way that the Collegeville Police Department (CVPD) finds it suspicious if you walk up and down Main St. with a baseball bat and a blood-splattered dress shirt. My bad.

Our hero Shaun (co-writer Simon Pegg) is stuck in a rut, on the outs with his girlfriend, and desperately plug­ging away at his dead-end job so as not to end up like his loser friend, Ed. When they wake up to find themselves surrounded by the undead, Shaun goes out on a quest to save his mum, get the girl, and sit back and wait for the whole thing to blow over. If only it was that easy.

There were so many things I loved about this movie that I do not even know where to begin. Throughout the movie, there are subtle references to the goings on, such as the bus passenger listening to "Zombie Nation" by Kraftwerk 400 or a coworker "Ash" calling out sick. This made the viewing experience that much more enjoyable. The characters are well written, likeable, and down to earth: especially Shaun.

One scene in particular really speaks out to the bril­liance of this movie. In a long steady-cam shot referencing an earlier trip to the convenience store, Shaun is too hung over to notice the destruction and mayhem around, to the point that he is oblivious as he slips on a puddle of blood in the store. I literally fell out of my chair laughing the first time I watched it. Another great gag is Shaun's idiot friend purposefully crashing their getaway car while "parked" in order to upgrade to a nearby Jaguar.

Both the zombies and the gore are top-notch. Direc­tor and co-writer Edgar Wright chose to use more classic "slow" zombies as opposed to the "hyper" zombies seen more recently in the Dawn of the Dead re-make and 28 Days Later. The characters put this to their advantage in a scene where they have enough time to sort through records they were willing to destroy as the zombies slowly advance upon them. There is a fair amount of gore, including a disembow­elment, a couple impalements, and a lot of undead heads getting blown off-ments.

I really enjoyed this movie. Slowly but surely, word of how fun this movie is has been spreading as I was recog­nized by quite a few people last Halloween. Further per­sonal proof was that this is the first movie review that some­one was actually excited that I had picked it. Either I am beginning to choose more popular movies or my dream that the staff of Blockbuster will stop giving me looks when I rent movies like Angelheart and PCU may be slowly coming true. One can only hope.

Alex Ernst loves movies and wants you to love them too. If you have a movie you want Alex to see, send your suggestions and comments to alernst@ursinus.edu.
Sports

Pittsburgh, here's your “One for the Thumb”

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The overwhelming Super Bowl XL favorites dominated the Seattle Seahawks throughout the entire football game. "The Bus" has made its last pit stop in Detroit and Ford Field. The Pittsburgh Steelers have become Super Bowl champions in a 21-10 victory, the first since 1980. After Bill Cowher presented the Vince Lombardi Trophy to 73 year old owner Dan Rooney, Pittsburgh tied San Francisco and Dallas franchise by winning five Super Bowl titles. Bill Cowher wins his first Super Bowl after being an NFL head coach for 14 seasons, the longest coaching tenure in the league.

The Seahawks were the first to score with a 47 yard field goal by Josh Brown in the first quarter making the score 10-0. Ben Roethlisberger had a tough Super Bowl start, but started to find his game after he tossed a shovel pass to Hines Ward for a gain of 12 yards. Two plays later, Cedrick Wilson caught a pass from Roethlisberger for an 80 yard touchdown. The young quarterback’s confidence began to grow, setting up the biggest play of the first half. Roethlisberger was forced out of the pocket, scrambled away from defenders, and was able to avoid breaking the line of scrimmage. Roethlisberger spotted an open receiver and heaved a pass across the field to the game’s MVP, Hines Ward. It was a 37 yard play down to the Seahawks’ three yard line. After two failed attempts to punch it in by the “Bus”, Roethlisberger ran it himself. Replays supposedly suggest that the ball had broken through the goal line before Roethlisberger was knocked backwards. With 1:53 left in the half, the Steelers had their first lead, 7-3. After Brown’s missed 54 yard field goal, Seattle coach Mike Holmgren was still arguing that the touchdown by Roethlisberger was not good, but unfortunately for him, referee Bill Leavy disagreed.

At the start of the second half, Willie Parker stunned the Seahawks by taking a handoff and disappearing into the darkness. Parker’s run will go into the record books as the Super Bowl’s longest touchdown run. That made it 14-3. Pittsburgh was in position to completely end the game, but Roethlisberger under threw a pass and Seattle defensive back Herndon snatched the ball out of the sky and raced down the field. The great effort by Hines Ward prevented Herndon from scoring. This 76 yard return is another record for the books: Tight end Jeramy Stevens, who did some trash talking with Steelers linebacker Terry Porter, played very poorly throughout the entire game. His only shining moment was a 16 yard touchdown catch. The Seahawks trailed 14-10 with 6:45 left in the third quarter. But Seattle’s success ended there with Hasselbeck throwing an interception, which lead to this Super Bowl’s biggest highlight.

This year’s Super Bowl featured Pittsburgh’s Willie Parker with a 75 yard touchdown run, the longest in Super Bowl history. Seattle defensive back Kelly Herndon made a 76 yard interception return, which was also the longest return in the 40 year history of Super Bowls.

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Bearly Reminder

Saturday Feb. 11th
Indoor Track & Field at
Valentine Classic
@ Dickinson- 10 a.m.

Wrestling vs. McDaniel/ Washington & Lee @ Muhlenberg- 12 noon

Women’s Basketball vs.
Johns Hopkins- 1 p.m.

Men’s Basketball vs.
Johns Hopkins- 3 p.m.

Sunday Feb. 12th
Gymnastics vs. Penn- 1 p.m.

Wednesday Feb. 15th
Men’s Basketball vs.
Haverford- 7:30 p.m.