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Comming Out Weekend met with high emotions

By Alyse Reid
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The Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) had a successful weekend of food, fundraising, movies, and most importantly support during their Comming Out Weekend.

This weekend, leading up to National Coming Out Day, was a great commemorative opportunity for the seven LBGTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning) teenagers who committed suicide within the last month. Bolstered by food, fundraising, and movies, the Gay Straight Alliance successfully reflected what those teenagers felt a lack of: support.

The weekend kicked off on Friday evening with a collaborative effort from GSA and the Hillel House, where the two organizations, as well as interested members of the Ursinus Campus, enjoyed the Third Annual Gay Shabbat dinner. Towards the end of the program there was a period of reflection for all those in attendance to relax and enjoy the supportive atmosphere. The entire

GSA organization expressed gratitude for the support that Hillel has shared with them for many years now.

The weekend continued with a Pancake Fundraiser in Lower Wismer. When speaking with junior Molly Blox about the event she said, “Of course I’m going to go to the fundraiser! Obviously no one is going to pass up pancakes on a Saturday night, but the fundraiser has much more meaning than just a bunch of students gathered around for pancakes. If they raise funds, if we find more support for GSA, that means one less teenager feeling like they have no way out.”

Proceeds from this event benefited the Ursinus Homecoming charity, as well as The Trevor Project. The Trevor Project is a non-profit organization aiming to “aid in crisis and suicide prevention efforts” among LGBTQ.

“Comming Out” is continued to News, page 2

Goucher College assesses Ursinus for Teagle Grant

By Elizabeth Burns
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Sunday Oct. 3 through Tuesday Oct. 5, seven members of Goucher College visited Ursinus under the Teagle grant, a three-year collaborative effort to assess diversity on five liberal arts college campuses.

The Teagle grant is a $300,000 grant given to Washington and Jefferson College, McDaniel College, Washington College, Goucher College and Ursinus College to be used from Jan. 1, 2009 through Dec. 31, 2011 for the advancement of the Teagle Foundation’s mission to “ensure that today’s students have access to challenging, wide-ranging, and enriching college educations.”

Ursinus students get a little “Cuckoo” in preparation for play

By Jarod Groome
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“One flew over the cuckoo’s nest” is Ursinus theater’s newest production and with its opening day at the Blackbox on Wednesday, October 6th, many people have enjoyed a classic stage performance. Directed by Dominick Scudera, he and his cast have worked tirelessly and meticulously to break a collective leg. Taking place in an insane asylum, a group of patients revolt against the authority of the asylum after inspiration from a new patient. Actors Carolyn Lang, who played the role of Sandra, and Pat McAndrew, who played the role of Ruckle, along with Scudera, sat down to reflect on their experience with this production, from the auditions to the final bow.

Lang was the first to reflect her experience starting her audition process: “How did you prepare for your audition process?” she explained: “Well, we were given monologues a few days before the audition and whenever I audition I mark out specific lines that I want to bring out in the monologue, and then I figure out what I want to incorporate within myself into the character.”

“My character Sandra recently divorced her husband because he was a creep (laughs). After I decided that she was a woman who just loved her friends and her fun; she was re-liberating herself...”

“Cuckoo” is continued to Features, page 5
Pakistan angered by helicopter strike
Monday, October 4

PAKISTAN — In response to a NATO helicopter strike that killed Pakistani soldiers, Pakistan has closed off a vital supply line for U.S. and NATO troops. The move makes bottlenecked convoys highly vulnerable to attack by the Taliban, some say.

The Pakistani government tolerates US drone strikes against Afghan insurgents and al-Qaeda groups on the Pakistani side of the Afghanistan-Pakistan border. However, a recent surge in both drone strikes and helicopter strikes in the area has angered the Pakistani government.

According to The U.S. military, the NATO helicopter that killed the Pakistani soldiers was shot first and fired back in defense. Pakistan claims the chopper should have been in the area to begin with. About 80 percent of NATO's nonlethal supplies reach Afghanistan through Pakistan, and some speculate closure of the supply line will seriously hamper the current counterinsurgency effort in Afghanistan. (Time Magazine Online)

Russian Physicists win Nobel Prize
Tuesday, October 5

STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN — Two Russian scientists were awarded the 2010 Nobel Prize for physics for showing how carbon one atom thick behaves. Andre Geim and Konstantin Novoselov, of England's University of Manchester, conducted experiments with graphene, a new form of carbon only one atom thick, but 100 times stronger than steel. Graphene is almost transparent and conducts electricity well.

The Nobel Prize committee noted a few possible applications for graphene, including graphene transistors that are expected to become much faster than today's silicon transistors, yielding more efficient computers. Andre Geim compared the situation to the creation of polymers 100 years ago. "It took quite some time before polymers went into use in plastics and became so important in our lives," he said. (NewsDaily.com)

Afghani governor assassinated
Friday, October 8

KABUL, AFGHANISTAN — A bomb blast in a mosque in northern Afghanistan killed the governor of a neighboring province, as well as 12 other worshipers. Mohammed Omar, the governor of Kunduz, is believed to have been the target of the attack. The blast occurred during Friday prayers in a mosque in the Takhar province. Omar, a native of Takhar, returned there every week for Friday prayers. An outspoken opponent of the Taliban and the Pakistani Intelligence Service, Omar survived another assassination attempt last year when a roadside bomb exploded as he traveled between Kunduz and Takhar. (New York Times Online)

"Ken Bain" is continued in News, page 3.

According to The TrevorProject.org.

The last of the weekend's events was a screening of the documentary "Out in the Silence," followed by a brief discussion period. The movie centers on the events that ensue after a same-sex wedding announcement is featured in the local newspaper for a rural Pennsylvania town. It dramatically illustrates the universal challenges of being an outsider in a conservative environment and the transformation that is possible when those who have long been constrained by a traditional code of silence summon the courage to break it.

Following this event, members of GSA began chalk ing the campus in support of National Coming Out Day.

Junior Rachel Westby, member of GSA at Ursinus, spoke of the importance of Coming Out Weekend. "It doesn't matter if you are a part of the LGBTQ community. You can be an ally, a friend, a loved one. Being a part of any of these events means that we together want to show our support for each other."

She added, "The events have been amazing, but it's our actions and attitudes that speak to the success of the weekend."

National Coming Out Day was officially recognized on Monday, which culminated in a candlelight vigil in Olin Plaza at 7 PM in honor of the seven gay teens who took their own lives over the past month. A table, manned by Robert Whitehead and Arielle Ross, displayed framed photographs of these young individuals — Tyler Clementi, who jumped from the George Washington Bridge on September 22, as well as Asher Brown, Seth Walsh, Justin Aarberg, Billy Lucas, Cody J. Baker, and Raymond Chase — each signed with a candle, with a vase of white carnations nearly as a sign of remembrance. Robert Whitehead began the event by reading a biography of each of these teens, who were driven to desperate measures by uncontrolled bullying in their schools and communities. After a moment of silence, those in attendance sang "Bridge Over Troubled Waters" to symbolize their emotions.

As the event came to a close, Whitehead reminded everyone that these lost teens were never alone, and that their troubles should reflect how we treat everyone. As the gathering dispersed, people were invited to write commemorative thoughts or messages on poster board for the GSA. Overall, it was an emotional event, which left some members in tears, but with high hopes for the future.

The Gay Straight Alliance also plans to film an "It Gets Better" video which will encourage teens who are struggling with sexual identity to value their own life and to seek support.

The weekend was a representation of the communal support that Ursinus College students are well known for. With the success of events such as Coming Out Weekend, the campus should be optimistic about what is to come for our LGBTQ community.

additional reporting by Michael Delaney

Trade Company says the company will take full responsibility for the incident. Residents have been promised that their homes will be decontaminated, but it is unclear who will pay for the cleanup. (New York Times Online)
Before the recent passing of President Emeritus John R. Strassburger, plans were in the works to honor the president’s 16-year-long tenure while at Ursinus. Last spring, Strassburger walked the campus with an architect from Robert Wallace and Todd, LCC to discuss the addition to the campus.

When thinking about the project, the Board of Trustees and Facilities played around with ideas that potentially would involve a statue, a gazebo, or a deck off of the bookstore where students could study or get a bite to eat. When it came to functionality, it was clear these ideas were not going to make it past the cutting room floor and ultimately the “Strassburger Commons” was formed.

The “Strassburger Commons” refers to the long stretch between the west lot parking area and Wismer. Before Strassburger came to Ursinus this area was mostly parking and undeveloped land. His vision, with the help of Robert Wallace and Todd, LCC (the same company involved with the new design), the administration, and donors, created more space for the Ursinus community to enjoy one another and discover their potential through a new performing arts building and a field house.

The first stage to the Strassburger Commons is a half wall/bench that will wrap around the opposite edge of the paved circle in front of the Kaleidoscope. The wall will feature the words “Strassburger Commons” across the back of the bench side while a quote that Strassburger chose before his passing will be featured on the opposite side. The wall was initially going to highlight his accomplishments on a bronze plaque on the opposite side of the bench but instead, Strassburger requested the following quote by W.E.B. Du Bois be used. “Of all the civil rights for which the world has struggled and fought for 5,000 years, the right to learn is undoubtedly the most fundamental.”

During his time at Ursinus, Strassburger was a true believer (among other things) in bringing diversity to campus, keeping focus on student achievement, continuing to support and expand the already strong faculty, and educating others on what a liberal arts education meant for students. During a spring 2010 interview with The Grizzly regarding his retirement Strassburger said, “People will appreciate the UC model of the liberal arts education and want to emulate that.” The second stage, pending funding, will be a similar wall that will break at the path in between Wismer and the Brodbeck-Wilkinson-Curts dormitory. The wall, like the first, will say “Strassburger Commons” across the bench side.

There is also talk about putting an amphitheater on the grassy area in between the Kaleidoscope and the main walkway of campus. These plans are somewhat far away from implementation, but it is part of the larger discussion regarding the continued development of the Ursinus campus.

Andy Feick, Facilities Director, mentioned that the Strassburger Commons is just one phase of continuing Strassburger’s work in turning the Ursinus Campus into a pedestrian focused campus instead of a vehicular focused campus which was initially implemented during his master-redesign plan of the campus in 2000. Unbeknownst to most students and recently added faculty and staff, there was a road that went straight through campus up until that point. Feick mentioned that eventually the administration hopes to push the parking lot currently located behind Wismer to the outskirts of campus—creating a large grassy area where students can enjoy the center of campus even further.

“It’s not just another project... it’s meaningful—you want to do it right,” said Feick.

Feick said facilities hopes to begin construction of the first phase of the Strassburger Commons, which will be made from custom cut limestone, in November and be completed before students leave for winter break.

The construction project will proceed while the Presidential Search Committee continues interviewing potential candidates. Interim President John E.F. Corson mentioned that there were hundreds of qualified and diverse applicants but that they have narrowed it down to just a handful. The committee held meetings a few weeks ago to narrow the search to 1-3 candidates.

Corson mentioned that there are enormously talented potentials and that, “[We were] lucky when we got John—diamond in the rough.” He knows that they are on the right path to electing a president that understands the vision and mission of the college.

“Teagle Grant” is continued from front page

In order to gain those perspectives, Goucher’s group, consisting of two faculty members, two staff members and three students, conducted seven focus groups, and observed and talked with faculty, staff and students about their opinions on the diversity of the overall campus.

Junior Danielle Yentz took part in a student focus group both this year and during the last Teagle campus visit, finding that there is a general consensus about diversity at Ursinus from the students. “I came to the realization that our campus is open to diversity,” Yentz said. “In any setting, people will have their own opinions and be themselves, and overall, I think, at Ursinus, we respect and accept people’s thoughts and their individuality.”

Rebecca Jaroff, assistant professor of English, participated in one of the faculty focus groups. For the most part, faculty agreed that the college seemed headed in the right direction, fostering acceptance of and understanding for everyone, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation or any other difference.

Still, “there is work that needs to be done,” Jaroff said, “especially in developing a more consistent channel of communication between students, faculty, staff and administration when problems or misunderstandings arise.”

Nevertheless, the focus group was optimistic, noting that addressing and assessing diversity as a community through this study evidenced the deep commitment Ursinus has to increasing diversity and developing a safe, welcoming campus for everyone.

These focus groups aim to give the faculty and staff, but primarily the students, a chance to giveweir input in the Teagle grant research. However, “the key part of the grant is not just research, but it is research that leads to change. And not just giant changes, it is small changes. Lots of small changes add up to big changes,” described Goodman.

These small changes have been everything from keeping the Unity House open later to more programming dealing with diversity during freshmen orientation to a proposal to assess and update our diversity courses. But why evaluate Ursinus diversity in the first place? Annette Lucas, the Associate Dean of the College and Professor of French, has worked with the Teagle grant from the very first proposal to the foundation. She answered, “About five years ago we had an unpleasant racial incident on campus that indicated to us that we still had much work to do when it came to helping students link the intellectual ideals and ethical values of a liberal arts education to their lives beyond the classroom.”

This spurred the college to survey the campus’ attitude toward diversity and found that, although acceptable, it did not live up to Ursinus’ standards. With that, the college applied for a Teagle grant and, upon winning with four other colleges, which had a similar goal, received the three-year grant that they have today.

This is an important achievement for Ursinus. According to Goodman, “[the Teagle grant] is only given to liberal arts colleges because there’s tons of funding available for large universities and nothing available for liberal arts. So Teagle is giving this opportunity to liberal arts that is not available otherwise.”

Although this opportunity is limited to a three year span, Ursinus plans to continually assess student and faculty’s attitudes toward diversity after the grant is completed. Goodman revealed that, “maybe Ursinus will continue to do site visits, or at least continue to communicate with the other schools, or have a committee of people that does the work that Teagle was doing.” But we’re not sure because we’re not there yet.”

Elie Wiesel Prize in Ethics Essay Contest

The Elie Wiesel Prize in Ethics Essay Contest is an annual competition designed to challenge college students to analyze the urgent ethical issues confronting them in today’s complex world. Full-time junior and seniors at accredited U.S. four-year colleges and universities are invited to enter the competition.

ENTRY FORM & GUIDELINES AVAILABLE ONLINE: www.eliewieselfoundation.org

DEADLINE: Dec. 6, 2010
**Out in the Silence puts new spin on old story**

By Joshua Walsh  
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By now, Gay Rights Issues seem standard for many of us, especially the young open-minded student body. In this story, we see a different angle to a story which seems standard for many of us, especially the young open-minded student body.

Joe Wilson and Dean Hamer, who like old news for liberal minded students, decided to announce their wedding with a Washington City, Pennsylvania's local newspaper. Wilson had left his hometown and being able to speak openly about his sexuality. His hopes of finding fame and fortune were dashed when he revealed his true identity in his hometown.

Kentucky was from distraught mother after the movie for Joe to call her out however, would seek equal it. He realizes that everyone, even the most silent people, can make a difference. He finds inspiration from the Micklos family, whose initial insistence that gay marriage would lead to incest and bestiality gave way to a more enlightened, tolerant version of Christianity. The only major figure who remains steadfast in her resistance of gay rights is Granley, who refuses to talk to Joe at the end of the documentary. At the moment when it seems most right for Joe to call her out however, Joe takes the movie in a different direction.

The biggest victories in the struggle for gay rights are won not by confrontational rhetoric and indignation. Furthermore, Joe realizes that by imposing stereotypes on the religious in the same way some of them might do to him blinded him to some of the truly intelligent, compassionate people of faith in the world, like the Micklos family, who are willing to interrogate their beliefs when confronted by the reality of gay men and women. In short, even in places where bigotry is rampant, those who would seek equality would do well to look for the compassion in everyone, even when these people refuse to display such compassion...people like Granley. If nothing else, it will sort out those who are bigoted out of ignorance from the truly spiteful. Which brings us back to the "gay agenda": what is it? Joe Wilson says it best: "What they call an agenda, we call our lives." If only everyone could be as acutely conscious of the reality behind homophobic rhetoric.

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**Guest choreographer dances onto the Ursinus campus**

By Tracie Johnson  
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The Ursinus College Dance Company invites guest artists each semester to teach our students a variety of dance and their origins. Artists teach anything from jazz, hip-hop, avant-garde to ballet. This year UC will be introducing Joe Chvala, the Artistic Director of the Flying Foot Forum, which means students will be studying percussive dance for the first time.

Cathy Young, Associate Professor of Dance/Chair of the Theatre and Dance Department, says, "UCDC is growing by leaps and bounds...the level of the dancing is very high." She continued discussing how influential such high quality guest artists are to our students. "I think Professor Aiken and I both feel like our dance program is one of the best in the country in terms of the of the guest artists we bring, the caliber of artists that our students are working with and the experiences they get from working with these artists." This year guest artist Joe Chvala has set a piece called Red Walls on our students at the request of Professor Young. Red Walls will be performed in the fall line-up of UCDC and encored in the spring.

Chvala says his favorite part of percussive dance is "connecting with the ground it feels like you're connecting with the earth in some way and also the rhythm of it gets you connected with a very primal, human, basic ways of being that we don't get to be, in the normal world. Something that's missing in our modern lives that happen around the internet, cell phones and writing and typing...it gets you back into more of a relationship with human nature and with nature and the world." He finds inspiration from "all the different drumming and music traditions that have existed in the world, especially from the traditions I know how to do like tap and clogging and step dance but also a lot of times it just comes to me like if you do one rhythm it inspires another," says Chvala.

Red Walls, he says, is "about fear and what it does to people. It's sort of an aggressive reaction to fear, the idea of being paranoid or feeling like you're being hunted, running from something and trying to get out your fears by being aggressive...it's a piece that's supposed to connect with the audience in a way so that the audience look at it and goes that was really exciting but really disturbing at the same time. So it makes you think to yourself what is it about aggression and aggressive behavior that's so attractive and compels us so much, but at the same time can be sort of destructive if it gets out of hand. It's a piece that comes from a whole evening that has a life out of balance/life in balance theme going on, and this was the part that was the life out of balance." Red Walls was first performed in 1995, and there will be ten dancers maybe twelve. The audience can look forward to a very surprising show, Chvala says, "it has surprises...the interplay of props and dancers and watching and drumming..."

To learn more about Joe Chvala and his impressive background in dance, visit the Ursinus website.
“Cuckoo” continued from front page after marriage,” Lang explains. All the cast members had to take a great deal of time to prepare for such extensive roles that were out of their norm. Lang explained that in order for her to prepare for the role of Sandra she had to focus on the laugh. “I played around with different laughs. Her laugh had to be different in order for her to stand out from her in-scriptor companion, Sarah. “One rehearsal I was playing around and by random just found a laugh that I fell in love with.”

It can be assumed that all the characters in this play mean something bigger but what did Lang’s character Sandra represent? “I think she represents a freedom that male characters can’t have. With purple and black colors and glamorous outfits, she contrasts from every other character. The window that she enters and exits from represents her ability to access real life.”

Pat McAndrew had the role of Ruckus, a chronically mentally ill patient. Here is his sit-down:

Your role is a little different, how’d you prepare? “It was out of my comfort zone, a lot, because I’m obviously not that crazy. Holding my arms up while staring blankly into space was hard, especially with the chaos going on, on stage. I prepared just through rehearsal and keeping my mind off of things while in character.”

What do you think Ruckus represents? “He’s a symbol of the power that the insane asylum has to control, so-called, out of control people.”

With the new audience placement, how did you adjust to the blocking for such a unique theatrical setup? “My character was back against the corner most of the time so it was a little easier, but, I know that the rest of the cast had to constantly move in circles while performing.” McAndrew claims that his unique role has helped him adapt to new environments faster as an actor, while Scudera, the man behind it all, claims that this production proved that a play from the 1960s can be relevant.

“I wanted to prove that a play from the 1960s was still relevant and could speak to college aged students. Most students would not know the story; therefore it would be a fresh performance,” Scudera shared. “The set and audience configuration was quite different. It gives a feeling that the audience is inside the hospital ward instead of watching it from a distance. So I worked with professional designers to come up with a world that the play would inhabit.”

The work that went into this striking piece is apparent. “One Flew over the Cuckoos’ Nest” was a success thanks to these three individuals and their team of many more talented and diligent workers.

Faculty member Cathy Young receives Puffin grant

By Katie Holdeman kaholdeman@ursinus.edu

The dance departments very own Cathy Young recently received a Puffin Grant to live out her most recent dream of making a film to assist teachers, dancers, and the professional dancers all around the world in teaching dance pedagogy. Young explained that for the past twenty years she had been working to reach this end goal and to accomplish this task. She described this as an “exciting process” that allowed her to “connect with more dancers!” She is looking to provide a unique video that helps professors and teachers, specifically, teach jazz dance in a common way. She explained that jazz dance has no direct way to teach that is common across the board and from that she feels that at a lot of colleges and in many dance departments there aren’t many opportunities for dancers to learn jazz and fine tune their technique. She wants to rid the dance form as being preserved as an inappropriate form and make it more acceptable by everyone. Young wants to combine the history of jazz dance, the music that is used for it, and the information about its vernacular roots into one fantastic video. This idea came from all Professor Young’s time spent at Bates Dance Festival, who is also working as co-producers for the film. The material is already filmed and was filmed at a recent festival. “The footage was shot in 3-days,” Young explains. They spent two weeks preparing numerous sequences and combinations, practicing over and over again to ensure that the filming process would run smoothly. Young choreographed the material. She also acts as the producer and video editor for the video. As for the funding, that is the challenge. With the material being shot it now comes down to editing and finishing it all up. The grant she recently received will be of great help but she is still short of finally being able to accomplish and finish what Young has been working on for so many years. She explained that she is going to keep funding raising and keep applying for more grants. Young is predict-

UC Career Corner

By Career Services career@ursinus.edu

As a way to cut time and cost, many employers will begin the employment process with a phone interview. When receiving a phone call, it is completely acceptable to tell the potential employer that you will return the call at a more convenient time. Then set up a time when you are prepared. Reread your resume, formulate questions to ask, and review material on the organization to prepare. Be sure you record a professional greeting for voice mail. Don’t pick up a call during class, while in Wamser, or when you are not prepared to be in professional mode.

Confirm details. Who will call whom? What time is the phone interview? How long should you anticipate for the interview? Practice for your phone interview. Consider using Perfect Interview software found on the career services web page. This online system allows you to practice and record your interview and allows you to self-critique your interview. You can also arrange a mock interview with a Career Services staff member.


Research the employer. Most employers have excellent websites that will provide you with all the necessary information.

Once you have agreed to a phone interview, it is important to identify a private location where you can talk without disruption. Don’t take a call when there is a lot of background noise. Consider putting a “Do Not Disturb” sign on your door to avoid any unnecessary interruptions.

Consider dressing professionally. It may sound silly since the interviewer can’t see you, but you really will project a more professional image than if you were in your pajamas. Some experts say standing during a phone interview can add energy to your voice.

Be ready for the call in advance. Keep your resume, the job description, and company information close for review. Speak slowly, clearly and directly into the phone. Know your future schedule in case you are offered an in-person interview. The employer may be on speaker phone with more than one interviewer. If you have difficulty hearing the questions, do not be afraid to ask the interviewer to repeat the questions. Since you are unable to observe nonverbals cues to guide the timing of the interview, you have to be careful to not interrupt the recruiter. Answer questions as you would in a face-to-face interview. Remember to use examples to illustrate why you are the best candidate. Prepare a few questions that will show you researched the company. Don’t forget to smile! It will improve your attitude and enthusiasm. Remember the interviewer does not see you, so you will have to use your voice to show energy, professionalism and drive. Finish with a strong summary of why you would be the best candidate for the position.

Thank the interviewer(s) for their time and reaffirm your interest. Ask about next steps. And of course, follow up with a thank you letter.
Ursinus play review

By Anna Lorouche
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"One flew east, one flew west, and one flew over the cuckoo's nest." Last week audiences flocked to the Kaleidoscope Performing Arts Center as UC Theater mounted its production of Dale Wasserman's "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest," directed by Domenick Scudera.

If you haven't seen the play, the movie, or read the book, the story follows Randle P. McMurphy's (played by senior Jeff Thomas) brief stint in a mental institution and his battle against the cold and controlling Nurse Ratched (sophomore Emily Taylor), and the effects of their conflict on long-time patient Chief Bromden (senior Josh Aungst). Supporting characters were voluntary patients in the asylum—each with their own quirks—as well as the aides and nurses, and a couple of bosterous ladies.

One of the most awe-inspiring elements of the production, which was staged in the Black Box Theater, was the set. It featured double-sided seating, a creative choice on the part of the director. Members of the audience sat right up against the edges of the asylum, inches away from the action, which oftentimes escalated to violence. The walls of the set rose up to create another ceiling for the actors, as well as a nurse's station, and an escape window. The transformation of the space was breathtaking, especially for those who have seen the Black Box change again and again for every production it holds.

Jeff Thomas played the gorgeous McMurphy with natural charm, but when called upon, could explode with such rage to make even the stage shake with fright. Emily Taylor's Nurse Ratched was calculating and cruel—her subtle looks on stage were chilling, and even as a member of the audience high up in the stands, I could feel her righteous anger changing simply from a small shift in her face. Josh Aungst's Chief Bromden was one of the most compelling characters to watch, as his development from a faux-deaf and dumb doormat to an escapee of the institution was one of the only uplifting aspects of the play.

All of the other patients in the asylum offered much-needed comic relief and were all deftly played by their respective actors—one of the funniest patients was Martin (sophomore Alex Wersted), a man "troubled" by visions of non-existent people.

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One of the most memorable organic non-parts of the show was the lighting design. The stark, harsh lighting truly gave one the feeling of a mental institution. When Chief Bromden had his monologues during scene transitions, the sound and lighting changed dramatically, and then when it was over, it was a quick and jarring jerk back to reality, creating a wonderfully unexpected feeling throughout the entire show.

Then there is the "Combine." Chief Bromden's word for the oppressive forces both inside and outside of the institution. This concept is represented by chaining gears projected onto the walls of the set. This cements the mechanical echoes of the play into the audience's psyche.

All in all, this production of "Cuckoo's Nest" was well-staged, well-acted, and well-designed, and the standing ovation that the cast and crew received that night was well-deserved.

Not all sports are created equal

By Stephen Hayman
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If you look at the Ursinus College Athletics website, you won't find men's rugby listed under varsity sports. Its popularity may be gaining momentum as the team grows in numbers and skill, but in the eyes of the Ursinus administration, there are clearly more important things than a club rugby team.

Case in point: Last Saturday, the UC men's rugby team was scheduled to have a home game at 1:00pm against Bucknell. A few days before the game it was known that they could no longer use the field at Ursinus, and they needed to find a new facility.

In addition, the game was moved ahead of schedule and was set to begin at noon. The reasoning behind this was that the UC men's lacrosse team needed the field for a 1:00pm season practice. Apparently this time could not be changed.

Prior to the game against Bucknell, UC rugby was fighting for second place within the club's league. Sophomore and inside center Joseph Kestenbaum, commented on what it would have meant to play at home: "It would have been nice to play in front of our friends and family on our own campus rather than some random field."

Furthermore, these recent events have strengthened the desire of the rugby team to go varsity, and frankly they do not understand why rugby is not already recognized as a varsity sport. After all, rugby can be a violent sport filled with injuries, but without the title of an official varsity sport, the team is not allowed to have athletic trainers. However, the players claimed that they were told UC already had the limit of varsity sports.

Well, whether Ursinus Athletics likes it or not, the rugby team does represent Ursinus, and the changing of venue and time is not only disruptive to both teams, but also draws question to the legitimacy of the club.

Here's the catch: the lacrosse team didn't even use the field during that time slot. This, of course, begs the question: if it was open, why was the rugby team told they couldn't use the field?

After speaking with Laura Moliken, Director of Athletic and Head Field Hockey Coach at Ursinus, the reason given for the change was that the field was unplayable. Due to all of the recent rain, the field is still too dangerous to play on. She says that it is especially difficult to give a club team the field during the season, as she is trying to accommodate as many of the athletic teams as possible.

The UC Men's Rugby team lost to Bucknell 20-18. Despite the loss, the team is still in the running to make the playoffs. Men's rugby will be playing here at Ursinus on Saturday, Oct. 17 at 1:00pm. This will be a pivotal game in the season, and hopefully they will actually be able to use one of the facilities here on campus.

Chalking on campus brings good vibes

By Sara Hourwitz
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We live in an age of electronic communication, where email and Facebook are all standard ways to keep in touch with others. The Ursinus community relies on its students and faculty for announcements about upcoming events or meetings on campus. However, this simple method of communication is not as popular as it once was.

The creative and colorful chalk designs brighten up the college's walkways and sidewalks. Instead of just being littered with boring messages, Ursinus sidewalks are now home to colorful news graffiti, with new designs added every day.

"It would be hard not to look at these messages and drawings now be­­­­­­­­­­­­ing dates of upcoming events on the sidewalk, with new messages and drawings now being added each week until the rain washes them away."

Messages of love (like above) were written across campus this past week. The drawings acted as a final tribute to the respected President Strasser. The walkways outside of Wimer and the library seem to be the most popular locations for the chalk messages, with new messages added almost daily.

So instead of following the craze of technology and posting dates of upcoming events on Facebook or via email, let's continue to revert back to the childhood craft of communication and use the sidewalk as our soundboard.
Japan's concession signals Chinese dominance

By Kyuchul Shin
kshin@ursinus.edu

We can say with certainty that very few people saw it coming. It is truly amazing that even as recently as the early 1980's, China was a laughingstock on the world stage and a global power only in name, because in the early 2010's, China is now the newest great power. Thus it cannot be a surprise that the incumbent great power, Japan, and the new great power, China, were bound to clash.

The altercation occurred after the Japanese government arrested the captain of a Chinese fishing trawler, who may or may not have intentionally collided with two Japanese Coast Guard patrol boats. Not surprisingly China demanded the release of the captain, a formal apology, and compensation for the incident. Japan initially refused to budge, but later released the captain.

Japan's release of the captain has created a firestorm in Japan. Many believe that Japanese Prime Minister Naoto Kan had been too weak in his dealings with China, and while this event can be seen simply as a diplomatic victory for China, deep down it is more than that.

Earlier this year China had passed Japan as the number two richest nation in terms of GDP, and in a way it is only fitting that China would assert its position as the new power. This capitulation is a symbol of Tokyo's decline in power and prestige in the Far East and of its replacement by China.

It also does not help that Chinese investors have recently started to not only buy land in Japan, but also small and mid-sized Japanese companies and assets and even government bonds, fanning fears of increased Chinese influence not only abroad, but at home as well.

Most Americans probably do not care about this. Why should we care about an event that is thousands of miles away from its shores? We should care because Japan's willingness to concede to China has created a powerful precedent. It is now established that China, not Japan, is the great power in East Asia.

With that, the United States' primary ally in the region is no longer capable of asserting power when it comes to international politics. Though we are partners in international trade, in the political world China and the United States are about as friendly as the United States was with Great Britain after the American Revolutionary War.

Since the end of World War II, Japan and the United States have had a powerful political alliance. It was through Japan that the United States was able to maintain political and military influence in the region, it is now possible for the Chinese to act without a check on their actions.

As students, this faraway power shift may not mean much to us now, but as young Americans, we need to realize that it is for our future that this new world stage is being set.

Ursinus says goodbye to SATs

Sarah Ballert
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Surely you haven't thought about this in a while, but what was your SAT score? How about your ACT score? Remember the stress (and resentment) you'd feel Friday night waiting for the near four-hour torture? Some of you are thinking back four years prior to being an Ursinus student, remembering the times when a group of numbers could mean so much. But now times have changed for the Ursinus College applicant: a potential student can completely negate reporting any record of that No.2 Pencil, fill in the bubble, SAT morning.

Ursinus, beginning with the class of 2015, will no longer require standardized testing as a part of the college's application process. The Admissions Office has come to this decision after, according to Richard DiFeliciano, Vice President for Enrollment, "careful study" and approval by the Faculty Enrollment Committee. DiFeliciano notes the committee considered various factors in their decision, including that "nearly 900 colleges and universities are SAT-optional, including Ursinus' overlap institutions." Office of Admission data has also found that the rigor of high school curriculum coupled with a student's grades are the strongest indicators of potential academic success in college.

One of the more pointed findings is that, as DiFeliciano notes, "standardized test requirements significantly affect the size, quality and socio-economic diversity of a college's applicant pool." In response to this finding, DiFeliciano addressed the entire faculty at a meeting last spring with this statement: "Given Ursinus' 130-year commitment to academics and access, and the correlation between SATs and family income, this is the right thing to do."

This new policy replaces the college's previous policy regarding submission of standardized test scores. The old policy allowed for students in the top 10 percent of their high school class, as well as students with a 3.5 GPA or higher at schools which did not rank, to have the choice of whether or not to submit their scores. Now, application materials like graded papers with teacher comments are asked to be submitted as a more reliable means to gauge the ability of applicants.

Although one may expect some jealousy from current Ursinus students considering, as one junior puts it, "this was a standard that everyone had to meet," many recognize the benefits for both the college and the students applying.

Another junior notes that poor test-takers now won't have to have the rest of their abilities overshadowed by a poor test score. She recognizes that "people who have learning disabilities, like attention disorders, can't sit well through the test and they may not do as well, so it's not necessarily an accurate reflection of their abilities."

In the same vein, an Ursinus senior noted that judging students on their SAT scores may rob the college of great potential learners. He states that by this process, the college "allows more students to apply because they won't feel as self-conscious about their SAT scores, [and] then they'll be able to show off to the school how they are worthy in other ways."

Now don't you wish your potential graduate schools were LSAT, MCAT, or GRE optional?
Football remains undefeated behind quarterback

By Shane Echous
and Monty Reeder

For the first time since 2006, the Ursinus Bears football team has started 5-0 overall, 4-0 in the Centennial Conference. The Bears attribute this success to both a stingy defense, which is allowing the least points per game in the Centennial Conference (13.2 ppg), and a well-balanced offensive attack, which is rated third in the conference in both rushing and passing offense.

Defensively Ursinus has been dominant at times, posting a shutout against Juniata and holding the conference's highest scoring offensive unit in Franklin and Marshall to just 7 points. The defensive unit is stout against both the run and pass, as it is the conference's top rated unit in both rushing defense and pass efficiency defense. Individually, sophomore Chris Rountree has been turning heads, and striking fear into the minds of opposing quarterbacks as he is tied for the conference lead in interceptions with 5, a total which is also good for 5th place nationally.

Offensively, Ursinus has a well balanced attack that features the conference's top rushing yards per game, 181.9. In addition to Rountree, the offense is paced by the performance of an experienced offensive line and a receiving core that has proven to provide the big play when needed.

Another key to the early success is the leadership and play of senior quarterback and captain, Justin DeCristofaro, who was recently named centennial conference offensive player of the week for his five touchdown performance against Gettysburg College. DeCristofaro, a product of Father Judge high school in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, has undergone a substantial transformation during his time at Ursinus. The order of events for the now fifth year senior, has included time as a backup as well as an entire season spent on the sideline due to injury, leading up to where he is now, considered to be among the league's elite signal callers.

“I was lazy my freshman and sophomore year,” the star quarterback admitted. “But once I realized what I could do and what I wanted to do, I got my priorities straight. I changed my entire attitude about not just football, but life.” A large part of this change was the involvement of the Bear’s coaching staff. DeCristofaro explains, “I owe a lot to Coach Gallagher and Coach Chris,” the senior continued. “They were the ones that brought me in when I was a freshman and sophomore to make sure I was doing what I was supposed to do. They cared about me not only as a football player but as a person and that meant a lot.”

Both DeCristofaro and the team have their sights set high, a conference championship to be exact. While this is the ultimate goal, the Bears and DeCristofaro alike are refusing to look any further than their next opponent. “We made that mistake last year by looking ahead, it will not happen again,” DeCristofaro stated. The Bears can remember all too well sitting at 4-1 atop the Centennial Conference just a year ago, leading up to their meeting with the then winless Moravian Greyhounds. After a sloppy effort on Patterson field Ursinus found themselves with a loss that would hold them back from a conference title and from qualifying for the national playoffs.

The 2010 Bears have made it a point to take things “One game at a time,” as junior linebacker Greg Martell told the Grizzly during a preseason interview. Thus far the motto of one game at a time has served the team well, and as numerous players have made a point to say, they are going to stick with it.

Last week, Ursinus enjoyed their by week, and began to prepare for both their next opponent and the second half of their season. Next up on the schedule for the Bears is the reigning conference champion Johns Hopkins Blue Jays. Ursinus will host Johns Hopkins this Saturday at 1pm on Patterson field.

Gymnastics kicks off pre-season

By Allison Nichols
alinichols@ursinus.edu

The gymnastics team started its pre-season with an unintentional splash last week. After three promising practices, the gymnastics team encountered a surprise flood on the morning of Thursday, Sept. 30. The flood was due to a water fountain accidentally set off by a mat and left running all night. Head coach Jeff Schepers commented, “we had a mini flood and had to stop practice for a few days, but it will not impact our season.” The flood soaked many of the mats in the gym so they had to be dismantled to dry. The team pulled together to re-construct the mats last Sunday.

Despite the short delay in practice, the gymnasts on the team are motivated for the upcoming season. Schepers stated, “We are a few weeks ahead of schedule; we may need to tone it down.” When he says tone it down, he does not mean practice less. Schepers, the assistant coach Kristen Keane, and captain Brittany Ang and Danielle Michieli have a thorough plan to get the team ready for the competition season, which involves using practice time to its fullest.

A pre-season beginning in September and lasting through January may seem like a long time to prepare, but in reality the gymnastics season never stops. Keane explains the nature of the sport and the preparation needed, “Gymnastics is not your typical sport in that the girls are in the gym, literally, all year! So our preparation for the 2010-2011 season began in April. We started Captain’s practices Aug. 30, focusing mainly on basics and increasing strength and endurance.” Keane added, “Official preseason began Monday, Sept. 27, and now we’re focusing on upgrading some skills and routines from the previous season, as well as continuing to build strength and endurance.”

The team is working to build strength and endurance through a voluntary fitness center program, conditioning five days a week at practice and requiring each girl to pass a fitness test. Schepers wants the team to “start slow and build up their skills” this year. By approaching the season in this manner, Schepers hopes that the team will reach the ultimate goal of “traveling to nationals as a team, but if not, to take as many individuals that qualify to go.”

The gymnasts have a new advantage this year to help them reach their goal: the Tumbl Trak. The Tumbl Trak, a piece of equipment that allows the gymnasts to reach their goal: the Tumbl Trak, a piece of equipment that allows the gymnasts to

UPCOMING GAMES:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Saturday, Oct. 16, 2010</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M/W XC @ Gettysburg 11:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>WSoccer @ McDaniel 12:30 p.m.</td>
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| Field Hockey vs. William 12:00 p.m. |
| Smith 1:00 p.m. |
| Volleyball @ McDaniel 12:30 p.m. |
| Football vs. Johns Hopkins 1:00 p.m. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuesday, Oct. 19, 2010</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MSoccer @ Keen 3:00 p.m.</td>
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<th>Wednesday, Oct. 20, 2010</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WSoccer vs. Swarthmore 4:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>FHockey vs. Swarthmore 7:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Volleyball 7:00 p.m.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Volleyball vs. Rowan 11:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>WSoccer vs. Immaculata 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<th>FHockey vs. Cortland @ Washington College 7:00 p.m.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Volleyball @ McDaniel Volleyball 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stevenson 3:00 p.m.</td>
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