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## The Grizzly, February 24, 2011

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# The Grizzly

The student newspaper of Ursinus College

Collegeville, Pennsylvania

Thursday, February 24, 2011

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## Greek Recruitment Week underway

By Brett Cohen  
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The campus stayed abuzz with activity this week as the first annual Greek Recruitment Week took off with the Inter-Greek Council recruitment fair on Sunday, Feb. 20. First changed this year, the official "rush" period in which potential Greek members show definitive interest in a sorority or fraternity of their choice now only occurs during one's sophomore, junior, or senior year as opposed to the second semester of one's freshman year. Therefore, the recruitment period developed in which all the Greek organizations can promote their groups more informally while prospective members can check out everything that all of the groups have to offer. Senior Erik Derr, a member of fraternity Phi Delta Kappa, said, "Hopefully people can come out this week and get an idea of which organizations they would like to rush in the fall."

Derr also added that the In-

ter-Greek Council, the decision-making board of elected Greek members, designed the activities during Recruitment Week in the hopes that interested prospective members make impressions upon the various Greek organizations in order to ascertain which one is the best fit for them.

Sophomore Ryan Feeney, a member of sorority Phi Alpha Psi, believes that Recruitment Week is a great way for students to learn the nooks and crannies of each organization. She said, "Greek life is a really good opportunity at Ursinus and we really encourage students to come out and learn about all of the different activities." The Inter-Greek Council along with representatives from Ursinus' seven fraternities, and



Jill Yurick, Steph Donatone, and Lauren Goldstein hang out at the Tau Sigma Gamma table during Sunday's Greek Fair held in the Field House. The fair was the kick-off event to Recruitment Week. Photo by Allie Manning

five sororities, hosted a student panel on Monday to help answer any questions about the recruitment and rushing processes. Feeney added, "Every organization had a different location for the activities from Tuesday through

Thursday," where prospective members could learn about the various traditions of the organizations, or just hang out with the "Recruitment" is continued to News, page 2

## Collegiate Learning Assessment for graduating students

By Chris Capone  
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Starting next Monday, Ursinus College will be sponsoring the "College Learning Assessment" (CLA), which is offered every year to the graduating class. The data the test collects is extremely valuable to the school and prospective students. While it may be unrealistic to expect every senior to attend this test, it is the committee's hope that the majority of seniors will answer their call for volunteers.

The College Learning Assessment that will be taking place Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of next week is very important to Ursinus College's reputation. Most importantly, this test provides the Federal

Accrediting Agencies with proof that Ursinus College students are achieving the education that the administration believes it is providing. Thus, it provides both these agencies, and the U.C. administration, with an indication of how the school's learning programs are doing.

For years, Ursinus College has remained on the upper-end of the results of the testing. However, to achieve this, the Outcome Assessment Committee (which sponsors the testing) needs to meet a required number of seniors for the testing to be legitimate. Even more to the point, the committee is asking

"CLA" is continued to Features, page 5

## Kwesi Koomson talks about Heritage Academy in Ghana

By Allison Nichols  
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Kwesi Koomson, born and raised in Ghana, shared his story of creating two of the most successful schools in Ghana, last Monday in Pfahler Auditorium.

In 2004, Koomson and his wife founded Heritage Academy, a school in Ghana with a revolutionary way of teaching.

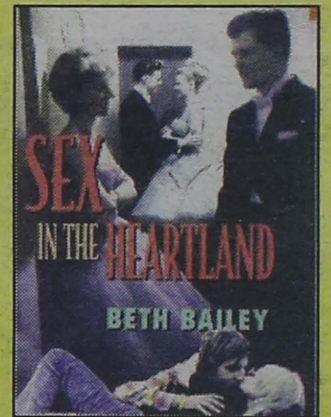
Koomson's inspiration for creating Heritage Academy came from his desire to improve the quality of life for the next generation of kids. Many of his schoolmates are still in Ghana, doing work like selling firewood and making about 300 dollars a year. "I spend more than that on Chinese food and pizza," joked Koomson.

Koomson is more financially stable than many of his schoolmates because he was one of the lucky few that could get into and find a way to pay for college. In 1993 he attended Franklin and Marshall College on a scholarship. He then became a teacher at a boarding school in the U.S. and went on to get his masters in mathematics at Villanova University.

Heritage Academy had a humble beginning in a church, but grew rapidly. The original plan was to select 24 kids in 7<sup>th</sup> grade and to help them pass national exams. Over 100 kids showed up seeking admittance, and 32

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# International News with Lisa: Allegations and protests

By Lisa Jobe

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protects him from prosecution. However, Pakistan is arguing that Davis was not serving as a diplomat when the murder occurred, and therefore is not immune to prosecution. Davis has said that the two victims were trying to rob him, but investigators are saying that Davis was not acting in self-defense. (CBS News Website)

Tuesday, Feb. 15

**MILAN, ITALY** – On Tuesday a judge ordered Italy's Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi to stand trial over charges of paying an underage girl for sex and abuse of office. The trial is set to start on Apr. 6, and Berlusconi will not be obliged to appear in person before the panel of three judges, and there are no legal provisions that will prevent him from continuing to hold office during the trial. The maximum sentence for underage prostitution is three years in prison, and the maximum sentence for abuse of office is 12 years; however, it could take years before any convictions. Regardless, the decision is the biggest political blow to Berlusconi, who is facing growing opposition from

the public and Parliament. The case is centered around Karima el Mahroug, a Moroccan nightclub dancer. Berlusconi supposedly paid her for sex before she was 18, and used his influence to release her from police custody after she was held on theft charges. Berlusconi denies doing anything illegal. (Reuters, hosted on NewsDaily.com)

Thursday, Feb. 17

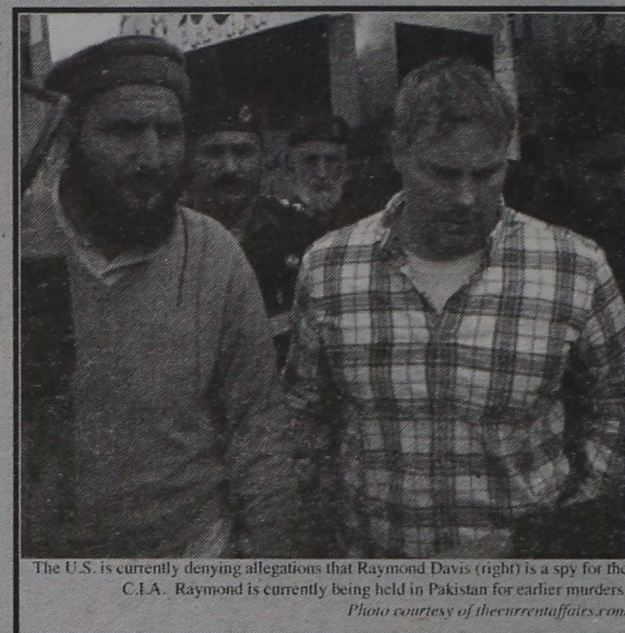
**MANAMA, BAHRAIN** – Four people are dead and over 225 are injured after a pre-dawn raid on protesters' encampments by government forces in Bahrain. By Thursday afternoon, people were praying and protesting outside of a hospital where the injured were being treated. Army vehicles patrolled Pearl roundabout, a landmark circle in the capital city of Manama, where protesters had gathered earlier. The small island nation is the latest Middle Eastern country to experience political unrest, after demonstrations in Tunisia and Egypt successfully toppled autocratic rulers. Bahrain has been ruled since 1971 by King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

The government's use of force to halt the Bahrain protests has drawn criticism both at home and abroad. Bahrain is a crucial U.S. ally that harbors U.S. ships, including two aircraft carriers. (CNN Online)

Friday, Feb. 18

**JAPAN** – Japan has called

for Australia, New Zealand, and the Netherlands to take action against anti-whaling group Sea Shepherd, which uses ports in these countries. On Friday, Japan cut short its annual whaling hunt in the Antarctic short, citing "harassment" by environmental activist groups. Although commercial whaling was banned internationally in 1986, Japan still hunts whales under a loophole that allows whaling for scientific research. Iceland and Norway



The U.S. is currently denying allegations that Raymond Davis (right) is a spy for the C.I.A. Raymond is currently being held in Pakistan for earlier murders. Photo courtesy of thecurrentaffairs.com

have called for the repeal of the ban and continue to hunt whales commercially. Sea Shepherd founder Paul Watson called Japan's early end of its whaling activities "great news," but also said that he and his group would tail the Japanese fleet until it was out of the whaling zone. Many Japanese do not eat whale regularly, but object to what they perceive as unjustified foreign intervention in a cultural tradition. (BBC News Online)

Tuesday, Feb. 15

**ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN** – Pakistan is torn on the issue of whether or not to hand over U.S. official Raymond Davis, who is accused of murdering two young Pakistani men in January. According to a security official, the Pakistani government received a message from the Taliban, promising that the Taliban will "seek revenge" if the government hands Davis over to U.S. authorities. According to the U.S., Davis is a diplomat with immunity that

"Recruitment" is continued from front page

current Greek members.

On Tuesday, all of the Greek organizations hosted traditions night, where prospective members learned about the unique traditions of each group. On Wednesday, students hung out with the Greek organizations clad in clothes from various decades of the past, while today, Thursday, students can watch movies with current Greek members. On

Saturday, the whole campus is invited to participate in a classy "Casino Night" in the Lower Wismer Center with all of the Greek organizations on campus. Students should "dress to impress" in semi-formal attire.

Many students, particularly freshmen, have taken advantage of the events this week to increase their knowledge of the various Greek organizations, as well as to figure out if Greek life is really for them. Freshman Joy McDermott, unsure right now as to whether she will fully partake in

Greek life, said that Recruitment Week "was helpful because they had all these different events and [she] liked being able to see all of the differences between the organizations." McDermott attended multiple events including Phi Alpha Psi's 60's night with tie-dyeing and movies in Keigwin Hall.

The formal rushing period will occur in the fall during the next academic next year in which, according to Derr, "potential members should have the immediate goal in mind of deciding to possibly join a Greek organization." Not only should prospective students learn about the traditions and backgrounds of each organization, they should also learn about the requirements and academic prerequisites for the upcoming rushing period.

All in all, Recruitment Week allowed for a general education of those interested in Greek life on Ursinus' campus, as well as permitting prospective members to mingle with Greek representatives. And as can be expected, both Recruitment Week and the official rushing period are dry, with its focus on the education of prospective members and a promotion of each Greek organization on campus.



Greek Life representatives answer questions about sorority and fraternity life on campus in Pfahler Auditorium. Photo by Bree Gaddy

## The Grizzly

The student newspaper of Ursinus College

Volume 35, Issue 17

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# Sexy talk with a twist of love and revolution

By Hillary Anderson  
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When contemplating how to spend one's Wednesday evening, amidst the testing and due dates of the one-third mark of the semester, attending a talk on history does not seem as though it should have been at the top of anyone's list. However, Beth Bailey's "Love, Sex, and Revolution" drew a notable crowd into Pfahler's auditorium, and her talk left no one with regret for attending.

The Temple University professor centered her address with the comparisons of pre-revolution and post-revolution facts and stories.

The most intriguing tale she had to tell, however, may have been that of a time during the revolution, involving college students Linda LeClair and Peter

Behr. The two attended Barnard College and Columbia University, respectively, and were secretly living together in an apartment between the two campuses.

At a certain point, a reporter in the area decided to do a story on the new, secret lives of the next generation and their lack of adherence to the men-and-women cultural expectations of the past. Linda took on a pseudonym and was interviewed for the article willingly.

The small write-up that was buried in the middle of an unimportant section in the newspaper for which it was written received more media attention in the following months than anyone could have expected. Linda was quickly identified and faced a great deal of ridicule and judgment from the communities in which she was a part.

Bailey noted she had taken a personal interest in this case and

shared her fascination with the period. She remembered vividly the expectations and social norms of the past, while being eager to embrace the revolutionary changes made to society as a whole.

As professor Jonathan Marks introduced her, he referred to one of her recent works in quoting, "Why can't you young people be more promiscuous?"

The reasons for our hesitations are explained, according to Bailey, by the lingering sentiments of the pre-revolutionary era or generation. She stated that, before the revolution, men and women were thought of as fundamentally different, in that men want sex and women want marriage. In the time period, Bailey shared the general mentality: "Because men want sex, women can make marriage the price for that."

This relationship meant, according to the historian, the

formation of a "sisterhood" in which all the women had to band together. There was a "sexual trust" among the female population that each female would make marriage the "price" for sex.

At the time, "agreeing to have sex outside of marriage [was] a betrayal of sisterhood. [If you did so,] you [were] putting women back into a state of sexual slavery."

Along these same lines, Bailey addressed the issue of supply and demand of sex, cuddling, etc. The mentality of the pre-revolutionary era was these things were valued according to scarcity.

To use the professor's example, if a toy is played with in the store frequently, it will most likely be worn out, faded, and retired to the back of the store or to the dumpster. No one wants to buy something that can't be new to him.

However, the revolution was

a direct rejection of these ideals. Its purpose, according to Bailey? "Remake love and reclaim sex." The mottos of many included, "Why make sex scarce? Why make it about suffering and waiting?" One should love who he or she is with and stop waiting to find the "cookie-cutter" one true love.

In the revolution, there was also an introduction of the feeling that it is acceptable for a woman to be single, and for that single woman to be having sex.

Bailey told students, in comparing the two eras and the transition between them, "The moment matters in the way we think about love." However, Bailey made sure to make it clear that how we think about the past varies from person to person. Thus, her fascination for history: "We create histories. We shape the past based on how we tell the stories of the past."

## Birthright provides unique experience

By Eva Bramesco  
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Birthright is a unique program that offers "the gift of first time, peer group, educational trips to Israel for Jewish young adults ages 18 to 26," says the organization's website. The free, 10-day trip to Israel includes visits to the Western Wall, Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, the Dead Sea, as well as interaction with Israeli students and soldiers. According to the Birthright mission statement, the purpose behind the gift is to "diminish the growing division between Israel and Jewish communities around the world; to strengthen the sense of solidarity among world Jewry; and to strengthen participants' personal Jewish identity and connection to the Jewish people."

Ursinus students Nicholas Berkowitz and Sara Sherr both took advantage of this opportunity in the winter of 2010. Nick Berkowitz talks about his initial reservations: "I went into it thinking I was going to get a lot of preachy Zionism but it was something I was willing to go through for a free trip." He says that as it turns out, there was not in fact much preaching on the trip at all. "The emphasis of the trip

was very much on Judaism as a culture and people rather than a religion."

Sherr tells a different story. Unlike Berkowitz, she did not seek out Birthright, but was encouraged to apply by her father. Sherr also reflects on what the trip meant to her religiously. She says, "Judaism means a lot to me, but I still think someone could have an incredible eye-opening and political experience while there, even if he or she didn't care about being Jewish. Israel didn't necessarily make me care more about God; it just made me care about humans." Berkowitz agrees, stating that "The trip was really about

helping you to define your own connection to Judaism. The emphasis of the trip was very much on Judaism as a culture and people rather than a religion."

Both agreed that hearing about the events in Israel and Palestine cannot be compared to actually experiencing the turbulence and danger of life there. Says Sherr, "I heard about suffering, but nothing really made it

real until I saw it." This is another aim of the program: to spread awareness and inspire motivation to become involved in peace activism in Jewish youth around the world. Students who embark on this journey report return feeling as though their world has expanded and that they are returning different than they left.

There are many different programs offered through the Taglit-Birthright organization. There are different trips on different dates offered throughout the summer as well as trips in the winter. To those who might possibly be interested in this program, but are experiencing reservations due to the possible risk taken by traveling

to this part of the world, Sherr says fear not, "We had a security guard with us the whole time and I felt safe for every single second." The essential and most important message that Berkowitz and Sherr feel needs to be shared is that everyone with the opportunity to travel should and should allow that experience to color their lives in whatever way it will.

*"Judaism means a lot to me, but I still think someone could have an incredible eye-opening and political experience while there, even if he or she didn't care about being Jewish"*

*"School" is continued from front page*

were chosen. "The church was so full, there was no room to walk," said Koomson.

Even after they moved to a larger facility, the classrooms were always full. Parents came every week asking for their child's admission, despite the fact that there were two other schools in the area. The popularity of Heritage Academy was due to their innovative philosophy and their "culture of education" as stated by Koomson. Avoiding the use of a cane was one of the biggest differences with Heritage Academy. At the first Parent Teacher Association meeting parents were wary about this policy, but Koomson insisted that he teach and discipline kids the right way. "Give us three months, if our kids are less behaved we will go to the market, buy a bunch of canes, and give them to the parents. When the kids misbehave we will write a note home and you can cane them," said Koomson.

Even more important was their high rate of success; Heritage Academy has a 100 percent pass rate for the national exams, while other schools have a zero percent pass rate. The difference comes from the students' desire to succeed. "Students line up outside of the library in the morning," said

Koomson.

The kids at Heritage Academy are taught to be active learners. They have a class called general knowledge, in which student can just talk about anything and reason and logic to solve problems.

Heritage Academy also has a pen pal program and a reading program which requires students to read for an hour every day. Both programs have been linked to higher scores on national exams.

The pride that students take in their school was shown in their first graduation ceremony which was planned by the students. "The thing was five hours long!" said Koomson.

Heritage Academy continues to grow and now consists of about 900 students, 250 of which are on a full scholarship. Even more have a partial scholarship. Their goal is to recruit kids from big cities who can pay full price, which will enable them to give more scholarships to local students who cannot pay.

Koomson's talk was sponsored by the Ursinus College Bonners, and was an educational access lecture. "There is a culture of education that goes on in schools. If you don't have a good culture you might end up wasting your whole life," Koomson said. A good educational culture is one thing Heritage Academy guarantees its students.

# The women of Whitians Honor Society make moves

By Katie Haldeman  
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Have you ever heard the females of Ursinus College talking about their desire to keep up their grades in hopes of becoming part of Whitians? Or are you a female of Ursinus College with a high GPA who wishes to be part of an organization that has high standards? The better question is: have you ever heard of Whitians?

Whitians is an organization composed of 20 female students here at Ursinus College who show outstanding academic standing and are involved in multiple activities all across campus.

The current President is senior, Alexandra Wilson and the current Vice President is senior, Alexandra Peters. Peters explains, "Whitians is the women's

honor society. Twenty girls are chosen from each graduating class at the end of their junior year." In order to become part of this organization, one must first obtain a 3.5 GPA. Once this GPA is achieved the student is notified of the fact that they meet the first qualification, which is having a high GPA. Once a student is asked to become a part of it, there is an application process. This process involves sharing personal details, including life goals, career goals, and strong personal traits. The next important part of this application process is documenting your involvement on campus. If one is able to fulfill all these requirements they are then able to become part of the organization.

Once part of Whitians, a few perks come along. At graduation, members are to wear a light pink

cord around their neck as they walk down the aisle. Also being a Whitian looks fantastic on a resume. It is impressive to future employers to see that you were part of such a select group.

This year things are changing though. There are new rules and expectations of the new members. For starters the expected GPA has been raised from a 3.25 to a 3.5. It also will become mandatory that members participate in at least five hours of community service a month.

They also want to start doing larger events and involving every member but as Peters explains, "It's tough to do really huge events because part of being chosen as a Whitian is how involved you are, therefore schedules are hard to organize and coordinate."

On top of changes in the society they are looking to change

and revamp their website. Senior Jen Bayzick is heading the new website process. "Big changes are happening, it's exciting!"

The girls of Whitians also switched advisors this semester. Dr. Lynne Edwards, professor of Media and Communications, is the new advisor. Edwards replaced Professor Czubaroff, who is also a retiring professor of Media and Communications.

With all new adjustments to Whitians the girls are hoping to be more recognized around campus as well as start to get a stronger name. "The goal is to be taken more seriously and to let people

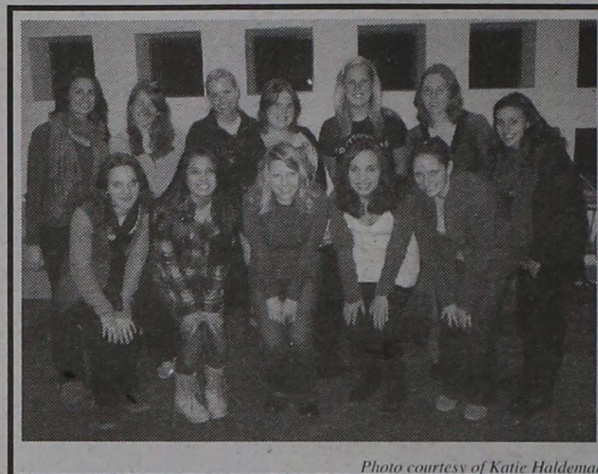


Photo courtesy of Katie Haldeman

know what Whitians is. We are looking for more respect. It is the only all female honor society, Cub and Key is the men's honor society, who has similar requirements," Peters said, with Bayzick agreeing. It is looking like the ladies of Whitians are starting to live up to the name they had once tried for and are accomplishing many things in the process.

# WeCan attempts to bring change to UC Dining Services

By Tracie Johnson  
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"Kick out Sodexo!" This is the mission of student's all across the country, and abroad, trying to put an end to the company's alleged history in mistreating their workers, implementing rather suspicious business deals, and providing less than eco-friendly food products. Sodexo is a multinational corporation that provides food services and facilities management. Like many other colleges and universities, Ursinus is under contract with Sodexo. But after many complaints, disturbing revelations and observations,

Ursinus students are joining the fight to "Kick out Sodexo!"

If you haven't been filled in with all of the buzz surrounding Sodexo you are probably wondering, why kick out Sodexo? The USAS, United Students Against Sweatshops, a student organization comprised of college students all across the country, states that "for too long, our universities have awarded multi-million dollar contracts to Sodexo, while this giant multinational food service corporation flagrantly violates the most basic rights of workers on our campuses and drives up costs for students and universities just to raise their own profits." Representatives of USAS contacted students on campus citing complaints in Wismer about the way

workers were being treated.

Members of WeCan, a student run organization dedicated to promoting and raising awareness about social justice and human rights issues here at Ursinus, has begun to take action regarding the information received. USAS members has come to meet with We Can giving insight on how previous revolutions successfully panned out on other college campuses regarding Sodexo's wrongdoings. Thus far, We Can members have done a demonstration in Wismer where a letter was served to Interim President John E.F. Corson. The letter was additionally addressed to President Elect Dr. Bobby Fong. Nick Silcox, President of We Can, says they are hoping to receive a re-

sponse to the letter by Feb. 30, 2011.

Varying in severity, Silcox says there are many complaints he has received about the violations of workers' rights. There were complaints about the low pay of workers, prohibition of bathroom privileges, threats against unionizing, excessive firing, etc. Silcox says students can rest assured that We Can has taken into account the consequences that may negatively affect the workers as result of the protest. "We have taken into account that people [workers] are at risk of losing their jobs and we've made it a part of our demands [in the letter] that if Sodexo were to be removed or if something were to happen, that the people who are in

place do not lose their jobs," said Silcox. He continued, informing us that We Can has looked at other options, taking everything into account. The process and progress has been four weeks in the making prior to now. Silcox adds that We Can was prepared to make the moves they have made and is currently working on their next step which may possibly be a protest.

In next week's article you can look forward to more information regarding the case of Sodexo vs. Ursinus Students. We will be hearing from an actual Sodexo representative in response to the backlash they're receiving. To receive hear more about We Can's efforts, contact Nick Silcox.

## Word on the Street

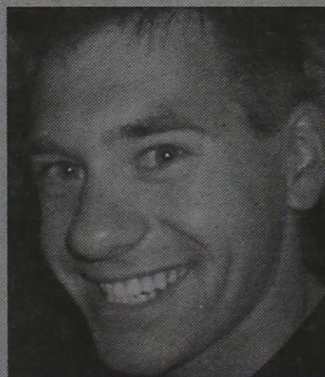
with Jessica Orbon  
jeorbon@ursinus.edu

"What's the first thing on your bucket list?"



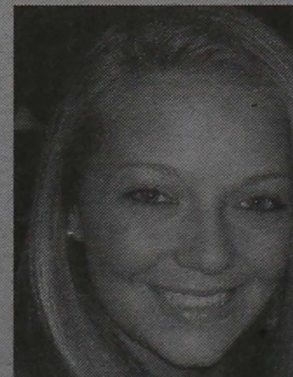
**Catherine Bitterly**  
Sophomore  
Media & Communications

"I've always wanted to go skydiving."



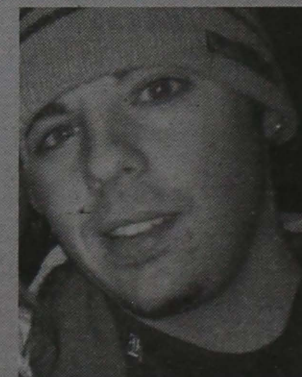
**Zachary Schieb**  
Freshman  
Psychology

"To travel to the Amazon Rain Forest."



**Rebekah Borio**  
Senior  
Politics

"I would love to see the Northern Lights."



**Sean Grimes**  
Junior  
Neuroscience

"To live in Russia"

# Relay For Life recruits for a strong turn-out

By Jessica Orbon  
jeorbon@ursinus.edu

On Apr. 16 of this year, the Ursinus campus will come together for one of our biggest events of the year; Relay For Life has become a school wide effort and those involved have gone above and beyond for a great cause.

It all began in the fall of this year when Relay had its kickoff event in Lower Wismer. This year's theme is centered on Disney movie characters and is titled "Wish Upon A Cure." It was a red carpet event to jump start campus enthusiasm about Relay For Life and the American Cancer Society's involvement in the event as a nation-wide entity. There were laptops set up for students to register teams of at least eight members, and information was available for anyone who had questions. Decorations covered the walls in order to draw attention to the event and let campus know how important it really is.

Although our extremely dedicated Relay For Life committee members are still in the planning stage of the process, their goals have already been set. They have a \$46,000 monetary goal and a student involvement goal of 57 teams. Several teams have gotten a head start on raising money and encouraging their friends and fellow students to get involved.

One major event change for the 2011 Relay will be location. For those that were involved in Relay For Life last year know that cold weather was a key factor in enthusiasm and participation in an event that is a symbolic and rewarding experience. Those who were part of a team couldn't bear the cold conditions and had to leave during the night. This year the event will be held indoors in the Field House. It will be easier to participate and to reflect on what this event means to so many people on our campus who have family members and loved ones who have battled with cancer or continue to fight.

Mission Fight Back Chair,

Kristen Mareno expressed her excitement about this year's event: "Relay has been one of my favorite experiences thus far at UC. The whole campus comes together and it's amazing to see."

It is evident that Ursinus students are passionate about the community service and fundraising events they participate in and find common ground when it comes to making a difference in someone's life.

This year our Relay For Life committee is anticipating a variety of activities to be present at the event. There is talk of having a moon bounce, sumo wrestling and musical performances.

For many students, Relay for Life is an extremely emotional experience that brings people closer together. Advocacy Chair for Relay For Life at Ursinus, Gabri-

ella Pinho, shared a very personal story and her reason for participating in this event: "I think it's

really important to get involved with American Cancer Society events because I lost my aunt to cancer. She was a huge part of my life and when I work with Relay I feel like I'm giving back to her and supporting her cause. It makes things personal."

Ceremonies take place throughout the event, which symbolize different aspects of the Relay process such as promoting issues such as awareness and commemorating those who have been lost to cancer. The most emotional of these ceremonies is the Lumanaria Ceremony. This is where you donate money to one of the designated registration booths that will be set up and you receive a white paper bag with a

sticker on it. Students can write the name of someone they have lost, a survivor, or someone who continues to battle cancer on the sticker. A candle is placed in each bag and they are lined up along the track. There is a lighting ceremony set to music that is one of the most touching parts of the night. There is also a Survivor Lap where people who have successfully battled cancer parade around the track while holding a banner.

Look out for "The Official Sponsor of Birthdays," the newest activity called "The Purple Glove Dance" which will be featured in a promotional video this spring semester at the event. Members of the committee will be wearing purple gloves donated by the chemistry department in special places around campus to encourage student involvement. Visit relayforlife.org/paursinus for more information on how to register your team and get started supporting millions of people nationwide.



Women's Basketball at last year's Relay. Photo courtesy of Lindsay Tueber

## Internship Profile: Chris Michael

By Sarah Bollert of Career Services

Chris Michael, a senior English and History double major, interned at Ridley Creek State Park in Media, Pennsylvania this past summer as a historical researcher.

Michael spent his time researching and following leads on the park's history. He conducted his search through the internet with resources like Google books, or used primary sources owned by the park. He also travelled to places in the state like the UPENN library, Laurel Hill Cemetery, or the Historical Society of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, to gather information.

Michael worked to uncover the overlooked story of the of the Jeffords family, who built the "Hunting Hill" mansion, the building which now serves as the park office, on the estate in 1914, and had ownership of the property until it was purchased in the 1960s by the state.

One intimidating factor of the internship was that Michael's work was so independent and self-driven. Michael says that he "didn't really have a lot of guidance," but at the same time,

he liked being able to "pick and choose the aspects [he] wanted to focus on." In fact, Michael's research on the Jeffords lead him to some unexpected medieval connections in their family history, something that he wishes to further explore and present his findings on for the upcoming COSA presentations.

At the end of the internship, Michael created a portfolio of his findings for the park. He organized his research with sections like "Newspapers," for example, and wrote synopses on the documents. He also took photocopies, digital copies, and CDs of his collected research materials, along with photos he had taken of the park, to provide an organized center point with the context for understanding the Jeffords family and Ridley Creek's history.

Michael definitely exercised his skills in researching, but he also called upon his talents in writing and organizing while piecing together the portfolio. He had to be persistent in his research methods and sources, be-

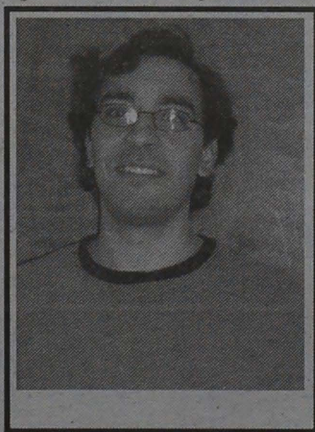
cause there were "tons of dead ends." Michael had to "get creative in the places [he] went," and often reassess how to approach his search in a different way.

Michael plans to work in public history or archival studies. He says, "This internship was really

one of the reasons why I realized I wanted to go into working in [these fields]." Before the internship Michael was only a minor in History, but he says, "This really made me realize my passion for history and working for public history..."

that's one of the main reasons why I decided to bump up my minor to a major and go onto grad school [for this field]."

Michael "basically created" his internship along with the park manager and the volunteers at Ridley Creek. "If there's [an internship] that you really want to do, don't be afraid to ask and see if you can create your own thing if there isn't an internship already available for it," Michael says. He notes that "the worst [you can hear] is no."



"CLA" is continued from front page

that any senior that signs up to take the test seriously. This is a measure of how effective professors were at providing the graduating class with a sound education. Without a large turnout, the faculty who spend a good deal of time trying to help students through classes would be let down, and in turn, would be a detriment to the value of our degrees post-graduation.

The CLA will be administered at the beginning of next week. The dates are Monday, Feb. 28, Tuesday, March 1, and Wednesday, March 2. This year's goal for the Outcome Assessment Committee is to have at least 154 senior students take the exam. This exam begins at 6:45 in Pfahler Auditorium. The test will be a measure of critical thinking, the ability to make/break arguments, and how to deal with information and informed recommendations. There will also be a small math portion. For those who do not enjoy this sort of testing, please do not let this dissuade you. The test is only 90 minutes long, yet a majority, if not all of the students, will be

done within an hour.

Of course, there are also incentives for participation. Each student that signs up and attends will be awarded a \$10 Wawa Gift Card (isn't that *sweet*). In addition, there will be a random drawing for five other gift cards, which range from \$25-\$100 and are to various dining locations in the area. Just remember, you must sign up and show up to receive your prizes. In addition, please bring your Laptop, a data cable, calculator and Student I.D. Card.

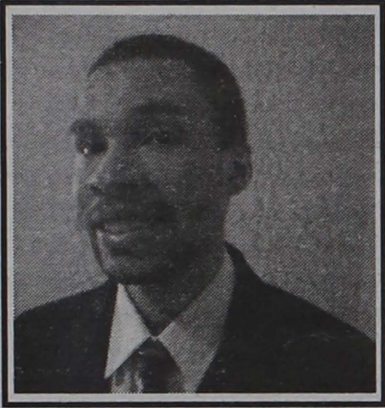
It cannot be stressed enough in regards to the importance this exam is to Ursinus College's reputation. Achieving the minimum number of students is necessary to ensure that degrees are not simply handed to students. If you have any questions, feel free to email Randy Davidson, or myself, Chris Capone, to get more information on the College Learning Assessment.

I urge every Senior to attend either Monday, Feb. 28, Tuesday March 1, or Wednesday March 2. After all, what is better than receiving free Wawa, and a chance to improve your school's reputation as you prepare for life after Ursinus College?

Do you want to write for our features section? Contact Katie Haldeman at kahaldeman@ursinus.edu!

# Positive changes made to SPINT

By James Shelton  
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House and the Africana Studies and American History House are two examples that Ursinus is attempting to grow stronger rather than weaker in response to such a dividing event. I hope these two houses can grow in prominence in the coming years and continue to gather support and interest.

I remember last year when the opportunity arose to start a new SPINT theme and it led to the creation of the Africana Studies and American History House at Cloake for this year. I was very supportive of the creation of an Africana Studies House and I helped to make sure it was formed. Once it was established, I applied to live there.

This year, Cloake held some activities in order to encourage the social gathering of SPINT residents. We gathered to watch the first Sunday night football game last semester, in Unity House we watched basketball games, and recently, we gathered to watch the Super Bowl.

This past Sunday, the Africana Studies House planned a discussion after a viewing of *The Boondocks* as a part of SPINTFest.

In order for some of these new ideas to exist, older ideas had to be replaced. The

Africana Studies theme replaced the Environmental Studies House that was at Cloake previously. For next year, the Queer House will replace the Social Justice theme at Schaff. I think these two themes can be bastions of diversity, celebrating the variety of people we have at Ursinus.

However, it is a shame that these changes have come at the expense of the Social Justice House, which I think is another important topic to promote here and is still an issue that we face at large in our 21<sup>st</sup> century community. Economically and socially, there are still disparities between different groups and at least the Social Justice House was trying to address this issue with its SPINT theme and projects.

While I think the Queer House theme and the Africana Studies theme will greatly increase our understanding of differences here, I ideally would have liked to see the continuation of all three.



Zwingli was previously the Humanities House, but will now be the Outdoor Recreation and Environmental Activism House. Photo by Carly Sigler

Ursinus just ended a seven-day celebration of SPINT events in preparation for the new SPINT housing that will begin in the next academic year. These events helped promote house themes to the student body. Manhunt, dance parties, and mocktails were just a few activities. One of the major changes in the available choices for SPINT housing is the addition of the Queer House for LGBTQA awareness as well as the retention of the Africana Studies and American History House at Cloake, where I currently live.

In light of the recent racial incident here at Ursinus, I think these recent changes in SPINT housing are very significant in creating an accepting, diverse Ursinus community. The acceptance of these two ideas as SPINT topics shows the beginning of progress in the aftermath of the hurtful incident. The Queer

# The Diversity Column: The language of race

By Tracie Johnson  
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ill-formed, the colorblind facade, dangerous misinformation, and the list goes on.

The conversation that took place at "Florka's Place" was good in the sense that students showed up willing to talk. It was also good in the sense that talk involving diversity is still thriving. BUT, for the most part not many knew and understood the language of race; and that's where it fell short. But hey, we have to start somewhere right?

Another interesting phenomenon I saw going on was the battle of the minorities. Oftentimes when you talk about race, minority groups are pinned against one another as if we're fighting for the spotlight of the disenfranchised. When this happens I always recollect the great Audre Lorde quote from her book of essays and speeches, *Sister Outsider*. Lorde says, "The master's tools will never dismantle the master's house." She is speaking directly about the bypassing of racism in the feminist movement and vice versa. Lorde points out that if we do not realize that all social injustices are bred from the same portal of domination, a great disservice is being done to the justice we're all seeking.

What was most shocking to me was the picking and choosing of issues by some students as if they were birthday cards. "Oh I've seen this one already, and it's old; but look at this one that's new and glittery, and I want it." Well maybe not exactly in this format, but basically people choosing one over the other, all the while incognizant, I hope, of the injustice taking place. To even consider the dismissal of one movement to uplift another was baffling to me; as if two revolutions can't fight independently in cause yet jointly in justice, against the all-oppressing hegemony.

There will be more discussions taking place. Hopefully, as time progresses, the conversations will too, but first people will need to take heed to the language of race I've mentioned previously. If not, the entire conversation will be consisting of people trying to clarify what they said because, after all, they didn't actually mean what they said initially, at least not in the way it came out.

Last Monday at 9pm, Dr. Roger Florka, Chair and Associate Professor of Philosophy here at Ursinus, invited students to his place to have a candid discussion about race. A number of students showed up and were fairly eager to have this discussion. There was no structural format to the conversation. It was more so up to the students to launch the discussion.

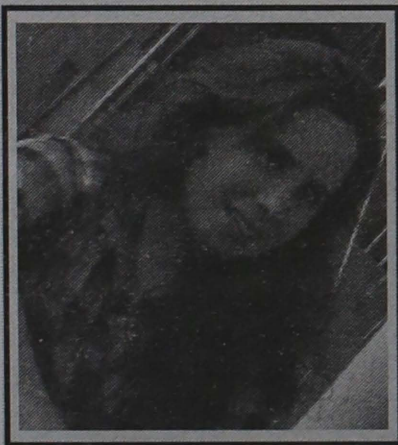
Inevitably, as the discussion began to pan out, it became more and more obvious that students not only varied in ethnic background but views and perspectives as well. As a student who has had discussions involving race relations on numerous occasions, a lot of the arguments were either "preaching to the choir" or informed by a rather elementary approach to racial discourse.

On one side, you had the more radical social justice/oppression informed arguments and on the other you had the typical colorblind facade many people are spoon fed as youngsters: that racism was a thing of 60's. This now begs the issue of whether race matters, as well as why, when and in what context. BUT, before you can even attempt to answer that question without completely butchering the whole point of its inquiry, students *must* know the language of race or have the capacity learn and adhere to it.

Now some people are probably going off saying, "WHAT... there's no language to race." Well my friends, you're wrong. The language of race is precise, devoid of shameful generalizations, ill-formed arguments that require clarifications that are also

# A brief entertainment round-up

By Carly Sigler  
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kleptomaniac card years ago.

Re: Annoying parental units: *Glee* is not *High School Musical*. No one ever said it was family friendly entertainment, so to hold it to the same high standards as that classy little lady on Hannah Montana (here be sarcasm), is insulting to the hit show's stars, most of whom are in their twenties, and have every right to grace the cover of *Cosmo*.

Re: Don't forget to watch the Academy Awards this Sunday, February 27, to see host James Franco (co-hosting with Anne Hathaway) in his continuing quest for world domination.

Re: Box Office gold and talent are not always synonymous when discussing certain actors. Liam Neeson appears to be the exception. His newest film, *Unknown*, which is an entertaining, but in-

ferior, version of Neeson's *Taken* and that quintessential European, roof-hopping action movie, *The Bourne Identity*, scored the number one slot at the box office this past weekend.

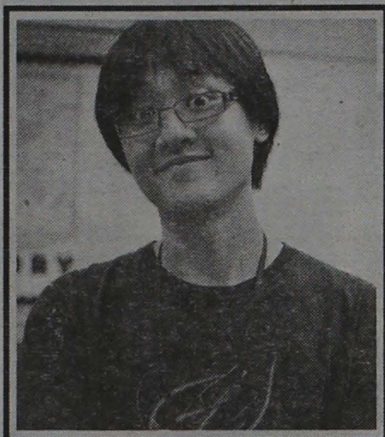
The movie follows Dr. Martin Harris (Neeson), who travels with his wife (January Jones, who has about as much emotional range as a talking ice sculpture) to speak at a biotechnology conference in Germany, only to end up in a taxi accident that leaves him in a coma for four days. When he wakes up, he discovers that another Dr. Martin Harris has taken his place. Diane Kruger stars as the cab driver who, after almost getting Neeson's character killed, makes up for it by saving his ass multiple times.

Re: Lindsay Lohan, what are you doing, girl? Stealing a necklace? You should be prosecuted for your embarrassing lack of creativity. Winona Ryder played the



# Egypt President falls, other countries hopeful

By KyuChul Shin  
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It finally happened. After more than two weeks of protests, the Egyptian people were successful in removing President Hosni Mubarak, Egypt's president since 1981. In result the United States has lost a key ally in the Middle East, and now there are fears that the revolution in Egypt will create a domino effect. However, while we are already seeing a certain degree of unrest, I do not believe that the overthrowing of the government in Egypt will create a domino effect.

This is not Indochina, after all,

nor are we still fighting the Cold War. These protests across the Arab World are nowhere near as dangerous as the wars that were fought in Indochina during the 1960's and 1970's, and as far as I can tell, none of the other ongoing protests have the power to topple the remaining governments.

Though much of the world's attention has been focused on Egypt and Tunisia, protests have occurred recently across nearly all the nations that make up the Arab world; they have, for the most part, been minor. A good number of protests, including the ones in Mauritania, Sudan, Oman, and Djibouti, have already ended. The majority of the remaining protests, such as those occurring in Lebanon, Morocco, Syria, and Somalia, have been relatively minor incidents.

Yes, there is no question that there are major protests in countries such as in Yemen, Bahrain, and Algeria. These protestors have called for the ouster of their governments but it seems that any revolution in these countries will not happen anytime soon. The recent events in Tunisia and Egypt

have worried Arab leaders; the lack of lethal force used by former Tunisian president Ben Ali and former Egyptian president Mubarak have allowed for their demises and most of the remaining presidents, kings, and sultans of the Arab world have learned from their fallen brothers.

The Bahraini government has most certainly learned a thing or two from the revolutions in Tunisia and Egypt. After realizing that King Hamid's gift of 2,652 dollars to each family did nothing to appease the people, the army was sent in to take down pro-democracy protestors in Manama, the capital city. Using tanks and heavily armored soldiers, the army cracked down on the protests. Firing rubber bullets and pellets, the army killed three people on Feb. 17.

Such actions may have created a precedent for all Arab leaders



During a Feb. 18 protest in Bahrain, five people were killed. Protests continue across Arab countries. Photo courtesy of mirror.co.uk

who are currently under siege by protesters. If the use of deadly force is authorized in Bahrain, why should it not be allowed in their own countries? It is possible that in the very near future other Arab governments may choose to deploy heavily armed soldiers and tanks on their protestors. Though it is true that such actions would bring forth interna-

tional condemnation, these leaders are probably more interested in making sure that they stay in power and not end up having to run away from their home nation.

Maintaining security and order will now be the biggest priority for Arab leaders, and if a couple of people end up dead, it is of little consequence as long as the end result is favorable.

## First Impressions: Lady Gaga's "Born This Way"

Pamela Horn  
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If you don't know who Lady Gaga is by now, you must live in a hole. I personally really enjoy Lady Gaga's music and appreciate her mission in the arts and entertainment industry. Her songs are catchy, she's edgy, different, and she obviously adores her fans and does everything for them.

Gaga debuted her new single, "Born This Way," at the 2011 Grammy Awards, and although it has gotten mixed reviews (many calling her act over-the-top and her song too similar to Madonna's music), it was an overall great performance.

Indeed, her millions upon millions of "Little Monsters" appear to adore the song and the performance. I definitely enjoyed how she executed her debut. Giving her fans an a cappella preview at the MTV Video Music Awards; releasing the lyrics to the song (Ellen DeGeneres' renditions of the song before the Grammy's were really excellent); her early release of

the song after tweeting, "Can't wait any longer, single coming Friday." Then finally the actual release of the song at this year's Grammys. It was different! The girl obviously knows what she's doing in the business and how to keep her fans wanting more and more.

Although she did not win for Song of the Year or Album of the Year, I do appreciate—even though it was slightly (okay...very) over the top—her performance at the Grammys. It was smart. I was a little put off at the whole arriving in an egg concept, but I guess after considering the song, I understand. She was "born this way." Therefore, before she was born performing on the stage, she was in the egg. Ha. I get it. I have to admit that it's creative and different. Whether she is



Lady Gaga performing at the Grammy Awards. Photo courtesy of justjared.buzznet.com

or is not trying to get attention, she sure knows how to get it! The song itself is pretty catchy—like every other song Lady Gaga has on any of her albums—but it's also inspiring! Not only especially in the wake of the recent rash of suicides of gay teenagers, but also for the millions of people (no matter

how old) who suffer with accepting who they are. So even if it may get negative reviews because of how it sounds and how she performed at the Grammys, we all have to stop and appreciate the song itself and what Lady Gaga is standing for by writing it.

### Dean's Office seeking recommendations:

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.

Additionally, 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 of each award is selected from among faculty members nominated by students, and for the latter, 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 in Corson Hall by Friday, March 18, 2011.

# Men's basketball season ends on sour note

By Shane Eachus  
sheachus@ursinus.edu

On the final Saturday of the 2010-2011 Centennial Conference regular season, the Ursinus Men's Basketball team (12-13, 9-9) saw its playoff hopes dashed at the hands of the Muhlenberg Mules (13-12, 9-9), by a score of 82-53. The scenario was simple, with a win Kevin Small's team would qualify for the conference playoffs, completing an improbable comeback in the second half of their season. Unfortunately for Bears fans, fate caught up to the young team in Allentown as Muhlenberg (who also missed the conference playoffs by a slim margin) sent their senior class off in memorable fashion for Mules fans.

From the opening tip, Muhlenberg's offense seemed unstoppable. At the seventeen minute mark Ursinus would pull within three points, on a layup by forward Jon Ward that made the score 9-6. Over the span of the next seven minutes Muhlen-

berg would convert seven of their eleven attempts from the field, three of which were from beyond the arc, helping to develop a 17 point lead that they would never surrender. On the night, the Mules shot 57.1% from the field and over 40% from beyond the arc; they were lead by the play of junior forward Spencer Liddic who had 19 points, breaking a 40 year old Muhlenberg single season scoring record, and senior guard Evan Tozer who had 16 on the afternoon.

Fittingly, Ursinus was lead on the day by senior forward TJ Jones, who poured in eleven points off of the bench in his final game as a Bear. Sophomore forward John Ward, who returned to action in his hometown for the first time in his collegiate career, added nine before fouling out early in the second half.

For Ursinus, Saturday was a bitter and emotional ending to a season that was nothing short of a wild ride. A 2-6 start in conference play found Ursinus among the centennial bottom feeders after the season's first two months of

action. However, over the course of the season's final month, the young team began to gel and the sprint towards the playoffs was on. The Bears clawed their way back into the picture winning 7 of their final 10 contests, and falling only one victory shy of a spot in conference tournament.

The 2010-2011 was a season defined by youth and garnished with upper classman contributions for the Bears. Ward and fellow sophomore tower Kevin Janowski were both brilliant on multiple occasions throughout the year, as was senior guard Matt Hilton, who netted his 1,000<sup>th</sup> career point and joined an elite club during his final year in Collegeville. On the season Hilton was once again among the nation's leaders in free throw percentage (90.1%), and will likely go down in the record books as one of the most proficient free throw shooters in the history of Division III basketball.

Another bright spot on the year for the Bears was the play of the freshman class. Point guard Jesse Krasna played in all



Matt Hilton (left) was named the Sam Cozen Player of the week on Tuesday. Hilton finished his season with 1,300 points and shot 91 percent from the foul line during his four years. Photo and information from Ursinusathletics.com

25 games and was on the floor for more minutes than any other Bear who will return next season. In addition to Krasna, freshman guards Ryan Adams and Pat Vasturia earned valuable experience with Adams playing over 200 minutes, and Vasturia providing the Bears with one of the season's most memorable shots, a 3 point field goal in the final minute of

play to complete a 17 point comeback and force overtime against Haverford two months ago.

In 2011-2012 the Bears will return nine players from a team that won seven of its final eleven games, and with the experience earned in this year's campaign the future is certainly bright for men's basketball in Collegeville.

## Men's club soccer team seeks new members

By Mike Schmidt  
mischmidt@ursinus.edu

Ask the President of Ursinus College's recently formed Men's Club Soccer team if he always had a passion for soccer and the answer may surprise you. Junior Jeff Landau, a Biochemistry and Molecular Biology major, collaborated with classmate Salim Al-Homsi to put together the club team earlier this year. The two now act as President and Vice President respectively for the

club, but Landau admits his relationship with the game was not always an enthusiastic one.

"My parents made me start playing when I was six or seven" reflected Landau, who came to Ursinus with the intention of playing for the Men's Varsity team but had to back out due to injury. "At the time I put up a huge fight for them not to make me do it, but fifteen years later I'm still playing and thrilled that they made me stick with it".

Landau soon discovered that there were students at Ursinus

who shared his passion for the sport, and he sought to organize those individuals into a club team as soon as possible. He found a like-minded partner in Al-Homsi, who agreed to help him with forming the new club.

"We both have a passion for soccer and knew there had to be others who did too" said Landau.

In the spring semester of 2010 he and Al-Homsi began the process of drafting a club constitution and putting together presentations for their proposed organization. Of the process, Landau noted that "nothing was too difficult about setting up the club. The only worrisome part was getting approval by SASC". The SASC, or Student Activities and Services Committee, had final say on whether or not the club team could be formed if Landau and Al-Homsi were able to pass it through the Ursinus Student Government Association (USGA) first. Fortunately, the petition passed through both governing bodies this fall and the club team was officially formed.

Landau's job, however, is far from finished, as he now seeks to recruit more members to the new team, who have named themselves Grizzly United. The club met earlier this week to set dates for informational meetings for prospective players and decided on holding two sessions.

By the time this article is printed one will have already taken place on Wednesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, but the second will occur on Sunday February 27<sup>th</sup>. Times and locations are yet to be determined but will be communicated to students via e-mail. While interested students are strongly encouraged to attend an informational meeting, the team also meets in the field house during the extended hours from around 10 p.m. to midnight to play pick-up games and welcome prospective players to drop by at any time.

Landau hopes that the club can give those players who are not able to play for the school team a chance to "continue playing soccer at a high level" before graduating and moving on into the real world. Although the club will look to field the most competitive team possible when it competes in a local intercollegiate club league next fall, no student should hesitate to join. Students of all abilities are welcome, and can contact either Landau or Al-Homsi at their Ursinus e-mails with any questions they may have.

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

*Feb. 26:*

**Track & Field**  
Centennial Championships  
10:00 A.M. @ Haverford

**Wrestling**  
Centennial Championships  
@ Washington & Lee

**Gymnastics**  
7:00 P.M. @ Rutgers

**Men's Lacrosse**  
10:00 A.M. vs. Marymount  
@ Georgetown University

*March 2:*

**Men's Lacrosse**  
4:00 P.M. vs. Wesley

*Good luck at conferences to UC Track & Field and UC Wrestling!*



Image provided by Mike Schmidt