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The Grizzly, March 22, 2007

Kerri Landis
Marlena M. McMahon-Purk
Ashley Higgins
Sarah Keck
Salia Zouande

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Ursinus celebrates Equality Day
Speaker on ethics in the pharmaceutical industry

ASHLEY HIGGINS
ashiggins@ursinus.edu

David Perlman, Ph.D., gave a lecture on March 14 at 7 p.m. in the Pfahlert Auditorium to the mix of nearly 30 students and professors. His presentation was entitled "Danger and Opportunity: Bioethical(s) and the Pharmaceutical Industry." Perlman is currently an instructor at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing, in addition to his involvement with the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services. He is a former senior education advisor to GlaxoSmithKline. While an employee at PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP several years ago, he also consulted many pharmaceutical companies.

Perlman obtained a Ph.D. in Philosophy and specializes in bioethics. He calls himself a bioethics triple threat because he has worked in academia, industry, and government. These three areas, particularly academia and industry, are very mistrustful of one another and constantly at odds, according to Perlman. Because of his unique experience in all three work arenas, Perlman offers a self-proclaimed "balanced" stance on the pharmaceutical industry. The popular and cynical view is that the pharmaceutical industry has no ethical standards or measures, which he says is untrue after working in all three arenas. Perlman showed a Time Magazine cover from April 22, 2002, which shows a woman in a guinea pig cage, and asserted that this view of the pharmaceutical industry is simply untrue.

Perlman framed his talk with the metaphor of crisis, which he showed in the Chinese character "Wei-Ji." Though Wei-Ji is the Chinese symbol for crisis, it is actually a dual character, having the character for danger as its upper half and the character for opportunity as its lower half. The Wei-Ji character appeals to Perlman because he views it as a symbol that keenly describes the pharmaceutical industry. Some of the dangers of the pharmaceutical industry are fairly obvious, such as the obvious conflict of interest in mixing scientific enterprise with the motive of profit-making. However, the field of bioethics also has many extremely lucrative career opportunities for philosophy majors, as well as for science majors.

The opportunity half of the Wei-Ji character is also represented in the multitude of ethical issues that are applicable to the pharmaceutical industry. To name a few research ethics issues specifically, Perlman cited research on animals, disclosure of the results of clinical trials, conflicts of interest among investigators, and protection of research subjects. Disclosure of clinical trial results has gotten much recent press and Perlman said that this issue alone has "shaken the integrity of science in our country." He mentioned the recalled Merck drug Vioxx. Approved by the FDA in 1999, Vioxx was a new drug for arthritis. It was later recalled after several people in the United States died of cardiac complications caused by the drug. Merck was accused of hiding those cardiac side effects from the public.

Similarly, Perlman's former employer, GlaxoSmithKline, was also accused of hiding information about an antidepressant's possible side effect of increasing suicidal thoughts or behaviors. As a result, GlaxoSmithKline has now started disclosing all the information on clinical trials on a public Web site. Perlman, however, is quick to note that the scientific jargon and graphs used on this page are extremely difficult for a layperson to understand. Also, it is now a requirement for all pharmaceutical companies to register their trials with the government before conducting them, making it impossible to hide results.

Perhaps even more problematic is a current crisis among bioethicists themselves. Since the field is so new, there are no educational or professional standards for someone entering the field. Ironically, there is also no code of ethics for these professionals. Perlman views the bioethicist as having a very unique role in the pharmaceutical industry. Though, as previously mentioned, academia and industry share a mutual mistrust, they do follow the same ethical guidelines. Perlman concludes by encouraging students to enter the bioethics field because the bioethicists themselves would be the ideal people to bridge this gap, given proper training.

New plans for the field house

On Friday, March 16, an e-mail was sent out to all Ursinus students from Kimberly Taylor, Director of Campus Safety, regarding the new plan for the field house. Students are now being encouraged to use the field house for open recreation time.

The field house will now remain open until 2 a.m. on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday nights. While students are allowed to use this space, college athletic events take precedence over recreational usage. If a college official asks a student to leave the space due to a scheduled activity, students must immediately comply.

The field house is open for informal recreational activity, but no equipment will be made available. It will be accessible via card swipe from the door off the West parking lot. This is the door that leads directly into the field house. Card access will be granted until closing for this door, but no other doors will grant access to the building.

Card access should make the process of admittance run smoothly. However, students are asked to note that any ID card used for access will be recorded in the Ursinus computer system. Therefore, students should not allow access to anyone they do not know, since the ID card on record will show the responsible party. For these same reasons, students are asked not to prop the doors for any reason, and to use only the field house and the restrooms. All other parts of the building are off limits. To make sure these rules are enforced, Campus Safety Officers will make routine patrols of the area and building, including a final patrol at 2 a.m. to be sure all students are out of the building and all lights are shut down.

The program coordinators are hopeful that this new plan for the field house will be successful, allowing students to enjoy recreational activities in the athletic facilities.

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March 22, 2007
Potential carcinogen found abundant in Collegeville

SARAH KECK
sakeck@ursinus.edu

Grave concerns have been raised among Collegeville residents about the recent discovery of high levels of the suspected carcinogen trichloroethylene (TCE) in the area.

TCE came to the United States in the late 1920s from Europe and sustained multiple uses for nearly half a century, found in boot polishes, printing ink dryers, metal de-greasers, dry cleaning products, adhesives, typewriter correction fluid, and spot removers.

In the 1970s, the use of TCE peaked and then quickly declined after a study conducted in convergence with the Clean Air Act identified it as a pollutant. Shortly after this announcement, the National Cancer Institute found that exposure to TCE was causing cancerous growths in the livers of tested mice.

Back in 2002, there were complaints about the air quality in the Pottstown area which the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) followed up on by setting up an air sampling station at Pottstown High School. The results of this investigation led to an unexpected and unsettling discovery in the Collegeville area.

When samples were taken from sampling station, the DEP tested for 55 volatile organic compounds, of which they found traces of 37 of them. What most disturbed state officials, however, were the unusually and notably dangerous levels of TCE.

Around the same time the DEP was making TCE discoveries in the air in Pottstown, an investigation, independent of this one, uncovered traces of TCE contaminated groundwater along Farmington Avenue in Upper Pottsgrove. Curious about the recurring appearance of TCE, DEP officials decided to test for TCE contamination in Collegeville and Trappe, where there have been previous reports of TCE contamination.

Residents were disturbed when the results were released.

The levels of TCE found in Trappe and Collegeville were not only high, but skyrock-
Features

Scientific sexual healing

LANE TAYLOR

Everything You Never Knew You Wanted to Know About Sex

What does the average person get out of sex? Most would probably respond, “Closeness with his or her partner, and the evolutionary aspect that drives us mammals to mate: pleasure.” However, in reality, people engaging in safe, consensual sex are taking much more from the experience than simply the experience itself. Recent studies have shown that the benefits one can experience from sex go beyond orgasmic satisfaction and can actually improve one’s health and daily life. And, as I am constantly ready to defy those who have negative opinions and judgments over the sexual lives and choices of others, I write again to destroy the senseless stigma placed against sex with solid and scientific reasoning as to why there is absolutely nothing wrong with having sex.

According to Momscape.com, having an active sex life in a committed relationship can have a significant impact on your health. Endorphins, which are chemicals in our body that have a “feel-good” effect when released, are released during sex, and can aid in alleviating pain. Sex can also benefit and strengthen the immune system, due to chemicals that are released during intercourse, according to Paul Pearsall, Ph.D. A study was conducted by Dr. David Weeks of The Royal Edinburgh Hospital that even asserts that sex causes the aging process to slow. (Momscape.com)

One of the most thrilling aspects of “sexual healing” is that it impacts both men and women substantially. According to Men’s Health magazine editor, Hugh O’Neill, men who engage in intercourse at least three times a week lower their chances of suffering from prostate difficulties. Testosterone flow is also encouraged during sex, which impacts bone and muscle strength. Regarding women’s health, the chemical oxytocin is released during sex, which causes feelings of affection and nurturing. (Momscape.com) WorldHealth.net associates oxytocin with both men and women, and notes the cause of its release to be feelings of affection and love. Because this hormone causes an increase in sexual longing, it can lead to the amount of sex a couple engages in to amplify. (WorldHealth.net) Also, the female hormones secreted during sex are extremely beneficial in preventing heart disease and softening the tract of the vagina. (WorldHealth.net) And according to WorldHealth.net, the steroid DHEA is released during intercourse in both men and women, and has been linked to the growth of muscle mass, depression prevention, enhanced sex drive, and longevity.

Both Web sites also discuss sex as a form of exercise, and state that having sex three times a week, every week, for one year, burns as many calories as running (Momscape.com) or jogging (WorldHealth.net) 75 miles. And because it’s a form of exercise, it decreases the level of cholesterol in the body and causes an increase in energy. It also causes the amount of oxygen in the body to increase, which causes stimulation throughout the assorted systems of the body. (WorldHealth.net)

Sex has also been linked to stress reduction and relaxation, which is extremely advantageous for both the body and mind. (The circulatory system in particular benefits from the stress reduction and relaxation associated with sex.) Sex is also believed to have the ability to alleviate pain in some instances, specifically when regarding joint pain and headaches. (WorldHealth.net)

Momscape.com stresses the importance of being in a trusting sexual relationship, because uncomfortable and untrusting relationships can often cause anxiety which would counteract and inhibit many of the possible health benefits.

The scientific and public health communities are now accepting sex as a beneficial and healthy aspect of life, so perhaps with a little help from both you and them, those still trapped in archaic convictions circa 1950 can modernize, and then begin to exercise. But if they can’t or won’t be won over, that certainly shouldn’t stop those of us less concerned with stigma and more concerned with physical health to start, or continue, working out.

Clinically obese women (yet another limiting factor), that seems fairly insignificant for an extended period of time. But once again, these are the things that those human-interest headlines leave out. Ultimately, it comes down to the fact that different methods work for different people. “Studies,” even in their most extensive form, can sometimes only suggest certain methods. The key is in individual levels of commitment to improved health.

Nutrition tips for the UC student: ‘Atkins’ in the news

AMANDA BRYMAN

ambyrman@ursinus.edu

Due to circumstances beyond this columnist’s control, she found herself watching a daytime entertainment news program for several hours during spring break. Ultimately, it turned out to be a boon, as it alerted her to the “breaking news” regarding a recent comparative study of the success rates of several diets, in terms of weight loss. The results? Researchers found that the Atkins low-carbohydrate, high-protein diet bested the other programs tested.

That sentence alone would suggest that the (long and steadily fading) low-carb mania was justified after all. It did show results. The problem, unfortunately, is that relying on news bytes and condensed results for nutrition tips is about as fool-proof as trusting a used-car salesman: when people try to sell something, they cater to the desires of their target demographic. And when diets are concerned, those desires do not always line up with the healthiest choices.

The abstract for the study is available online, at http://jama.ama-assn.org/cgi/content/abstract/297/9/969, and as should be expected, it gives a far better account than a news blurb ever could. In addition to Atkins, the study included the Ornish, LEARN, and Zone diets, which range from recommending high-carbohydrate and low-fat intakes to low-carbohydrate and high-protein intakes. Right away, this excludes any diets that promote portion control or calorie counting as their primary methods, preferring four plans that are based on depriving the body of certain nutrients. The study’s primary objective was to track weight loss (any other health benefits were only secondary), and only over the course of a year, with little mention of sustainability or long-term side effects.

All in all, the study simply set out to prove that carbohydrates should not form the bulk of our diets, and that simply omitting fat does not guarantee improved health. All of this is true, albeit that it seems like old news at this point. The concern is in the way that the media jump on newly released information, and unblinkingly skew a limited comparison of only four very specific eating regimens into, “Atkins is the best way to lose weight.” The USDA’s pyramid (http://www.mypyramid.gov) might not be perfect, as evidenced by its recent makeover, but it encourages a balance of food groups for a reason: the body absorbs things from food that it just cannot process as efficiently from a supplementary pill. Omitting anything entirely, whether carbohydrates or fat, is just too extreme; naturally, it leaves the pyramid to crumble. (Yes, it’s a cheesy metaphor, but that’s the point.)

In this study, even the triumphant Atkins diet only averaged about 10 pounds of weight loss over a period of 12 months. Given that the study focused exclusively on

Do you have any questions regarding sexual or general health? Ask them!!
Email Features editor Lane Taylor, at lataylor@ursinus.edu, to see an article based on your question in an upcoming issue. (As always, confidentiality is a guarantee.)
A brief history of St. Patrick’s Day

ASHLEY HIGGINS
ashiggins@ursinus.edu

St. Patrick’s Day is celebrated worldwide as the feast of St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, and as a national and public holiday in Ireland. St. Patrick’s Day brings together those of Irish and non-Irish descent in festivities including all things green: Irish food and drink, and parades. St. Patrick’s Day parades occur in thousands of cities worldwide, with the largest taking place in New York City to an audience of 2 million spectators. Though the New York City parade is the largest parade, St. Patrick’s Day parades did not start in New York City until 1766, when Irish soldiers marched through the streets. The New York City parade has also been dogged by controversy in recent years, specifically when gays and lesbians were banned from participating. In towns in Ireland, St. Patrick’s Day parades are part of multi-day festivals. For example, in Dublin, St. Patrick’s Day is celebrated for five days.

Though St. Patrick’s Day is widely regarded as a secular holiday today, until recently, St. Patrick’s Day was exclusively for the religious. James O’Mara, the Irish MP who introduced the Bank Holiday Act of 1903 to the United Kingdom Parliament, made St. Patrick’s Day a public holiday for the first time. O’Mara then unwisely declared that all pubs be closed on March 17, a law that was not repealed until the 1970s. The first St. Patrick’s Day parade in the Irish Free State (the former term for the Republic of Ireland) occurred in Dublin in 1931, and it was not until the mid-1990s that the Irish government began using St. Patrick’s Day as a holiday to showcase Irish culture rather just the religious figure of St. Patrick himself. This new governmental aim was apparent in the first St. Patrick’s day festival in 1996, which, by the next year became a 3-day festival, and by 2006, a 5-day festival. Common sights in these festivals include shamrocks and the colors of the Irish flag, particularly green. However, many do not know that the official color of St. Patrick’s Day was at one point blue.

Though St. Patrick himself is the integral figure in this international celebration, very little is known about his life. Though March 17 is believed to be the day he died sometime in the 5th century, his birthdate and missionary years in Ireland are still widely debated, though most scholars agree that he was actively preaching sometime in the late 5th century. Most scholars now also subscribe to T.F. O’Rahilly’s once-controversial “Two Patricks” theory, which claims that the figure now revered as St. Patrick is actually an amalgamation of the work of two men, Palladius and Patrick.

Spotlight on Professor Laurian Bowles

CORINNE LICCKETTO
coliccketto@ursinus.edu

Laurian Bowles is a Professor in the Anthropology and Sociology Department at Ursinus College. Surprisingly, Bowles was unsure of the concept of anthropology until she entered college. She initially majored in Journalism at Penn State, and was set on finding a job working at a newspaper. When she graduated, she began writing for the lifestyle section of a local paper. Her interest in culture pushed her focus toward people, which gave her the drive to write articles concerning the community. However, her passion for studying people extended past the weekly articles; she decided to pursue her true interests: culture and travel.

Professor Bowles attended the University of London for her Masters in Anthropology. At Ursinus, Professor Bowles teaches Anthropology 100, Cultural Aspects of Globalization 251, Visual Anthropology 251, and Peoples of Africa 252, which happens to be her favorite course. She enjoys teaching her students about the diversity of cultures across the continent. Bowles also teaches the contemporary ideals that exist within certain countries due to the globalization of western practices. The course is interesting and educational, and will be available next semester.

When she teaches a class, she expects her students to express themselves honestly. Studying culture can sometimes lead to controversial arguments, and she hopes that students will not hold back their honest opinions. “We’re socialized not to offend anyone,” she said, “but it’s important for people to express themselves completely.” When her classroom setting yields complete expression from her students, she takes it as a compliment. She has no stringent expectation of what constitutes a “good student,” she only expects that everyone strives to be a critical thinker.

Before Professor Bowles began teaching at Ursinus, she taught English in Ghana at a Liberian refugee camp. Ghana is where she conducts most of her field work, mainly dealing with young, female migrants. She teaches them how to use photography as a tool of empowerment, instructing them how to use a camera and forcing them to question how it can empower their lives. She also studies global hip-hop, embracing music from Cuba, Africa, and many other places.

Outside of teaching, Bowles enjoys traveling. Her favorite place is Berlin, Germany. “I think... Berlin is one of the most vibrant and exciting places,” she stated. She believes the place is affirming of the new generation of young people. There, individuality is stressed, and that mentality made it special to her. “I love my truly international life,” Bowles stated. She is literally always on the go!

She also has a passion for music. She enjoys soul, reggae, and hip-hop, and at Ursinus, she shows interest in We CAN and the Ursinus Democrats. Although she is not an advisor, she provides support to the organizations.

Whether you’ve had her for a class or not, take time to say hello to her on campus!
Opinions

Obamamania!
JON GAGAS
jogagas@ursinus.edu

This article comes in the midst of sad news: Starbucks name is Elvis.

The definitive work on the singer/songwriter genre is The Grizzly.

Barack Obama has been the darling of the Democratic Party since 2004, when his speech at the Democratic National Convention earned him comparisons to Bobby Kennedy. His latest book, The Audacity of Hope, dropped to the number two spot on the New York Times Best Seller List of Hardcover Nonfiction only last week; it’s been on the list for twenty. His first book, Dreams From My Father, is number five on the Paperback Nonfiction List. No other presidential hopeful’s book – Democrat or Republican – has claimed one of the top thirty-five spots on either list, unless you count An Inconvenient Truth by Al Gore, who has claimed again and again that he isn’t going to run in ’08. Unlike some other notable Democratic presidential contenders, both past (John Kerry) and present (Hillary Clinton), Senator Obama is free of the baggage of voting to authorize an increasingly unpopular war.

Unlike the war in Iraq, however, Obama is shooting up in the polls. According to the latest Zagby telephone survey (conducted February 22-24), which asked Republicans, Democrats, and Independents to choose which candidate they would support in the next primary or caucus, Obama has jumped up nine points among people who say they would vote in a Democratic primary, narrowing Hillary Clinton’s lead to just eight points. And when pitted against the top three Republican contenders in a general election – Rudy Giuliani, John McCain, and Mitt Romney – the poll has Obama beating each one, while Hillary Clinton and John Edwards lose to everyone except Romney.

So it’s clear that Obama is riding a wave of popularity. But the question remains, can he win? Maybe. Opinion polls change; both the primaries and the general election are still a year and a half away, and presidential hopefuls become presidents by winning states, not the popular vote. Even if the election were held this Tuesday, the outcome could easily be different than what the polls indicate, as demonstrated by the 1980 presidential election, when Carter won 41 percent of the popular vote but only a paltry 49 electoral college votes compared to Reagan’s 489, or more dramatically, by the heavily contested 2000 election, when Al Gore won the popular vote but lost the electoral college and thus the election. Also, who’s reading Obama’s books? If many of the 20 percent of undecided voters – which includes Democrats but also independents and moderate Republicans – are reading him, that bodes well for his success in the general election. Whatever your political leanings, it’s hard to deny that he’s an engaging writer. If it’s so clearly Democrats who have propelled The Audacity of Hope to the top of bestseller lists, however, Obama might have a better chance of beating Clinton in the primaries, not an easy thing to do – Clinton has one of the best political machines in the country behind her, her husband’s political savvy, and a shrewd political mind which has proven itself adept at building consensus across party lines in the Senate.

Obama’s cult of personality – the word “Obamamania” has been in the popular parlance for at least several months now – simply won’t last long enough to propel him to victory in 2008. He’s done a good job so far of defining himself as an optimistic figure somehow above the polarized partisan bickering that has characterized our national dialogue for the past several years, but he’s going to have to jump into the fracas of debates on hard issues, and he’s going to have to do it soon. He’s got a good shot at not being dragged into the mud if he can keep a clear head and navigate between Howard Dean-style outbursts and John Kerry-esque buality while explaining his fairly moderate positions on most issues in a way that resonates with Americans, a task which he’s likely up to – he was, after all, president of the Harvard Law Review and a magna cum laude graduate of Harvard Law, not a C student at Yale like both major 2004 presidential candidates. However, after recent unveilings of past stock purchases of what appeared to be a dubious ethical nature, purchases which he has apparently accounted for successfully to the American people, Obama sounded more like John Kerry than Robert Kennedy when he explained the nature of the purchases. His opponents have a year and a half to bring similar scandals to light; who knows if any of them, true or not, will stick in the minds of American voters enough to bring him down politically, and whether Obama will be able to defend himself without falling into a trap of the magnitude of Kerry’s infamous “I actually voted for the $87 billion [to fund the Iraq war] before I voted against it” gaffe.

In the end, American politics are all about image, as they have been ever since the first televised presidential debate in 1960 between John F. Kennedy and Richard Nixon. In an era when Americans seem to be developing shorter and shorter attention spans, the American public seems increasingly willing to take images carefully constructed by campaign strategists at face value, as evidenced by Karl Rove’s success at painting George W. Bush as a folksy, down-to-earth, all-American guy you’d love to invite to your next barbecue. Many Americans seemed to buy this image, despite the fact that it is utterly divorced from the reality of Bush as the multimillionaire son of a former CIA director, vice president, and president, a son who was handed an oil company despite his reportedly Jack, Juster performance in the multi-huare son of the famous actor who played Norman Bates in Alfred Hitchcock’s 1960 film adaptation of Robert Bloch’s novel, Psycho. Elvis’s debut album is a blend of Damien Rice, Bob Dylan, and Elliott Smith all wrapped in one little package, taking the best of each and making it his own. There is Dylan’s story telling ability and cross between singing and talking; the soft, emotionally moving voice like that of Elliott Smith; and Damien Rice’s careful rhythms.

The opening track, ‘While You Were Sleeping’ opens with a simple picked rhythm, adding a bass, and then drums. This build up is characteristic of most of the songs on this album, infusing the songs with a sense of progression, keeping the listener interested in both lyrics and music. ‘All the Night Without Love’ is like a Leonard Cohen tune. Then by the third track, ‘May Day,’ Perkins picks up the tempo, moving into a rocking tune reminiscent of Ben Kweller. The song which got me into Elvis Perkins, ‘Ash Wednesday,’ is possibly one of my favorite songs by a singer/songwriter since ‘Angelas’ by Elliott Smith. The dirge-like movement, a slow descending upright bass line, a simple drum beat, and a sustained note as the chorus accentuates the darkness of the song. Then, as the song reaches its end, strings enter to bring the song to a beautiful climax. ‘It’s a Sad World After All’ is a slow contemplative tune toward the end of the album, featuring a female vocalist which opens up the country. Continuing in the wake of this news, Paul McCartney has decided to sign to Hear Music, out of the coffee house and on to shelves across the country. Continuing in the wake of this news, Paul McCartney has decided to sign to Hear Music, out of the coffee house and on to shelves across the country.

We live in a day and age where aging rockers go on their tours to make a living. Although many of the songs are not upbeat, they work. Since ‘Angeles’ by Elliott Smith is a must for anyone who enjoys singer/songwriters or who simply enjoys listening to good music. We live in a day and age where aging rockers go on their tours to make a living. Although many of the songs are not upbeat, they work. Since ‘Angeles’ by Elliott Smith is a must for anyone who enjoys singer/songwriters or who simply enjoys listening to good music.
"Smokin’ Aces" (2007)

Have you ever wondered what “Ocean’s 11” would have been like if crystal meth had a character, and that character was the most ridiculous question you deal with today (or this month, for that matter), but take a moment and think about it. The violence would be jacked up from non-existent to extreme, the ridiculousness of the heist would be all the more insane, and Andy Garcia would be that much more of a dick. The movie this week is about as close as one can come to that experience without ingesting a seriously dangerous chemical cocktail cooked up in somebody’s kitchen, and with that I give you...


MATT FLYNTZ
DAN SERGEANT

Think you’re pretty clever, eh? Show off your wits; get published in The Grizzly! E-mail the Editors to mallyntz@ursinus.edu and dasergeant@ursinus.edu.

If you’d like to get involved in Ursinus’ campus newspaper, send an email to grizzly@ursinus.edu. We welcome new writers and photographers!
Bears hungry for CC crown

MATTHEW PASTOR
mapastor@ursinus.edu

After coming off a season that ended with a loss at the Centennial Conference Championship game against Haverford, the Ursinus softball team started off their 2007 campaign in Orlando, Fla. during Spring break.

Although the Bears returned to campus with a 6-4 record (they finished 8-2 in Florida last year), Head Coach Terry McGowan has a lot to be happy about going into conference play. One of the biggest reasons to be excited about 2007 is the return of two-time Centennial Conference Pitcher of the Year, Mallory Greene. Greene, a senior for the Bears, won all five games she pitched in Florida going 25 solid innings, while giving up 17 hits, 5 earned runs and striking out 25 batters. If Greene can continue her dominance in the Centennial Conference as she did in Florida, the Bears will be racking up a lot more “W’s.”

Another reason Coach McGowan is all smiles is on the offensive side of the ball for the Bears. Fellow senior Mary Reid led the Bears offensive attack in Florida with 17 hits, 5 earned run s and striking out 25 batters. Greene, a senior for the Bears, won all five games she pitched in Florida going 25 solid innings, while giving up 17 hits, 5 earned runs and striking out 25 batters. If Greene can continue her dominance in the Centennial Conference as she did in Florida, the Bears will be racking up a lot more “W’s.”

Although going 0-3 for the Bear s in Florida, up and coming freshman pitcher Lauren Davis did show some promise as she had the lowest ERA at 1.03 and struck out a team high 31 batters in 20.1 innings pitched.

As the season progresses, expect to see the Bears improve and become a better team in every aspect of the game. With a tremendous amount of talent in the batting lineup for the Bears, one of the best pitchers in the Centennial Conference (if not the best), and a solid supporting cast, there is no reason why we shouldn’t be seeing the Ursinus softball team back in the hunt for another Centennial Conference Championship this season!

Longball key to Bears victory

DANIELLE LANGDON
dalangdon@ursinus.edu

A homerun rally helped the UC Bears Baseball team (7-3) rack in a win at their home opener against Eastern last Wednesday. Junior Brad Wickersham hit the first home run of his college career and added a 5-for-5 performance. Brendan Evans joined Wickersham smashing two solo home runs and putting Ursinus past Eastern 9-3 in non conference baseball action. Evans and Wickersham started it off with consecutive shots into the outfield putting the Bears in a 4-0 lead after just three innings. David Randolph wanted in on the action as he recorded three RBIs off a double. Brett Umstead followed, registering two solid hits. Sean Ciletti tried to help the Eagles, going 1-for-3, one run scored, and one RBI; however, it just wasn’t enough to conquer the Bears.

Junior Mike Ziemak joined in on the hitting streak, adding a double to left field. Ryan Costello got hit by a pitch, and Umstead sent Costello home with a single to put the Bears ahead of Eastern 3-0. After Caruso took a base on balls, Ziemak grounded out to help send him to the plate, adding yet another run in the third. In the bottom of the fifth inning, Evans sent the ball flying over the left-field fence, recording his third career home run and second of the day with two outs.

Using seven different pitchers, the Bears did not give up one run in the first six innings of the game. It was not until the top of the seventh inning that Eastern finally tallied a run. Eagle John Montague tallied the first hit off a single between first and second. Dan Wilson followed, smacking a double and bringing in Ciletti from second to put up the first run. The Eagles added two more runs in the eighth, bringing the score closer at 5-3, but the Bears were not willing to give up yet. UC pushed ahead 9-3 with four runs in the bottom of the ninth. J.C. Colon kicked off the inning with a single to center field followed by a sacrifice bunt by Rory Graver that sent Colon to second. Senior Tommy Herman walked and Umstead loaded the bases with a perfectly placed bunt down the left-field line. Next up, Randolph sent a double into center field sending all three runners past the plate. Randolph then tallied the final run off a Wickersham single up the middle. Pitcher Zeb Engle took home the win for his second victory of the season striking out two of the three batters he faced. The Bears take on TCNJ tonight and Stockton on Saturday, both games are away.

Brenden Evans

Bearly Reminder

Women’s Rugby
3/24 vs. Lafayette

Baseball
3/22 @ TCNJ
3/24 @ Stockton
3/27 vs. F&M

Softball
3/22 @ Lebanon Valley
3/25 @ Wilmington
3/27 vs. Gwynedd Mercy

Men’s Lax
3/24 vs. F&M
3/28 vs. Washington

Women’s Tennis
3/24 vs. Muhlenberg
3/27 @ Rowan

Men’s Tennis
3/24 vs. Gettysburg
3/28 @ Muhlenberg

Women’s Golf
3/26 @ Swarthmore
3/27 @ Gettysburg Invitational

Women’s Golf
4/2 @ Muhlenberg Spring Classic
4/10 Ursinus Invitational

Track & Field
3/24 @ Towson Invitational