The Grizzly, March 31, 2011

Katie Callahan
Tim Jordan
Sara Hourwitz
Jarod Groome
Lisa Jobe

See next page for additional authors

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.ursinus.edu/grizzlynews

Part of the Cultural History Commons, Higher Education Commons, Liberal Studies Commons, Social History Commons, and the United States History Commons

Click here to let us know how access to this document benefits you.
Authors
Katie Callahan, Tim Jordan, Sara Hourwitz, Jarod Groome, Lisa Jobe, Eva Bramesco, Katie Haldeman, Julia Fox, Jessica Orbon, Sarah Bollert, James Shelton, Sean Miller, Kyu Chul Shin, Anna Larouche, Shane Eachus, and Christopher Michael
SIFE wins regionals for second year in a row

By Tim Jordan
tjordan@ursinus.edu

On Friday March 25, the Ursinus College SIFE team competed at the Philadelphia Regional Competition, attempting to gain the title of Regional Champions for the second year in a row. Faced with a tough league that included several veteran SIFE teams, UC SIFE rose to the occasion by impressing the judges with a stellar presentation that showcased all seven of their impactful projects completed throughout the year. Judges were thoroughly impressed by Ursinus’ accomplishments, and awarded SIFE by once again naming them Regional Champions.

SIFE, Students In Free Enterprise, is a worldwide organization that encourages college students to teach and practice the principles of entrepreneurship, environmental sustainability, and life skills. Ursinus College SIFE, now in its fourth year, is one of nearly 600 programs that use business concepts to develop community outreach projects that improve the quality of life and standard of living for people in need.

This year, SIFE’s projects were inspired by the theme of laying foundations for success across all ages. Their projects included teaching pre-school children about recycling, conducting a leadership workshop with middle school students, working with mentally disabled adults on resolving workplace conflict, and teaching older generations the benefits of organic food. President Ty Wetzel stated, “We made an attempt not only to provide foundations for target populations in need, but to impact every generation from ages 4 to 83.”

After completing their projects, UC SIFE then was challenged to develop a presentation which would show how their projects impacted the community. Countless hours were spent developing the twenty-four minute keynote presentation, which included testimonials, pictures, and statistics about SIFE’s accomplishments. Presenters included Ty Wetzel, Rebecca Kamm, Carla Rinde from CoS A and Reading day, and Jamia Flowers from CoS C.

UC SIFE was crowned Regional Champions in their fourth year, and will represent Ursinus in May at the National Competition.

Members of the Ursinus College SIFE team with Advisor Stephen Browne. The team won the Regional Competition this past weekend and will represent Ursinus in May at the National Competition.

Photo provided by T. Jordan

Career Webinar Series comes to Ursinus College

By Sara Hourwitz
sheourwitz@ursinus.edu

Want to become more prepared for future job and internship searches? Attend the Career Webinar Series offered by Ursinus’ Career Services to learn useful tips that can help you through the process of finding the right job.

For the remainder of the semester, every Wednesday (aside from CoSA and Reading day), from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m., Career Services will be holding a webinar series featuring various speakers that will teach students how to properly network, interview, and obtain the career opportunities they desire. Carla Rinde from Career Services explains that the Career Webinar Series will enable students to “learn a skill or a strategy that they could successfully utilize in the future.”

The webinar series is sponsored by Talent Marks. The series actually includes nine speakers, lasting until May 18. However, Ursinus can only offer five because some of the webinars occur after Graduation takes place. The series is broadcast live via the internet using “GoToMeeting.” Students cannot personally interact with the speaker because the webinar is being broadcast to various campuses all over the nation. However, “GoToMeeting” enables students to ask questions by posting them on their site “Webinar” is continued to News, page 3

Director Dominick Scudera presents two Woody Allen plays

By Jarod Groome
jagroome@ursinus.edu

Professor Dominick Scudera and his cast of 28 student-actors have put together Woody Allen’s Death Rocks and God to be performed from March 27 through April 2. With one of the largest casts in Ursinus Theater history, the production is set to be an excitement-filled comedy that captures the essence of fate and free will.

When asked why he chose to direct this piece, Scudera responded that he “wanted to find something comedic at Ursinus, there has never been a flat-out comedy here. Woody Allen was the perfect playwright to introduce because, he is comedic, but still matches themes in courses like the Common Intellectual Experience.” Although this will be one of the sillier plays that is shown in the Blackbox Theater, its message is undeniable.

Scudera hopes the message of “Making people think about why we are here as humans and whether fate is determined or humans have free will,” comes through during the productions.

These are the messages that Woody Allen is known for as his 1970s play often questioned the existence and role of God in human life. Scudera made it his job to contemporize the production and alter the New York City references to Philadelphia and Philadelphia.

“God” is continued to News, page 3

Vagina Monologues

Surviving in Spain

A Womanly Rant

ML Baseball
CAIRO, EGYPT—An Interior Ministry building in central Cairo caught fire on Tuesday, as Egyptian police held demonstrations for better pay and working conditions. Ambulances and fire trucks responded quickly to emergency calls, and there were no reports of casualties. According to one ministry source that refused to elaborate, the fire was “connected” to the demonstrations. However, another ministry source claimed that the protests and the fire were not linked. Some witnesses are saying that the demonstrations were peaceful, and that the fire was set purposely by officials who intended to burn incriminating documents and pin the blame on protesters. Many policemen fear that they will be charged for police violations under ex-president Hosni Mubarak’s rule. (Reuters, hosted on NewsDaily.com)

Tuesday, Mar. 22

MUNICH, GERMANY—German prosecutors on Tuesday released a 90-year-old John Demjanjuk, who was captured by Nazis and forced to work in a German prison camp guard. Demjanjuk is accused of assisting in killings at the Sobibor death camp, but denies ever working there. Prosecutors are saying that there are six-year jail sentences who was born in Ukraine, says he was captured in the Soviet army until he was arrested by Nazis and forced to work as a German prison camp guard. Demjanjuk is accused of assisting in killings at the Sobibor death camp, but denies ever working there. Prosecutors are saying that there are six-year jail sentences.

"SIFE" is Continued from front page

Kaitlyn Myers, Darya Piatrova, Janel Melnick, and Tim Jordan, with Kevin Zufelt and Dan Horowitz as their adviser, After many hours of work, SIFE members felt strongly that this presentation was even better than last year’s. However, winning regionals was not going to be easy once SIFE announced the Philadelphia Regional pairings. Included in Ursinus’s League were perennial SIFE powerhouses Carnegie Mellon, Elizabethtown, and SUNY Oswego, all of which made it to National’s last year. Despite the tough draw, SIFE members were still confident. Sophomore Presenter Tim Jordan said, “We felt like our projects and presentation could stand up next to any other SIFE team; we continued to believe we had put in the work it would take to succeed.”

After presenting first in their league, SIFE members were forced to wait the remainder of the day to learn their fate. When their name was finally called as a regional champion, a wave of emotion swept through the SIFE team. Junior Vice-President Rebecca Kamm said, “It was so exciting to hear them announce Ursinus, it made our team know all of our hard work and commitment paid off and was recognized.” By winning Regionals, Ursinus ended Elizabethtown College’s twenty-two-year run of regional championships and won $1,000 in prize money, taking another step in creating a tradition of excellence.

As much as the championship meant for UC SIFE, it was not the most important thing in its members’ eyes. Kamm explained, “it’s an amazing feeling to know we impacted others’ lives through our projects, and that’s overall what makes SIFE and competition such an amazing experience; winning is icing on the cake.”

When judges asked what project they were most proud of, UC SIFE members felt that their Students Today, Leaders Tomorrow initiative was their favorite. Aimed to help middle school students struggling to develop themselves as leaders, SIFE found Stewart Middle School, located in Norristown, PA as a population in need of developing leadership due to the municipality’s high crime rate and poor educational statistics. UC SIFE brought in an experienced speaker and best-selling author, Tisa Silver, to present the importance of education and goal-setting. Through group activities, the students were also shown the importance of team work and effective communication.

UC SIFE member Janel Melnick said, “When shown the importance of leadership and goal-setting, students became more confident in their ability to succeed and effectively contribute to our community.”

The program has had a significant effect on the students, as many attended a college fair following the seminar to learn more about their educational futures. Also, thirty students indicated that they would immediately take on greater leadership responsibility following the seminar, and thirty-four students declared that they will set goals for their future.

Due to their success at Regionals, they now have the opportunity to showcase their projects against the rest of the country’s elite. The team will now advance to the 2011 SIFE USA National Exposition in Minneapolis, Minnesota May 10-12.

International News with Lisa: Jail sentence and airstrikes

Katie Haldeman

CAIRO, EGYPT — The Green Man, representing the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe, and the African Union Commission’s head of political affairs, feathers have been decorated in Cairo as the two sides met to discuss the situation in the country.

CAIRO, EGYPT — The largest demonstrations in years have been held in Cairo, as people protest against the government’s handling of the country’s economy and social issues.

Libya — Rebels succeeded in retaking the key eastern town of Ajdabiya on Sunday, a step towards a possible end to the conflict.

John Demjanjuk, a 90-year-old man from the Ukraine, was sentenced in 2001 for the deaths of 30,000 Jews during World War II. The ruling was overturned in 2009, and Demjanjuk is now free.

The student newspaper of Ursinus College

Volume 35, Issue 19

EDITORIAL BOARD
Katie Callahan Editor-in-Chief
Liz Kilmer News Editor
Katie Haldeman Features Editor
Carly Siegler Opinions Editor
Nick Pane Sports Editor

PHOTOGRAPHY
Broxiana Gaddy Photo Editor

ADVISOR
Dr. Rebecca Jaroff

E-MAIL
grizzly@ursinus.edu
John Prendergast talks about human rights

By Eva Bramesco

This past Tuesday, human rights activist and best-selling author John Prendergast came to Ursinus’ Lenfest Theatre to address the student body. Prendergast has worked for the Clinton administration, the State Department, Congress, UNICEF, the Human Rights Watch, the National Intelligence Council, the International Crisis Group, and the U.S. Institute of Peace. Profiles in numerous magazines, guest spots on programs, and the authorship of numerous achievements. Prendergast co-founded the Enough Project, and serves as Strategic Advisor on the board of Not On Our Watch which is an organization founded by George Clooney, Matt Damon, and Don Cheadle.

In his address to the students and faculty of Ursinus, Prendergast detailed the novel approach of preventing genocide as opposed to the traditional tactic of merely cleaning up the disaster left behind. Prendergast stated that we have afforded a unique situation in that we have foresight into the issue of animosity between the North and South of Sudan. Instead of allowing the situation to escalate, which will result in mass fatalities, Prendergast wants to treat the causes of the disease of genocide—not the symptoms. He shared an anecdote with the audience of a working lunch he once had with George Clooney (who he jokingly refers to as “the oracle”). The two men were discussing how best to reach the ears and minds of the public and they managed to distill their purpose into one simple question: “If you had the chance to stop an atrocity, would you?” This is to say that we all have this chance, and that we should make effective use of it.

Prendergast stated that there are millions of homeless in Darfur and that hundreds of thousands have been killed. He admitted that these numbers are staggeringly large and sometimes difficult to comprehend. To combat this, Prendergast shared the personal stories of two of his acquaintances.

By putting a name and a history on this cause, Prendergast moves his audience to feel an attachment to these people and helps offer a better understanding of the pain and tragedy that consumes these areas.

Prendergast goes on to enumerate a “menu” of options for action. The first item on the menu is recruitment. According to Prendergast, the most reported reason for becoming involved in a cause is being encouraged by friends or family. The second method on the menu is writing to political representatives in the Congress or Senate. Prendergast, who has worked for Congressmen, knows that constituent interests do not go unheard. He says while this may seem like a drop in the bucket, many drops are able to fill a bucket. The third and fourth items follow in suit with the second. Prendergast called on his audience to make their interests heard at the White House and also by their local newspaper. By calling 1-800-GENOCIDE the caller is offered a news update on the ongoings of human rights affairs and is then transferred to the White House line to leave a message.

The够 moments.

UC Stand meets weekly in Olin Hall. Information and petitions are available during meetings.

“The Vagina Monologues”

By Katie Holdeman

“I love my vagina,” was shouted across Olin Auditorium from Friday, March 17 through Sunday, March 19 as a group of women of Ursinus College performed The Vagina Monologues.

The monologues have been produced in the past with efforts from both Breakaway Student Productions, the student run theater group on campus, and V-Day. This year V-Day solely took the reigns and, “it was a huge success,” said Director Carolyn Lang after closing night. Producers Ani Lockard and Danielle Reach and members of V-Day along with the cast all contributed to the show. Lang explained, “some [actresses had] no acting experience, and others with lots of experience,” which helped contribute to a unique dynamic on stage.

The Vagina Monologues was, “a great opportunity for people who might not otherwise be involved in theatre to get a taste of performing while handling some pretty ‘taboo’ material,” said Lang.

Lang explained, “The Vagina Monologues is an important work that speaks to the V-Day mission statement: a global activist movement to stop violence against women and girls. It really opened the eyes of the UC community.” By performing the monologues, V-Day was able to share their mission statement with the campus in a unique and fun way.

The author of The Vagina Monologues, Eve Ensler, who is a women’s activist, and also the founder of V-Day, wrote this series of monologues based off of interviews done with real women. She asked them about their experiences with sex, love, abuse, what it is to be a woman, and other issues that women face on a daily basis.

The monologues’ themes range from a talking “Angry Vagina” that’s upset that society tries to repress it...to a female sex worker describing her fascination with moaning.” Lang added, “The piece is crazy. It’s totally a piece of art that makes the audience think. I always wanted to know that, but was afraid to ask,” and sometimes even feel uncomfortable.”

The show was a chance for the cast and crew to grow closer together while talking about some pretty deep issues.

The coolest part of the experience was to see people who had never performed in front of an audience get up there and talk about vaginas, or sex, or childbirth, or ‘hair’. One of our cast members got involved because her dad made her promise she would be in a theatre production... People stepping out of their comfort zones and jumping into something totally foreign like they did during our production was by far the best part of the experience,” Lang shared.

The show donated the proceeds of the show to the two beneficiary organizations of V-Day, Women in Haiti and the Women’s Center of Montgomery County.

“We had a great turnout. I was really excited that the Ursinus community came out to support V-Day,” Lang said.

Check out page 4 in Features for another photo from the show!

These messages are tallied daily as a means of tapping into the forefront of public concern. Finally, Prendergast suggested becoming involved with the Darfur Dream Team through which students in the U.S. raise funds and collect donations of school supplies to send to students in Darfur.

In one of his anecdotes, Prendergast tells the story of a woman named Amina who was forced to flee from the militia of Darfur with nothing but her children under her arms. She was stopped twice to see two of her sons thrown into burning buildings. Though she could hear them screaming for her to help them, she knew she must keep running in order to save her remaining children. Prendergast met Amina and spent a few days with her and after telling him this story, Amina said to him, “Now you know. Now you must tell someone.” Ursinus Stand meets weekly in Olin, and petitions are available there to sign.

“The Vagina Monologues” is continued from front page during the webinar. Throughout the broadcast, students’ questions will be selected for the speaker to answer.

The Webinar Series commenced on Wednesday, Mar. 23, with Career Guru Richard Bolles leading the webinar. Bolles is the author of “What Color Is Your Parachute?” which has been on best-selling lists for 40 years in a row. The book is popular worldwide, and the text has been translated in 22 different languages. Bolles says that Bolles book is revered as “a bible for Career Services” in Career Service departments on numerous college campuses. During the hour-long broadcast, Bolles, who recently returned from Spain after being summoned to attempt to remedy their 24 percent unemployment rate, stressed the importance of devoting ample time to job searching. Bolles discussed interview techniques, resumes, and the ways in which individuals can find the careers best suited to their talents and interests.

In the upcoming five weeks of the semester, Ursinus’ Career Services will present four more speakers from the Career Webinar Series. The future topics of the upcoming webinars include finding the right mentors, utilizing LinkedIn, using Twitter to make job connections, and listening appropriately. The speakers will illustrate how each one of these resources aids the career search process and will introduce students to new technologies that can help them make more connections in the networking community. For example, LinkedIn, which Rinde describes as a “professional social network site,” allows individuals to create profiles, enabling them to establish connections, or as Bolles calls them, “bridge people.”

In addition, Career Services understands that students have conflicting schedules and cannot always attend the Webinar Series. As a result, the webinars will be posted on the Career Services website and will be available for students to watch presently until August. Furthermore, the four webinars that Career Services is unable to formally present to students, along with other webinars from the fall series, will be made available on the Career Services website as well.

All Ursinus students, no matter their discipline, are encouraged to attend the informative Career Webinar Series. Whether you’re a senior heading off to the real world to find a job or an underclassman looking for an internship, the Career Webinar Series can help you learn how to find the job or internship that fits you best.
By Julia Fox
jfox@ursinus.edu

When I applied to study abroad, I specifically chose a small city in northern Spain where I could focus all of my time and energy on the Spanish language. My only concern was the language barrier and even though about the differences I would affect me. In Europe on vacations before and I was a little bit shocked and what to expect in a new country, but when I arrived I was introduced to the Oviedo, Spain, were full of minor annoyances. People would almost take out one of my eyes with their umbrellas. At first I thought that the Spanish people I met were not rude orcondescending. In the United States, I would have just to be annoyed when a store opens hours after its sign says it will, or when a stranger knocks me off balance, but here, attitudes are different. I’m starting to realize that when I apologize to someone I bump into and receive an odd look in return instead of forgiveness, it’s because people here don’t sweat the small stuff like we do in the US. They open their stores when they want to because life here is about happiness and not just buying things. Here, a 21-year-old is still a child and normally is still living at home, so when my host mother tries to take care of me, it’s because she wants to be an authentic Spanish mother to me instead of just a landlord. I was finally beginning to escape the state of confusion that I was going through. I’m now finally beginning to escape. When I finally came to the realization that I’m in a new country with new norms and I can’t judge Spaniards actions by American standards, everything started to click. Before I started my study abroad trip, I thought of culture shock as a debilitating feeling of isolation and fear so I didn’t recognize it when it first hit me. Finally, I’m learning that culture shock is really just this general state of confusion that I feel like I’m finally beginning to escape. And while I may never learn to love “dos besos,” I do have another two and half months to get used to it and see it for what it is: just another cultural difference.

"Theater" is continued from front page

Collegeville references. The art of making the production more relatable to its audience was a group effort as all 28 cast members incorporated their comedic references to the last several years.

This is one of the benefits of a large cast as “everybody has brought good humor to the rehearsal process, even though they are of different levels of experience,” says Scudera. He says the 28 cast member is “fantastic because these days it’s very rare to see so many young people come out for a production.” That many about god and fate.” It is a play that is highly relatable to any audience as it addresses life questions that all people have asked and incorporates silly comedy that anyone would find humorous and entertaining.

Scudera encourages students, faculty, and staff to “Come and see the play; it is a silly play that anyone can come and laugh to.”

As a member of the cast, myself, I can assure you that the stage design, costume design and props are creative and aesthetically meticulous and pleasing. That, combined with the talents of great actors and a great director, has produced another great Ursinus production that anyone who is anyone must come out to see.

"Where was your first kiss?"
Everybody wants to be tan

By Katie Haldeman
kahaldeman@ursinus.edu

Spring is right around the corner and people all over are not only starting to show signs of spring fever, but they are also ready to have that tan back. With this weather being not so nice, people are resorting to fake tanning, but is that smart, or healthy? Tanning has become the norm for teenagers around the world, but there has to be some consequence for those who start tanning at such a young age.

Doctors are starting to share ideas about prohibiting teenagers from tanning. But why? What is the risk? Well the biggest risk is melanoma. Melanoma is the worst form of skin cancer, and the leading cause of death by skin cancer. According to Madison Park’s article on CNN.com, titled “Teens should be banned from tanning booths, doctors say,” melanoma “is the deadliest form of skin cancer.” Melanoma is a deep cancer that causes problems deep into the skin. Each year, since 1992, there has been a gradual increase in the amount of women tanning from ages 15 to 39 by about 3% per year. While that may be a small number, it still shows that tanning, and more specifically, fake tanning, has become more and more popular. And more importantly, it affects people our age.

But why are teenagers the main target when it comes to the new desire to ban tanning? Park lists Dr. David Fisher, a dermatologist at Massachusetts General Hospital as saying that kids have less of an ability to make decisions on their own. They are more willing to go with what everyone else is doing and “the industry has exploited this fact.” And it’s true. Teenagers, are often offered discounts at tanning salons. These discounts are most prominent during prom season when everyone wants to look good. And this is where it all begins, the addiction to tanning.

However, tanning places have other tricks for luring students, teenagers, and their parents into thinking tanning is okay and a good idea, it’s called the benefit of vitamin D. And to be honest, there are much better ways of getting vitamin D exposure. “The safer methods are supplements or incidental sun exposure.” Park reports. So those claims that you get vitamin D from tanning, actually is just another lure to suck you in. You may be getting some vitamin D but possibly not enough to make the risks worth it.

But even if people know of this why do they still tan? A recent article on healthland.time.com, “The Misunderstood Psychology of Fake Tanning” looked into the psychology behind fake tanning.

The study states during a study, a sample of a 250 female population on a beach were given sunlight tanning lotion samples and information regarding skin cancer. Two months later there was a 33% decrease in sunbathing in the group given the samples/information versus a 10% decrease by the women not given the samples/information.

In retrospect, adolescents between the ages of 11 to 18 were more likely to increase their use of other methods of ways to better their tan. Which again could show that teenagers are more likely to abuse tanning and fake tanning (healthland.time.com).

Fake tanning also varies from being outside on a sunny day. Park states “the intensity of the UVA radiation from tanning beds ‘may be 10 to 15 times higher than that of the midday sun,’ according to the report published in the journal Pediatrics.”

So think about it next time you want to be tanner than you... is it worth the risk?

The 90s were All That

By Jess Orbon
jeorbon@ursinus.edu

Have you ever been watching TV and wished that the shows we loved as kids still aired? Do you feel like the cartoons and shows for older kids are sub-par compared to the seemingly genius programs we grew up on? Well, the moment we’ve been all waiting for is here!

Senior Vice President of the Nickelodeon Corporation, Keith Dawkins announced last week that TeenNick will be rerunning Nick 90s classics like “All That,” “Pete and Pete,” “Clarissa Explains It All,” “The Amanda Show,” “Rugrats” and “Keenan and Kel.” This was a decision that was made based off of popular demand for the re-airing of the shows via Facebook and other forms of social media. Entertainment Weekly reported that the shows will air during a 12am to 2am time slot called “The 90s Are All That.” There was once a time where our world revolved around the lives of cartoon babies, dancing lobsters and a crazy guy who loved orange soda. Sophomore, Bill Rieck expressed his excitement about this Nick reunion, “I’m pretty happy that the 90s Nick shows are making a comeback. I used to watch them all the time and I can’t help but to be happy now. There’s no such thing as being too old for those shows either. It’s like I’m a kid again, except I can drive now.”

There will always be a feeling of nostalgia associated with watching these shows but despite the hype of this resurrection there are those 90s Nick fans who have their doubts. Kait O’Toole stated, “I’m actually really excited about the 90s Nick returns. They meant so much to me as a kid and I can’t wait to watch all of the shows that made me laugh. I just hope that I am not disappointed if they are not as funny as I remember.”

Disappointment could easily be at the forefront of the popularity of this new slot and whether it becomes a part of the permanent尼克elodeon schedule. We have to recognize that Nickelodeon was a popular channel for kids and we, for the most part, took what was given to us. We were young and easily entertained. Needless to say, the happy memories that go along with these shows may be enough to captivate our attention once again. The quirky and light-hearted humor was a great thing to come home from school to and now it may be a great thing to use to escape the stresses of campus life.

“The 90s Are All That” will premiere this fall. TeenNick executives will continue to market to their target audience, which Keith Dawkins states is “20 something year olds.” With shows like “The Jersey Shore” and “Real Housewives” on the rise and original programming falling more and more out of reach, maybe this is exactly what television needs. A nice break from guides and teen moms, TeenNick can provide us with a perfect excuse to be kids again. 90s Nickelodeon shows will hopefully stand the test of time and be able to entertain us like they once did. Look for the shows this fall on TeenNick at midnight.

It’s happening....

Saturday, April 16 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in front of the Kaleidoscope.

Don’t Miss Out.

The Grizzly would like to note the article entitled “Phi Kappa Sigma wins Airband 2011” in the March 24th issue was written by Tracie Johnson, not Brett Cohen as listed.
Response to a past article

By James Shelton
jashelton@ursinus.edu

I read the article “Facing Segregation in the 21st Century through Campus Programs” in the Grizzly last week. We are entitled to our opinions and free to express them. Therefore, I am free to express my opinion in response to this article. The article was written with good intentions, and I believe the author truly sees a threat to the Ursinus community. However, I must contend that the views presented in the article overlook a larger problem of society in general that affects the Ursinus community just as much as any other institution in this society.

The critique of the new SPINT housing and the W.R. Criger Institute makes an assumption about the reality of the situation between minority and white students in a predominantly white school that is simply not true. The article expressed a view of a universal experience among Ursinus students of different races that I don’t think is accurate. The concern over minority students receiving an unfair advantage over white students assumes that both groups compete academically on an equal footing. Why is there a concern for retention rates of minority students if we all have an equal chance to succeed? Why is it that every student needs help? This is not a coincidence but representative of a greater problem that holds back the American society from truly being equal. Race is not an outdated notion but still affects everyone in America whether positively or negatively and it affects everyone here at Ursinus as well. Ursinus is not exempt from the structure of the American society.

I don’t think the issue of race can be separated from economics because it is through economics that there is still inequality. Race has been used to reinforce inequality in our society. The author expresses a belief that we all need to be seen as individuals and I agree with him. We should be judged by what we do, not by stereotyped assumptions. This belief is good in theory. However, it is not really exercised in practice and that needs to be understood.

As for the new SPINT housing, I don’t think the concern over minority students is justified. The new SPINT houses are great opportunities to promote diversity at Ursinus. To remove these themes does the opposite of making Ursinus more diverse. I thought a diverse community respected differences rather than ignoring them. There’s a difference between equality and sameness. We are not all the same nor do we have the same experiences and that should be understood and recognized.

The reality of our community is that we do have differences among us as well as similarities, and we should be united while everyone gives effort towards that unity. We should accept the differences among us, and all of us must work together to find common ground while maintaining our cultural identities at the same time. There must be value in our differences.

Give artist a break

By Sean Millers
smiller@ursinus.edu

In light of millions of Ameri­cans pointing fingers at Rebecca Black for producing “the worst song of all time,” I want to say a few things. First, in order to understand why this video was created and what made it so popular we need to reflect on the music of today’s pop culture.

When I first watched Rebecca Black’s video “Friday,” I couldn’t help but think how lucky she is. As a kid, I wrote plenty of songs—and dreamed that some­day I would be able to record them professionally. I wanted to sound as good as the bands I listened to. I would come back to them years later and laugh at how stupid they were and how similar they were to songs of other bands I used to listen to: Good Charlie, Simple Plan, All American Rejects… Let’s face it—they’re not the best musical artists in the world. Frankly, I think most songs by these kinds of bands (contemporarily known as sell-outs) tend to be very catchy but have little lyrical value or original­ity. Yet, growing up is almost all I was exposed to: the radio and mainstream crap. Not to say that all mainstream hits are crap, but it certainly explains how songs like “I’m In Miami Bitch!” become popular, or how Justin Bieber has a career (based on the fact that he’s just sooo dreamy!).

I couldn’t be more thankful that my Dad got me into the Beatles when I was little—who knows how long my Eminem and Black Sabbath phase would have lasted.

The simple matter is that now-a-days parents don’t know or care about what music their children listen to; I would argue that a vast majority of suburban and urban kids are exposed to mostly just mainstream garbage. Music is something that can be very personal, and for me music was a crucial part of growing up. If we just take a moment to consider how culturally and emotionally pervasive music can be, and cross this influence with how impressionable and myopic we are as kids, we begin to see the power music has over millions of people’s lives. I hope some parents are considering that it might not be the best idea to let your kids listen to Biggie talk about his hardcore life or listen to anything by Afroman. (“Colt 45” and “Because I Got High” were pretty big my freshman year in high school). So before we go pointing fingers straight at a thirteen year old, I merely want to make an observation as to where the majority of modern musical tastes are stemming from in America’s youth.

“Black” is continued to Opinions, page 7

Charlie Sheen is winning and fully entertaining while doing it

By Eva Bromesco
evbromesco@ursinus.edu

Charlie Sheen is winning. And there is no stopping him. His antics have pulled our attention from distressing global events, and he has successfully seeped into almost all forms of entertainment and news media. The spotlight that is shining on him right now is not only much brighter than any he would have been able to muster had he stayed an everyday lothario/TV actor, but is also brighter than the spotlight shining on anyone or anything else right now. If there was a race to escape Charlie Sheen’s now ever-loom­ing presence, we would lose, and yes, he would win.

Make no mistake. He is completely fulfilling his job title of entertainer. Some people could not write the absurdities that come out of his mouth if they tried. He is absolutely ludicrous and I, for one, am loving it. What I am not loving with such intensity is having a firsthand look at what a brain ravaged by drugs looks like. I am not loving watching a man utterly disappoint his children. And I am not loving that simply because society loves a train wreck, Charlie Sheen has gotten more attention than Japan and Libya combined. It is true that the entertainment media may simply have less to work with than legitimate news sources, but it is shocking how much coverage one man’s ranting is able to garner from networks promising hard-hitting news stories. Though, it should be noted that on his Twitter, Sheen is calling for his “cadre” to “love (the Japanese) violently.”

However, there is many a silver lining to be found in our Sheen obsession. Firstly, Sheen is an incredibly effective campaign against drug use. Even young children who may also occasionally claim to be warlocks can see that this man is straight up mentally ill. Secondly, there has been an incredible surge of high quality auto tune songs of Sheen’s various interviews. And finally, I am of the opinion that he could be convinced to do just about anything at this point. I have compiled a list of things Charlie Sheen might be just crazy enough to do. Items on this list include speaking at my brother’s high school graduation, temporarily joining a marching band, and writing a book of poetry—wait, scratch that last one, it looks like someone already suggested that to him.

At this point Sheen has more confidence in himself and his abilities than any person I have ever seen, famous or unknown. I must admit, I would love to be that obliviously sure of my every decision. Sure, his life is going up in a fiery blaze, but if you asked him, he would assure you that there is a master plan, and if you can’t see it you are a troll. A man with this level of fearlessness must either be a great man or a foolish one. In Charlie Sheen’s case I would argue the latter, but that does not mean that he, and therefore we, are not winning.
Numerous human rights abuses by Colonel Muammar al-Qaddafi, the longtime ruler of Libya, have finally forced the hand of the United Nations Security Council. Having now voted in favor of intervention, some happily believe that allied intervention will bring peace to Libya. However, it seems more likely that such an intervention would not help in accelerating and ending the war; rather, it is possible that an intervention, as compared to no intervention, may actually prolong the war.

Anti-Qaddafi forces have been unable to take advantage of the recent bombardments by the allies. Although one would expect strong success against Qaddafi forces following allied bombing, there has been next to no territorial changes. The fact of the matter is that the rebels simply do not have the supplies or the training necessary to experience any success.

Suppose for a moment that Qaddafi decides to stop fighting. He may decide to commit suicide, go into hiding, or surrender to the rebels or the allies. Even if Qaddafi no longer holds any power, there is no guarantee that the war will end any time if the allies were to enter Libya and defeat and even execute al-Qaddafi, the fighting would continue for years. There are too many people, including his sons and the Libyan defense minister Abu-Bakr Yunis, Jabr, who are in too deep with the Qaddafi government. Surrendering would not only mean that they would lose all their power and privileges, but the possibility of death awaits Qaddafi supporters as well. Such fears would most likely prompt supporters to continue their fight as guerrilla fighters. It is without question extremely difficult to fight guerrilla units. Pro-Qaddafi fighters would have a better knowledge of the geography of their country and could easily blend in with the civilian population. Of course, foreign fighters who speak no Arabic would have a very hard time in defeating every single fighter. Thus, there would be the need for more effective soldiers who would be more effective in dealing with the rebels.

The allied forces, after completing their airstrikes and removing the colonel from power, should do their best to train the rebels in modern military tactics. Many of the Libyan people have expressed a desire to make this their revolution; they have worried history to write that their revolution only worked thanks to a Western intervention. If everything goes well, they will not have to.

Yes, allied forces would have a better equipped military, but that does not help very much when fighting guerrillas. In this situation, superior weapons do not guarantee automatic victory. In such circumstances, allied forces could be bogged down for months or possibly years. Such a situation would echo the Iraq War and a past that most Americans would really not want to revisit at the moment. Despite the fact that Americans forces in Iraq managed to capture Dictator Saddam Hussein less than nine months into the war, the war waged by the insurgents lasted for years.

It’s more than fruit: A rant about women power

By Anna Larouche
alnlarouche@ursinus.edu

Yesterday was like any other day: I went to class, interrupted someone’s low quality meal at Wisner with the screech I attempt to pass off as my laugh, and had my daily rant about the slow decline of humanity. What infuriates me lately is this strange new feminism that involves harping on about the power of women, but only in connection to women, and not in relation to the status of their sexuality.

Let’s begin with something we all learned about: the bra status on Facebook. Apparently, this silly desperate-housewife begotten movement made the news. I can’t imagine why for any other reason than that men saw statuses about bras, their brains exploded at the mere thought of a woman talking about her bra on the internet and these consequential deaths forced this little cry for attention to receive a mention. Because of this, there have been copy-cat movements budding up all over the internet ever since.

Now, all of these movements claim to be fighting for some righteous cause centered around women. Let’s pick breast cancer—because men don’t get breast cancer, I guess. The most recent movement I saw was making your status a flavor (or a fruit?) in connection to your marital/sexual status. So, what you do is, you make your status a flavor (they didn’t have my status, so I made it up—"Dragonfruit"—because I am a dragon looking for love), and then when all other women do the same, we’ll all know about each other’s relationship status! And then breast cancer awareness will be spread! And, ladies, all the men will be so totally confused, because they’re doofy. Have you seen the commercials? They can’t even do laundry without a woman’s help!

This is where I get mad. Here is an excerpt from the manifesto of this movement: “Let’s get this one to do the same, and show everyone how powerful women are.” First of all, you’re not using proper grammar. I don’t want to be a part of an illiterate movement.

But here it is, ladies and gentlemen. The true pinnacle of woman power: talking about your offensive status on Facebook using a fruit name in order to raise breast cancer awareness. I don’t even want to get started on how confused this movement is about itself. How are any of those things remotely connected to begin with?

The most depressing thing about this sort of action is that women believe they can neither achieve any sort of recognition nor do anything great without first subtly mentioning their chests or vaginas. Women believe today that their sexuality is so important that it has to be the foreword to ANY thing they do, including raising breast cancer awareness (which this movement doesn’t do), but stay with me, or just trying to assert their own influence in the world. Why must a woman’s power be so inconsequential that it has to be the foreword to the most apathetic of venues—the internet—then be connected to her sexual status?

Women have no identity other than the strange coveted place between their legs. This doesn’t address the fact that what people believe is “activism” today has been diluted to changing your Facebook status for an hour, or that this sort of breast cancer “awareness” is silly, does nothing to raise “awareness” (Who are we trying to make aware? What are we trying to make them aware of—the fact that breast cancer exists?), or that women today play into this garbage like they’re part of a symphony.

It’s about the state of feminism in general. It’s not about women becoming real people anymore. Women simply engage themselves into stereotypes created for them. They drown these social cues. And they don’t even think about it. In today’s world, how powerful women are can’t be determined by what an individual woman thinks about an issue or even how she acts upon it. It’s categorized into another silly reference to her sexuality. Women cannot do anything without first getting someone—typically a man, who isn’t “in” on the joke—to think about her availability. Maybe I’m just an angry broad. Perhaps this really is what feminism is about—she Grape because she “wants to be married.” She’s wearing a black lace bra—surprise, it’s about breast cancer!

If it is, I refuse to subscribe to it. I’ll remain staunch in my belief that women can do something more, and it doesn’t have to be connected to their bodies. And that their lives can be less about their appearance and more about their minds.

Until then, I’m still a dragonfruit—single dragons out there, my number is 215-555-8345.

Opinions - 7

If you’re one of those who thinks this girl is hopeless, I beg you to take one of your own masterpieces from 7th or 8th grade and put it on display for the world to see. I’m sure they’ll love it... See the problem isn’t Rebecca Black. In fact, from what I’ve seen, she actually has a beautiful voice for her age. So you can blame the writers and producers from Ark Music Factory who worked with her to actually turn this mainstream inspired song, Rollin’ (Airplanes), into an intentional parody of modern pop, but comments like “I hope you cut yourself” and “I hope you get an eating disorder so you’ll look pretty” are going way too far. I mean she’s not responsible for writing the majority of the song, she didn’t make this song viral, and most of all, the girl is 13 years old! “Girls at that age have plenty of other things to worry about,” says sophomore Katie Pierpont. It really is unfortunate that this song became as popular as it did (primarily after it was shown on Tosh.0).

Perhaps people shouldn’t be so critical of a 13 year old, and Daniel Tosh should consider the ramifications of a celebrity bashing a young girl’s passion in front of the world. And perhaps we should consider what influence TV and modern pop culture is having on our youth, and ourselves.
Ursinus community celebrates groundbreaking

By Shane Eochus
sheochus@ursinus.edu

On Thursday March 17 the Ursinus Athletic department welcomed friends and alumni back to campus for an aptly titled event. The ceremony was held to mark the beginning of the two phase, multimillion dollar overhaul of the school's outdoor athletic facilities.

Athletic director Laura molken, Interim President of Ursinus College John Corson, coaches and student athlete representatives for the benefitting athletic teams joined the ceremony to begin the outdoor athletic facilities renovation.

At the ceremony, Dr. Fong spoke towards the athletic department's interests. "I think that habits of good physical culture integrate into this." Included in the project will be a state of the art turf field, which will be used by the football team, men's and women's soccer teams, the men's and women's lacrosse teams and intramural sports at Ursinus. In addition to the turf, the first phase of the renovation will also welcome a resurfacing of the outdoor track, and lights for Patterson field.

The addition of lights to Patterson field should allow for more flexible practice hours, if need be, as well as open the possibility to night contests for outdoor sports other than Field hockey and lacrosse. Currently, only two fields at Ursinus have lights (the Eleanor Snell Frost Athletic Field and the football practice field).

Phase one of the project should begin in early April and it will be completed by the time athletic team's return for training camp in August. Phase two of the project will take place after the 2011-2012 sports seasons, and it will include bleacher renovations and an improved entrance to the Patterson field complex.

In related news Ursinus has been forced to say goodbye to the sycamore tree that's ancestral roots have been buried beneath Patterson field for over half of a century. Although it was not possible to save the tree in its current location, there is rumored to be a plan for replanting of the sycamore's seedlings just beyond the borders of the east end of the track.

Hope springs eternal as baseball season opens

By Christopher Michael
chmichael@ursinus.edu

The 2011 Major League Baseball season begins at 1:05 on Thursday March 31st as the Yankees take on the Detroit Tigers in the Bronx, while the Nationals face the Atlanta Braves in Washington, D.C. There are several interesting storylines to follow this year as the San Francisco Giants looks to repeat as World Champions. The off-season featured several big name free agents changing teams, with four time All-Star outfielder Carl Crawford signing with the Boston Red Sox, 2008 AL Cy Young award winner Cliff Lee returning to the Philadelphia Phillies, and All-Star Jayson Werth joining the Washington Nationals.

The AL East division looks to be highly competitive between the Rays, Red Sox, and Yankees. It seems that yet again the AL wild card spot will emerge from the AL East. Besides signing Crawford, the Red Sox made a trade with the San Diego Padres to acquire All-Star First Base man Adrian Gonzalez. The New York Yankees failed to sign Lee, but did add a top notch pitcher in reliever Rafael Soriano, who will pitch the 8th inning to set-up for closer Mariano Rivera. Although the Rays lost Crawford to free agency, their minor league prospects, revamped bullpen, and veteran additions such as Manny Ramirez and Johnny Damon should allow them to have a solid shot at the playoffs. The Toronto Blue Jays are in rebuild mode as they have traded Shaun Marcum, but have received quality young players in deals and were finally able to unload Vernon Wells' mammoth contract to the LA Angels. The Baltimore Orioles, also could be a sleeper team after acquiring Derrek Lee, Mark Reynolds, and JJ Hardy.

The awesome pitching rotation of the San Francisco Giants looks to propel them to another division title.

Mike Stanton will bring about their first playoff appearance since winning the World Series in 2003. The Milwaukee Brewers and St. Louis Cardinals will try to take the division title away from last year's champs, the Cincinnati Reds. The Brewers improved their rotation by adding 2009 AL Cy Young award winner Zack Greinke and Marcum. The Cardinals signed Lance Berkman, but have lost Adam Wainwright for the season due to an elbow injury. The Cubs traded for starting pitcher Matt Garza from the Rays, but still have an uphill climb for a playoff spot.

The awesome pitching rotation of the San Francisco Giants looks to propel them to another division title. The Colorado Rockies locked up young players Carlos Gonzalez and Troy Tulowitzki to long term deals as they challenge the Giants for the division championship. Although the Padres surprised everyone by winning 90 games last year and had a great season from starter Mat Latos, they failed to make the playoffs. The Dodgers and Diamondbacks should be improved from last year, so the Giants will have their hands full in their repeat attempt.