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The Grizzly, February 17, 2011

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Over 45 businesses visit Career Fair

By Allison Nichols

Students printed their resumes and put on their professional attire for the 10th annual Ursinus College Job, Internship and Networking Fair last Wednesday in the Floy Lewis Bakes Field House to talk to employers and make connections.

Students who attended the fair had an opportunity to visit the tables of 45 different organizations that lined up in rows across the field house. Upon arrival, students were provided a bag, a map of the tables, and a brochure that highlighted what types of positions were available from each organization and a profile of their company.

The fair was a success for students and employers alike. Colleen Avellino, the recruiter from CCRES Education and Behavior Health Services, said, “I was told by alumni that Ursinus Students would be well-prepared and well-dressed, and so far this is true.”

Part of the reason that students were so well-prepared was due to the help that Career Services provided students. In addition to sending out informational emails and putting up flyers with tips on how to dress and what to expect, Career Services was busy helping students prepare their resumes before the event. Carla Rinde, the Director of Career Services, said, “We had the Resumania program for two days from 10 A.M. to 3 P.M. We helped 75 students with their resumes, not to mention all of the students who asked for help afterward.”

In addition to helping students prepare, Career Services works all year long developing relationships with employers and inviting them to come to the fair. Over 1000 employers are invited every year. “The yield rate is tough. We do aggressively try to get organizations to come. We want wide representation of organizations to come, but there are some industries that don’t come to things like this,” said Rinde.

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Alcohol incidents on campus raise concern for administration

By Jessica Long

During the first part of the 2011 spring semester, UC has experienced an increase in alcohol-related illnesses and incidents as compared with recent academic years.

As many students are aware, this is a large problem which especially concerns first-year students, who tend to be taken to the hospital more often than students in upper classes. Campus Safety Director Kim Taylor says that although there have been other semesters that followed similar trends, this one is of particular concern just because it is a “bad start to the semester.”

First-year students have been especially likely to get alcohol poisoning. Several social hosts and upperclassmen claim that freshman arrive at parties already intoxicated. This raises the question of whether they are “pre-gaming” and how they access alcohol before they arrive at these parties. With an already high blood alcohol percentage, continuing to drink can be especially dangerous.

Kim Taylor commented on the issue, saying that “first years are trying to find their niches.” She explained that many students arrive here with absolutely no idea what they can and cannot do. She said, “That can be a major problem.”

“Alcohol” is continued to News, page 2

Dance organizations promise exciting Spring performances

By Katie Haldeman

The dance programs at Ursinus College are preparing for their Spring shows. Escape Velocity recently had their first adjudication and they have what appears to be a great line up. With about approximately ten pieces, there is a wide variety of style and performers. The dances range from tap to ballet to modern.

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International News with Lisa: WikiLeaks and murders

By Lisa Jobe
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Wednesday, Feb. 9

ASIA - Talks between North and South Korea collapsed on Wednesday, after what seemed like lessening tensions between the two countries. Both sides were originally optimistic about the talks, which were to focus on reviving attempts to reunite families separated by the Korean War. Hundreds of thousands of families were separated during the conflict, which saw the Korean peninsula divided into North and South Korea. Around 20,000 elderly South Koreans have been briefly reunited with family in the last ten years. It is not clear what caused the talks to collapse, but South Korean media reported that North Korea has refused demands to apologize for the November shelling of Yeonpyeong island, and for the sinking of the South Korean ship Cheonan. North Korea insists that it was not involved in the sinking of the Cheonan, and that it was provoked into firing on Yeonpyeong. (The Guardian Online)

Thursday, Feb. 10

STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN - On Thursday, Sweden’s justice minister Beatrice Ask called for WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange to turn himself in for questioning in a Swedish rape investigation, dismissing Assange’s legal team’s protests that Assange would not face a fair trial in Sweden. Assange is accused of raping two Swedish women, and his lawyers are arguing that the closed door trial, traditionally used for rape cases in Sweden, would represent “a flagrant denial of justice.” His lawyers also say that if Assange is extradited to Sweden, he risks being handed over to the United States. Assange and WikiLeaks have angered the U.S. by releasing secret military documents and diplomatic cables. Assange’s supporters say that the rape allegations against him are politically motivated. (Associated Press, hosted by Google.com)

Friday, Feb. 11

GENEVA, SWITZERLAND - According to Swiss police on Friday, the father of missing Swiss twins wrote in a letter to their mother that he had killed the girls, shortly before he committed suicide in Italy. The letter was postmarked Feb. 3, the day that Matthias Schepp threw himself under a train. Six year old twins Alesxia and Livia Schepp were last seen on January 30, when their father abducted them from their home in western Switzerland. The search for the girls, which has spanned Switzerland, France, and Italy and involved police organizations Interpol, has yielded no further clues as to their whereabouts. According to investigators, their father abducted them apparently in desperation over a custody dispute over the twins, stemming from Schepp’s separation from their mother. According to a Swiss newspaper, Schepp was receiving psychiatric counseling, but had not presented any signs that he could be a danger to his daughters. (Associated Press, hosted by Google.com)

"Alcohol" is continued from front page

handle and that even when one stops drinking, for a period of time afterward, the blood alcohol level continues to rise, a fact that many students fail to remember. Taylor, however, emphasized that Campus Safety--and the school in general--in no way condones the use of alcohol for minors, but they know that students will partake in “social events.”

With a high number of students going to the emergency room for dangerous alcohol related illnesses, the school is working ardently to remedy the situation.

One of the measures the school is taking is to have meetings between deans and social hosts prior to social events. This is to ensure that the hosts are making the proper precautions, which include providing alternatives to alcohol, such as food and non-alcoholic beverages. Dean of Students Debbie Nolan said in a campus-wide email that students should “not engage in heavy drinking,” such as is involved when drinking Four Loko, taking shots, and playing drinking games. She adds, “Do not leave an intoxicated person alone.”

Also, social hosts are being encouraged to make sure that students who arrive intoxicated are not given more alcohol. Taylor commented that it is the responsibility of hosts to take action when such a situation presents itself. Hosts, she said, should make sure intoxicated students do not leave alone and do not continue to drink beyond their limits.

“I really applaud the school for working hard to provide non-alcohol related events,” says CAB president Elizabeth Burns. She continued, saying that CAB is working on having two events a weekend, such as this coming weekend, which will have the Newlywed game on Friday and Build-A-Bear on Saturday.

Nolan has also started an initiative to provide more alcohol-free events. Recently, she announced by email that the school would be giving programming grants to students who would host non-alcohol related events.

"With a high number of students going to the emergency room for dangerous alcohol related illnesses, the school is working ardently to remedy the situation."

On top of CAB events and programming grants, the hours for the field house have been extended on weekends, and will be open until 2 a.m. for students, which provides an opportunity for them to have fun without the involvement of alcohol.

Most importantly, Campus Safety always prefers that people who need help receive it. “If you see someone who needs help, call us,” says Taylor. She adds that the average person can’t tell when someone has had too much to drink, and trying to determine if they are okay, or not has the potential to be dangerous. And even though this problem stems from freshmen for the most part, she says “It is a still a community concern.”
UITA to bring W. J. T. Mitchell to campus today

By Briana Brukilacchio
brbrkilacchio@ursinus.edu

New programs seem to be created at a dizzying rate here at Ursinus, some more noticeable than others. Certainly the creative "Wao" advertisement efforts at the end of last Spring added a touch of memorable quality to the unveiling of Ursinus is Talking About... (UITA) on the steps of the Berman Art Museum. At the event, played up by many CIE professors at the time, curious students redeemed slips of paper for the first free copies of The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao that were distributed on campus. Yet for all the emails, encouragement from professors, and buzz surrounding Junot Diaz's visit, many students still do not quite grasp the essence of the program.

The goal of the program is exactly as the name suggests, to select a topic each semester that encourages conversations, events, programs, classes, or anything else at Ursinus. The topic can be in nearly any form. Last semester the program's pilot selection was a novel by Junot Diaz; this semester the committee wants to hear from all areas of interest. Some students predicted that the talk would be boring and unrelatable to non-English majors. They quickly realized that Diaz operated without censorship, and with eloquence. His talk was a hybrid performance between a comedy act, a reading, and a question and answer session.

After Diaz's novel swept the campus for one semester the committee behind UITA had a new goal. "We wanted to create a model for the future," says Elizabeth Kessler, "UITA is not simply a book club, but a program that invites conversation about America." The program encourages anyone in the community to create plans relating to this exhibit and the college itself has created some as a groundwork. Today, UITA is bringing W. J. T. Mitchell, a professor of English and art history from the University of Chicago to offer his take on the photographs.

In March some of Robert Frank's films will be shown with discussions to follow.

Unfortunately this program interests Ursinus students enough to propose a topic. The committee that has selected the past two topics looks forward to sorting through student proposals and creating a list around spring break for the Ursinus community to vote on.

Some of the ideas that have already been submitted include Muas by Art Spielgeman, Lolita by Vladimir Nabokov, Water for Elephants by Sara Gruen, and Fire to Fire by Mark Doty.

The committee wants to hear from the campus community so waste no time in submitting a brief proposal concerning your topic of choice. The deadline was extended until tomorrow, Feb. 18 and can be emailed to uitaa@ursinus.edu.

Elizabeth Kessler explained her motivation behind this new campus-wide selection process, "I'm really excited to see how creative the Ursinus community can be as they consider ideas for next year. A film series or a dance performance or musical artist. There's no end to the possibilities... and the selection process is another opportunity to engage in a rich exchange of ideas."

Did you miss the job, internship, and networking fair presented by Career Services last week? It's not too late to get connected with great jobs and internships.

Log on to www.ursinus.edu/career/to check out opportunities that are waiting for you!

Lindback Distinguished Teaching Award:

For many years Ursinus has recognized faculty members for outstanding teaching by awarding the Lindback Distinguished Teaching Award. The award is given, as part of Commencement ceremonies in May, to a full-time faculty member in recognition of teaching excellence. The recipient is selected from among faculty members nominated by students, and recommended by a faculty committee comprised of previous recipients of the distinguished teaching award.

Any student may nominate one or more faculty members. Individual nominations must be submitted on separate forms to the Office of the Dean of the College by Friday, March 18, 2011.

Jones Award for Distinguished Advising and Mentoring, 2011:

The Jones award recognizes faculty members for outstanding advising and mentoring. The award will be given as part of the Commencement ceremonies in May 2011 to a full-time faculty member. The recipient will be selected from among faculty members nominated by students and recommended by a faculty committee comprised of faculty and administrators.

Any student may nominate one or more faculty members. Individual nominations must be submitted on separate forms to the Office of the Dean of the College in Corson Hall by Friday, March 18, 2011.
Urbano cheers and sings her way through senior year

By Katie Callahan
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Marisa Urbano knew Ursinus was the place she wanted to be since participating in a volleyball tournament in seventh grade because of the home-like feel she got from the college.

Urbano is a senior media and communications major from Plymouth Meeting. When Urbano isn’t hitting the books, she finds time to enjoy her sisters of volleyball and softball at Ursinus. Urbano found that she was burnt out from both sports and wanted to stick with her real passion, cheerleading. For Urbano, cheerleading has always been a big part of her life before and during her time at college.

“Cheerleading has my heart...I really [love] every aspect of it. I think it’s really fun to have a smile on your face and look out to a crowd and see them smiling back at you,” she said.

Urbano also knew that MCS was her top choice for a major before she walked into her college dorm room freshman year. Urbano said, “I really like public speaking, and I felt like it was a field that had everything I wanted to do.” She is also very interested in general communications.

When Urbano isn’t hanging out on campus she can be found in a music studio with her brother John “Great White” Urbano and music producer Will Yip. Yip has worked with artists like Lauryn Hill, T. I. and Drake.

Urbano was signed by Yip last April, but insists that her brother is the real talent to look out for. Regardless, she says, “we were in the booth every week,” last Spring. Urbano describes her music as, “a hybrid of hip-hop and singing.”

This weekend she will travel to New York City to meet up with rapper Kim Meekins to work on a track. She’s worked with other local rappers like Huey Mack and several DJs. Urbano mentioned the possibility of living in NYC this summer to work on her music career but admits, “My producer that I have right now is really nice, so I kind of want to just stay with him.”

Urbano mentioned her family has always been really supportive of her choices. “It helps that my mom and dad are so involved and that they really believe in me,” she said. “If you have one supportive person in your life you should work with that.”

With graduation just around the corner, Urbano is finding it hard to say goodbye. She is hoping to re-enroll in the fall for one final year at Ursinus to finish additional majors in both dance and theater.

“I’ve had so many great experiences at Ursinus,” said Urbano, “I feel like I have a family here...I don’t want to leave.” She also mentioned, “I’ll miss the people, the interations, the teachers, where I live, everything.”

Urbano clearly stated that she doesn’t regret any of the decisions she has made while at Ursinus and she wants others to, “Have fun, don’t stress about the little things...enjoy the time you have because there won’t be another time like this most likely.”

If singing does not pan out in the near future, Urbano hopes to pursue a career in dance or wedding planning. To check her out on YouTube, search for “Ris Boom.”

Valentine’s Day: Memories of puppies and passing out

By Katie Haldeman
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So with Valentine’s Day just past us, it seemed fitting to reflect on Valentine’s Days from the past. There were the good ones, the bad ones, and the ones that I don’t even remember.

For starters, let’s reminisce on the better ones. There was the time I got a puppy for Valentine’s Day from my boyfriend. He was the cutest little mutt of a puppy ever. I was so impressed with the presentation. We were in high school, I was sitting in 11th (last) period English when my teacher sent me to another teacher’s room, said she needed a book of some sort. And of course, me being the teacher’s pet I was, agreed and went walking down the hall.

At this point I was annoyed at my boyfriend for only surprising me with some Reese’s hearts in my locker first thing and was wondering if he was planning something really cute for after school, little did I know what was about to happen next.

I walked into my teacher’s room and heard a rustling in the corner, out runs this little puppy, tail wagging, with the cutest little ears. I was in love at first sight. Sitting on the table were a dozen roses and a card. My boyfriend didn’t forget me after all! I was so happy. My little puppy, who I named Patch, because he had a patch covering his right eye, was the apple of my eye. It was most certainly a Valentine’s Day to remember.

However, for every good thing there is always at least one bad one. And for me, there were multiple bad ones. One year, on my way to Valentine’s dinner with my crush at the time, my car had a flat tire. Another year, Valentine’s lunch was at a restaurant that specialized in meat. At that point I was feeling out my vegetarian roots, then there was the year that I had the flu. All of these sucked but none of them topped the year I passed out at my Valentine’s Day breakfast with my boyfriend and his entire family.

We were sitting at the table all eating eggs, bacon, and tater tots; the usual delicious breakfast items. I hadn’t been feeling well that week and had spent a lot of late nights finishing up papers due (yes, I did have papers due in high school...long ones at that). The stomach virus had been floating around our school and I knew I was starting to get it, but I didn’t want to leave my boyfriend’s family hanging. So I got dressed and went to breakfast.

Little did I know I was starting to get a fever, a fever that was going to end up being around 102 degrees. Well this story isn’t going to end in me getting sick at the table but it is going to end in me passing out onto my plate of food at the table. Eggs in my hair, orange juice knocked over onto my boyfriend’s cousin who was sitting next to me. That’s right folks, I passed out onto my plate on Valentine’s Day, and my boyfriend didn’t dump me! That has to go down as the worst Valentine’s Day I have ever had.

So there you go, whenever you think you have had a bad Valentine’s Day just think of when I passed out onto my plate. Eggs in my hair, orange juice knocked over onto my boyfriend’s cousin who was sitting next to me. That’s right folks, I passed out onto my plate on Valentine’s Day, and my boyfriend didn’t dump me! That has to go down as the worst Valentine’s Day I have ever had.

Word on the Street

With Katie Haldeman
kahaldeman@ursinus.edu

“What was your favorite Valentine’s Day candy?”

Alyssa Caferelli
Woodbridge, NJ
Soph. Psych/Dance

Doug Hickey
Saysre, PA
Freshman, Chemistry

Jacquelyn Berkowitz
North Brunswick, NJ
Senior, Dance

Kevin Tallon
Manahawkin, NJ
Junior, Busi & Econ

The red lollipops that have a design that you can sick onto your tongue.

Dove chocolate hearts

Sweet tarts
By Briana Brukilacchio
brbrukilacchio@ursinus.edu

It was a liability to accept her into a treatment program, and she was rejected from the professional help she so desperately needed. Renee was a total mess and there was little that anyone was willing to do for the 19-year-old whose life had been filled with such pain and abuse. A group of friends took Renee in after she was turned away from a treatment center and created their own version of rehab through love, support, religion, and entertainment. They turned to To Write Love on Her Arms.

TWLOHA approaches depression and self injury as an organization differently than other organizations and self help groups. Yet there is a great deal of power behind the message that TWLOHA expresses and that has been so widely received.

Shortly after the message and apparel started sweeping the country, chapters began to form. A group of students, led by Kait Vanderlaan, are bringing a chapter to Ursinus. Nothing is official yet because organizations must be voted on before becoming AFAC funded official clubs at UC, but the ball is definitely rolling. The group of students working to establish a chapter on campus is responsible for chalking the campus with positive messages, handing out lollipops with messages attached, and encouraging students to write love on their arms for TWLOHA day which happens in November each year.

Campus has been very supportive of TWLOHA and the group already has an advisor, community psychology professor Jennifer Gehret, as well as an executive board.

One concern that the group anticipates running into while presenting at a Town Hall meeting in the future is the similarity between TWLOHA and Active Minds, which already exists and thrives on campus. Yet the coordinator of UC chapters at TWLOHA national offices attempted to clear this up, "Active Minds is very advocacy oriented, seeking out political change and fighting stigma. TWLOHA is more community oriented, offering a safe place for students to come when they are in a dark spot, offering encouragement, reminding students there is hope and they are not alone, encouraging students to seek out help. Our chapters are also actively involved in raising funds to donate towards treatment and recovery in their own communities."

If anything, this explanation shows the value of having both chapters on one campus, which would make Ursinus one of the most comprehensive college communities focusing efforts on mental health. There is also some overlap in the students who are interested in both organizations. This shows diversity in the goals and approaches of each organization rather than sameness. Students at Ursinus are much too busy to be in two of the same club, especially to devote time to one when it is not yet officially recognized by the student body.

Something to look forward to if this group passes at a future Town Hall meeting is more music on campus. The national office of TWLOHA uses apparel to raise funds and rock concerts or coffee houses to spread awareness to their target population. The organization has been known to tour college campuses and UChapters have put on coffee houses or small concerts for the student body where speakers have a chance to share short stories and offer words of hope.

Look out for the Town Hall meeting at which TWLOHA will be presented in order to show support. If you have any questions, concerns, or wish to be added to the contact list, email kavanderlaan@ursinus.edu.

The Grizzly
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Features

"To Write Love on Her Arms" comes to Ursinus

By Briana Brukilacchio
brbrukilacchio@ursinus.edu

Internship Profile: Jordan Oliver

By Sarah Bollert of Career Services

Jordan Oliver, a senior English major and Elementary Education minor interned at Runner’s World magazine, a publication of Rodale, Inc., in Emmaus, Pennsylvania this past summer.

Oliver worked in the Editorial Department for the duration of the 10 week internship program. "Runner’s World used to be my bible when I was in high school," Oliver says, and it was always in the back of her mind to apply there for an internship.

When Oliver arrived at work she found that the magazine employees were all very athletic and embodied the fitness mantras of their magazine. "Almost everyone runs or walks or does something during their break... You could tell that they were really passionate about what they did," she says.

Oliver’s internship included a lot from her skills in time-management, writing and communication. "I did a lot of transcribing with interviews," says Oliver. She also had to practice prioritizing work, since she would often suddenly receive assignments with short deadlines. At one point Oliver conducted phone interviews with older runners in their 90s, despite being intimidated that "other people [could] overhear me making phone calls," she says.

Oliver was responsible for things like researching, fact-checking, and proofreading. She also helped out with some of the magazine’s photo-shoots, where she would run items back and forth between buildings or hold cue cards. Additionally, she says, "I learned how to use a lot of computer programs." Oliver also has a byline on one of the articles featured in the magazine’s iPad publication.

She recalls having a lot of interaction with her coworkers and feels the internship improved upon her people skills. "I think I got to know every single person that works there. That was something exceptional that I think some [interns] at the other magazines in the building couldn’t say," she says. She has also kept in touch with her advisor at the company, and offers help with anything that the magazine may need. Oliver recognizes the importance of maintaining a connection, especially since she would like to work for the same magazine in the future.

Runner’s World is going to be the first place, Oliver claims, she will apply to for a job outside of college. "It’s what I’ve always wanted to do. Four years ago, it would have been considered my dream job, and then I got [the internship] and it didn’t change at all. It was exactly what I expected – maybe even more." Oliver’s advice to students looking for internships is: "Don’t expect that you’re not going to get something. You have to be a little bit confident. It’s okay to talk yourself up... if you do have experience with what you’re doing, don’t be afraid to say so." She also advises that students "always have other options," and apply to various internship opportunities.

"Dance" is continued from front page

Theatre in the Kaleidoscope. The shows begin at 7:30 P.M.

"Expect this semester to be bigger and better than last semester; we’re in the Blackbox so our show is fully lit and produced so it will be even more exciting. We have the option of a costume budget this semester, which will continue through with the company, so the pieces will start to look more professional. There’s a nice mix of styles and moods; from tap to contemporary to hip-hop, and everything from duets to large groups. No one will leave this show disappointed," said Gogluizza.

Good things can also be said for the Ursinus College Dance Company. There will be many great things to see. For starters, UCDC has two guest choreographers, Melissa Chihsai and Marilyn and Sekou Sylla. Chihsai is bringing a new and innovated piece to the Lenfest Theatre. With 12 dancers in the piece and a fierce attitude about them, only excitement will occur. The piece pulls the dancers involved out of their comfort zones.

Senior dance major Sarah Anne Rosner said, "The piece is something different for us. This style is something that has been introduced to us here at Ursinus. It is an amazing experience and everyone is certainly going to grow from it."

The dancers are saying they are going, “balls to the wall” when they perform.

There will also be an African dance piece that will be choreographed by Marilyn and Sekyo Sylla. Last time these two came and choreographed a piece there was a huge turnout and the dancer’s loved being a part of it. The dancers intended are spending a week straight working hard to make a piece that the audience will love once again.

Other pieces showing are a new piece choreographed by Chris Aiken and the senior piece which is a collaboration of the seniors, Cathy Young, and some underclassmen.

Senior reporatory is new to the Ursinus College Dance Department. As of this semester a new class will occur each semester. The class consists of members from the senior, junior, and sophomore classes.

In the spring semester dance department seniors will challenge themselves by putting together a new work that really frames their talents, strengths, and skills. Then, in the following semester, the underclassmen who took part in this process will take over the piece and perform it in the fall UCDC show. It is a collaboration of seniors, juniors, sophomores, and Professor Young. It is something new and exciting for the department and most everyone is excited to try it out.

Make sure to look out for emails about upcoming shows and how to reserve your ticket.
Point: Like-a-little provides a fun, flirty environment

By Colin Hart
cohart@ursinus.edu

Isn't it sometimes nice when someone you've never met compliments you? LikeALittle.com provides that environment. You've probably heard of it by now, even if it hasn't completely taken over Ursinus' social culture.

For those who don't already know, Stanford graduate Evan Reas launched LikeALittle.com in October 2010. The website provides an anonymous forum for people to post short comments about their crushes, often where the person was seen, whether they're male or female, and curiously, identified by the color of their hair.

My first foray into this world of Tweet-like crush comments was maybe a day after four Ursinus students—listed on the website only as Grace, Michael, Sará and Kelly—created Ursinus' own LikeALittle page. I'm not a romantic...at all. But after sitting down to read through the list of comments, essentially all saying I don't really know you, but I'd like to, well, the word ‘moving’ is a little strong, but for lack of a better phrase, I was moved by all of these people going online to anonymously post compliments or wishes that they are either too shy, or too unwilling, to say in person.

I still am unsure whether LikeALittle illustrates the sad fact of life that so many people are unable to voice their feelings for fear of rejection or out of embarrassment, or if it is actually a beautiful portal allowing a glimpse of people's internalized thoughts and feelings, ones that never get shared or realized in the real world. The hipster artist in me wants to believe the latter. Sadly, I've heard almost entirely negative thoughts about LikeALittle: “It's creepy,” “it’s pathetic.” “I’m sick of it.” “It’s so dumb.” “It’s only freshmen.” Yes, it's a bit weird that it's just a forum where people can write short comments about other people they have a crush on. It's not a dating website; there's no way to contact one person or the other, unless you really want to send a message to the author that says “Hey, was that post about me?” There's very little purpose to it or meaning behind it.

But you know what? I think it's great. It's a giant compliment generator. Ask yourself when was the last time you complimented someone you didn't know? How often do people walk up to a random person in Myrin and say, “Oh hey, you don't know me, but I've been staring at you for an hour and you've got really nice eyes. Well...bye!” This site provides that environment without the awkwardness. As I scroll down the page I just see a series of positive comments, even if no one really knows who wrote what or who the comments are aimed at.

Sure, there have been some mean posts, but admins delete them pretty quickly. And sure, it might be a little immature; it's essentially equivalent to fourth graders passing anonymous notes to the people they like in class. But who says we can't revert back to our youth once in a while, tell people we like them and have that be enough?

So while I can’t say I love the website, I can't condemn it as long as it toes the line from sweet to creepy, but as of now the majority of the comments are along the lines of: “Hey, you're cute, but I'm too shy to ever say anything.” I see nothing wrong or weird with anonymously telling the world that you have a crush on someone.

Just a matter of days and 327 Facebook likes later, LikeALittle Ursinus College spread like wildfire. What started as a cute and sincerely innocent media quickly turned into hateful and judgmental anonymous comments on a website that was created for flirting. If this is flirting than our campus is in serious need of a lesson in love.

Life is just a series of communications between people. People walk in and out of your life and you are not always aware of the reason; regardless, they are there and no relationship should be taken advantage of. Just say something! If LikeALittle didn't quickly turn into a gross display of the lack of maturity on this campus, it would have been okay and quite endearing; however, it had many degrading and hurtful comments within an hour of its discovery. Once again college-age students involved in an interactive form of the media has been proved dangerous.

LAL is detrimental to the well-being of our campus for several obvious reasons. First and foremost, it's no secret that we go to a small school. For many students this is essentially high school number two. It's easy to figure out whom anyone is talking about if enough details are given; within the first day, before the ever-trusting filter came into effect, such details as addresses, attire, hair and eye color, and even names were given. People were specifically targeted and in a not-so-friendly way. Many people on campus were pin-pointed and personal information was given out. This is not a way to communicate with our peers; people that we go to school and live with, in a tight knit community.

LikeALittle can only lead to the next step of this harmful media. It is not a way to communicate with our peers, it is harmful and hurtful, it will not change us, and it can’t. We need to come together and realize that social media is not a form of communication.

Counterpoint: Like-a-little could be detrimental to Ursinus

By Jess Orbon
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Just a matter of days and 327 Facebook likes later, LikeALittle Ursinus College spread like wildfire. What started as a cute and sincerely innocent media quickly turned into hateful and judgmental anonymous comments on a website that was created for flirting. If this is flirting than our campus is in serious need of a lesson in love.

Life is just a series of communications between people. People walk in and out of your life and you are not always aware of the reason; regardless, they are there and no relationship should be taken advantage of. Just say something! If LikeALittle didn't quickly turn into a gross display of the lack of maturity on this campus, it would have been okay and quite endearing; however, it had many degrading and hurtful comments within an hour of its discovery. Once again college-age students involved in an interactive form of the media has been proved dangerous.

LAL is detrimental to the well-being of our campus for several obvious reasons. First and foremost, it's no secret that we go to a small school. For many students this is essentially high school number two. It's easy to figure out whom anyone is talking about if enough details are given; within the first day, before the ever-trusting filter came into effect, such details as addresses, attire, hair and eye color, and even names were given. People were specifically targeted and in a not-so-friendly way. Many people on campus were pin-pointed and personal information was given out. This is not a way to communicate with our peers; people that we go to school and live with, in a tight knit community.

LikeALittle can only lead to the next step of this harmful media. It is not a way to communicate with our peers, it is harmful and hurtful, it will not change us, and it can’t. We need to come together and realize that social media is not a form of communication.

However, that is where most of us found out about this website. It is sad to say, but we just can't be trusted. I believe that if LAL were used for what it was invented for—flirting—then it could make people happier. Who do you know that has ever reacted poorly to someone saying “Hey, you're beautiful and I'd like to get to know you better?” I can't think of many.

In the eight days since its discovery, LAL has fizzled out in a way and lost its appeal to many people on campus. What was once an exciting new way of communicating, is now a vague and almost creepy form of missed connections. I would think that 1700 intelligent people would find a way to use this website to their advantage without hurting those around them. I have been proven wrong and I would not be shocked to see LAL fade into internet oblivion and become inactive. I would undoubtedly like to see this website used to its full potential, but I'm not sure it will happen. A girl can only hope.
The best and worst Super Bowl commercials

By KyeChul Shin
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On Feb. 6, 2011, the Green Bay Packers defeated the Pittsburgh Steelers 31-25 to clinch their fourth Super Bowl title and their first since Super Bowl XXXI. It was an exciting game that all NFL fans, whether they liked the Steelers or the Packers, enjoyed. Of course, it is a well known fact that some of the 162.9 million Americans who tuned into at least part of the game are not actually football fans, but fans of the commercials. Of the 60 nationally televised commercials on FOX that day, some were very good, while others were, well, not... Here is a list of what were, in my opinion, the five best and worst commercials that aired:

1. Chrysler Eminem commercial. Wow. If you want to invoke human emotion, Chrysler did a heck of a job doing that. Chrysler did an excellent job riling up emotions in this commercial. Using Eminem in a pitch to fight for his home town was a beautiful idea and the “Imported from Detroit” line was simply a killer. This was a powerful commercial that showed that no matter what Americans go through, we will keep fighting. A two minute commercial is always a gamble, but this one had my attention from the first second to the 120th.

2. Dodge Best Buy commercial. The first commercial involved turns on the car was absolutely priceless! The first commercial involved turns on the car was absolutely priceless! The moment this commercial ended I knew it would draw a considerable backlash. I have a strong feeling that making light of the plight of a whole people is not going to endear a company to a lot of people. Hopefully future commercials keep that in mind.

3. Doritos Office commercial. This commercial was funny; there is no doubt about it. However, it simply freaked me out. Having a guy lick another guy’s fingers and smell another guy’s pants simply because they had leftover Doritos on them was just plain weird.

4. AT&T iPhone commercial. We need to be honest here. Almost everyone knows what an iPhone is. Showing that the iPhone is now capable of allowing a person to talk and use the internet at the same time probably will not convince most people to buy it. It seems to me AT&T simply wasted over two million dollars.

5. Justin Bieber & Ozzy Osbourne Best Buy commercial. I am not a fan of Justin Bieber. However, he definitely deserves a couple of points for having the guts to make fun of himself. Overall, it was a funny commercial, with the clueless Ozzy missing things up and Bieber taking his place.

The Five Best:

1. Groupon.com Tibet commercial. The moment this commercial ended I knew it would draw a considerable backlash. I have a strong feeling that making light of the plight of a whole people is not going to endear a company to a lot of people. Hopefully future commercials keep that in mind.

2. Hyundai Elantra commercial. Talk about hurting my eyes. The narrator’s attempt to hypnotize me with swirling curved human brains, gas stations, and faceless mouths and eyes made me lose my focus. I basically got nothing out of this commercial except a headache.

3. The two Coca Cola commercials. If anybody has consistently created awesome Super Bowl commercials across the years, it is Coca Cola. The first commercial involved a neat computer animation of orcs preparing to siege a city. A great battle is avoided thanks to the dragon drinking Coca Cola and spewing fireworks on the orc army. The second commercial of the two guards patrolling opposite sides of the border, who were willing to put aside their differences, really had a strong human touch to it.

4. Bridgestone “Carma” commercial. If anything, this was a feel-good commercial. It was priceless to watch that beautiful elephant lift its arms in horror and breathe a sigh of relief. It was nice to see how in our modern, hustle and bustle world, doing a small good can come back to save us.

5. The Five Worst:

1. Chatter.com commercials. I loved the use of animation and it was fun to watch a donkey and elephant fall in love, as well as an animated will.i.am. However, watching these two commercials, I was not actually sure what Chatter.com is. The slogan “doing impossible things as a team” is nice, but how were you supposed to do it?

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Snow and ice cause problems in Ursinus parking lots

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We’ve been bombarded with more than our fair share of snow and ice this winter, and it has greatly impacted the ability of students to travel off campus.

With the recent snow and ice storms, the parking lots have become slick and slippery, making it hard for students and faculty to drive through the lots to find parking spaces. With all the snow and ice, the Facilities staff had to work around the clock to try and clear campus lots. The Facilities Services and Ground Department did a very thorough job cleaning both the West Lot and the Wissler Lot. In order to plow the lot, the Facilities staff sent out an email to students to encourage them to move their cars so that the plows could do a more complete clearing of the snow.

Although the West Lot and Wissler Lot are easily drivable after snow storms, the parking lot behind New Dorm and Richter-North does not receive the same attention. After a snowfall or ice storm, the lot remains covered in both snow and ice. Sophomore Dan Strouse, a resident of New Dorm, explains that his “car was still sliding around the parking lot a week after the snow stopped.” Many students wish that the lot behind New and Richter-North was given more attention by the Facilities staff. However, according to the Service Response Coordinator of campus’s Facilities Service Department, Liz Robb, because New is a stone lot, “we cannot scrape down to the stones, and the plows will push all the stones away with the snow.” With all the stones gone, once the snow melts, the lot will be full of mud.

It is understandable that not much can be done to clear the lot because it is covered in gravel. Still, the snow does inhibit students from commuting to the places they need to go. For instance, Junior Sam Simpson, a resident of New Dorm, works in a hospital about a half hour away from Ursinus. After the snow storm, Simpson says she was forced to “call out of work two days because the ice was not plowed yet by the time I had to leave for work.” Because the parking lot prevents students from getting to work and other appointments, perhaps the school can consider pave the lot during the summer. If the school decided to pave the lot, students would have less difficulty driving their cars in the lot when it snows, and Facilities would have a much easier clean-up.

One way to help ameliorate the build-up of snow and ice would be to have plows treat the lots with a sufficient amount of sand and salt. Even having someone sprinkle salt between parking spaces might help break up the ice blocks that form, so students will struggle less when attempting to back out of their spaces. Furthermore, perhaps Facilities could offer more help to students whose cars are stuck. Ms. Robb does explain that Facilities cannot help every student dig out his or her car because there are so many aspects of the campus that must be taken care of as well. In addition, she stresses that the students are responsible for digging out their own cars and that “it is part of the privilege of parking on campus.” Students do need to understand that there is a lot of responsibility for parking on campus. At the same time, students can only do so much when their cars are stuck in lots that are not able to be plowed. Perhaps students in this predicament can prevail upon the Facilities Services to work with them to find a mutually agreeable solution.
UC Baseball looks to bounce back in season

By Shone Echus
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For the Ursinus Bears Baseball team, 2011 will be a year focused on doing away with the sub .500 winning percentage performance of a year ago.

Last season Ursinus finished an uncharacteristic 16-19-1, including a frustrating 6-12 record in the centennial conference, records seemingly unimaginable when compared against previous seasons under head coach Brian Thomas. “Our main focus this year is just growing on last year,” said junior second baseman Lou Argentine. “We had a really young lineup and pitching rotation who all gained a lot of experience last year and are looking to build on it this year.”

Growth seems to be a trendy word regarding the young Ursinus Bears pitching staff in 2011, as co-captain Nate Schnell echoed in his interview with The Grizzly. “The outlook for this season is basically that we will go as far as our pitching staff will take us because we can match up offensively and defensively with anyone.” He continued, “I think the pitching staff will surprise people this year...All of the pitchers got a taste of what college baseball is like and were forced to mature quickly.”

Schnell, a junior, who will be participating in only his second college baseball season, thanks to a severe elbow injury, which brought about Tommy John Surgery, will be welcomed back to the rotation with open arms by Coach Thomas. During his freshman campaign Schnell earned a great deal of innings and experience that should help in his return to the game. He will likely be joined in the starting rotation by junior southpaw Steve Christakos, and sophomores A.J. Wright and Jake Kohler, while sophomore Ryan Furlong and junior Ben Colburn will look to eat up innings coming out of the bullpen. Rich Guthridge, in addition to his duties at first base, should fit into the team’s role as closer.

The Bears infield will welcome back starters at all four positions. Senior Rob Vogt, who finished last season with a .392 batting average, will once again start at third base. Last season Vogt lead the Bears in multiple offensive categories including batting average, hits, runs, total bases, runs batted in, and slugging percentage. The middle infield tandem of junior shortstop Brandon Sullivan and Argentine look to build upon their defensive chemistry, which began during last year’s campaign, as the two started more than twenty games alongside one another, at the always crucial defensive locations.

“I think we have completely jelled as a middle infield combo. We’ve developed some nice chemistry and have really become comfortable with each other out there,” said Argentine. Rounding out the returning starters in the Bears infield will be junior Rich Guthridge, Guthridge, a local product who played his high school ball at nearby Spring Ford, started 35 games for Ursinus in 2010, the most of any player on the roster (along with Sullivan).

In the outfield Ursinus will rely on a depth of talent, headlined by junior Ben Gresh. “Ben is one of the best outfielders in the league,” Schnell said. Last season, as a sophomore only 5 months removed from ACL reconstruction, Gresh hit a solid .360 in his 32 starts. In 2011, now fully recovered, expect a monster year from the Pottsgrove product, as Gresh is certainly a 5-tool player and a burgeoning star in the centennial conference.

“We are a really close group off the field this year. There is something about this team that I can’t really put my finger on but it feels a lot like it did two years ago when we won the regular season conference championship,” explained Vogt, one of two seniors on the 2011 Bears roster. Vogt’s assessment will begin to unfold in less than three weeks, when the Bears open their season in Fort Pierce, Florida during the team’s annual spring training trip. The home opener for Ursinus will be on March 16th against Widener.

Men’s Lacrosse is young, deep, and hungry

By Nick Pane
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One of the key components to having a successful team is being able to rotate multiple bodies into game situations, and expecting results regardless of who is playing. Depth is an incredibly crucial component, because it allows fresh and able bodies to consistently cycle into a game and produce. For the Men’s Lacrosse team, they expect their depth to be a strength for this upcoming season.

The Bears look to build off of last season’s 8-5 campaign, although the season ended poorly as the team dropped their last four contests. Head Coach Jamie Steele feels that the team is well-prepared and is focused on the 2011 season. “I feel that this team has worked harder than almost any team I’ve ever been around, both in the weight room and conditioning wise,” says Steele, “In order for us to be good, we have to compete and execute on top of the hard work, but we’re in much better shape as far as the depth goes, and as far as just as our fitness level is concerned.” The vote of confidence from Steele certainly bodes well for a squad that is much younger. We have 16 fresh- men on the team, and a lot of them will have the opportunity to see the field. It could take some time for the team to gel and learn how to play together, but it also means that the same group of players will have the opportunity to play for a long time. Being a young team, leadership from the upper classmen will be crucial.

The team has four captains, Senior Defender Logan Duff, Senior Midfielders Pat Gillen and Matt Angle, and Junior Attacker Dave Kraus. However, Coach Steele likes putting multiple players into a leadership role so that the captains do not have to shoulder the entire load. “We have a leadership committee as well as captains,” says Steele, “It has two guys from each class on it. Most of the decisions we make, when it comes to our program, are made with input from everyone.” Such a system allows for the team to be heard on all of the decision-making, which assures that all voices are heard. This does not take anything away from the captains, however, as the team votes on captains, a process that requires the candidates to have the respect of their teammates.

Steele hopes that the players maintain their focus and understand what it means to play for the program as the season creeps closer. “I hope that every kid leaves here thinking that he was the best lacrosse player, teammate and student that he could be,” says Steele, “and we as coaches push them to be those things.” The Men’s Lacrosse team will put their hard work, and somewhat lack of experience, to the test when the season kicks off in just two weeks.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Feb. 18:
Swimming
Centennial Championships
9:00 A.M. @ Gettysburg

Feb. 19:
Women’s Basketball
2:00 P.M. vs. Muhlenberg

Men’s Basketball
4:00 P.M. @ Muhlenberg

Feb. 20:
Women’s Gymnastics
2:00 P.M. @ Towson

Good luck at conferences to the UC swimteam!