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The Grizzly, April 28, 2011

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The Grizzly

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NewU hosts "Spring into Wellness" month

By Allison Nichols
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The New U committee held their second annual "Spring into Wellness" month this April which aimed to promote an overall healthier lifestyle for faculty and staff.

There was a wide range of activities available to faculty and staff members; tai chi, water aerobics, rock wall climbing, hikes, and bike rides were among the fitness options the New U committee had planned.

Staff and faculty members earn points for participating in these various events designed to increase fitness or health. If they earn 10 points they earn a \$10 gift certificate to Wawa, Wegman's, Eastern Mountain Sports, or Schuylkill Valley Sports. Those who complete the 10 point challenge are entered into a drawing for a \$100 Visa Gift Card, \$25 Wegman's Gift Card, \$25 Target Gift Card, and a \$25 Wawa Gift Card.

Participants enter their points

earned through the New U page on the Ursinus website, each activity equaling a different value of points. Incorporating half an hour of fitness into your daily routine can earn two points, getting your blood pressure taken can earn you one point, and going on a group pike ride can earn two points.

Another way to earn points is by partaking in the Stairs Challenge, which is designed to increase the amount of physical activity that employees engage in

during their work day. Employees keep track of the number of stairs they climb each day and enter this number online. The goal is to accumulate 2,600 steps in 4 weeks. In order to keep participants on track, the New U com-



Vinh Ly (front) and Dan Fryer take Bikeshare's tandem bike out for some exercise. Photo by Liz Kilmer

mittee created weakly incentives for stair climbing. If 500 steps are climbed in the first week, employees are entered into a drawing for a yoga mat or duffel bag. The next week a pen is the prize for 600 stairs climbed, the third

week participants are entered into a drawing for a \$25 gift certificate if they climb 800 stairs, and in the final week participants receive a

"New U" is continued to News, page 3

College campuses are a "hotbed" for theft

By Liz Kilmer
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Police are still investigating last week's incident of attempted theft, says Kim Taylor, Director of Campus Safety. At approximately 8 p.m. on Wednesday, Apr. 20, two male suspects ventured to steal the personal items of two students in Myrin.

Both witnesses notified campus safety, who in turn contacted local police. While the suspects managed to flee campus before police arrived, Taylor says they have "good leads."

According to witnesses, the suspects are both black, well-built males appearing to be in their early thirties. As this issue went to press, further details regard-

ing the investigation could not be disclosed.

In the past, both Ursinus and the local police have found success in "sharing intelligence" with various other colleges in the area. "When we see thefts on our campus," says Taylor, "we often see the same thing happening on other campuses." According to Taylor, a profusion of cell phone thefts had been occurring on several local campuses last year, and as the result of collaboration, "arrests were made [at Ursinus]."

Although this academic year has seen fewer thefts than in past, "burglary" remains the most prevalent criminal offense

"Safety" is continued to News, page 2

Take a little break with activities from around Collegeville

By Taylor Sparks
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Looking for things to do in or around Collegeville this spring? You won't have to look far! With finals just around the corner, there's no doubt you'll need a little break.

Coming up on May 1 is the second annual arts festival. The festival benefits mental health research and awareness and the proceeds will be donated to a brain and behavior research fund. Active Minds will also be there for advocacy and awareness. Worried you'll have to go far off campus? Never fear! The art festival is being held in the Kaleidoscope and will feature both student work as well as hundreds

of paintings, jewelry, and photography created by local artists. The pros you ask? You'll be supporting students as well as those within in the community.

Another great place to spend a beautiful afternoon is Blend Café. Their delicious coffee, breakfast sandwiches, pastries, and tea are even more delicious now that they can be enjoyed in Blend' outdoor seating area! What better way to spend time with friends or catch up on some reading then over coffee and sweets! They also host a bunch of fun night life activities such as Open Mic and Trivia nights! There is no better place to show off your glorious

"Collegeville" is continued to Features, page 4

INSIDE:



Art Fair
Page 3



Nazi Documents
Page 5



Point/Counterpoint
Page 6



Senior Spotlight
Page 8

International News with Lisa: Civil unrest

By Lisa Jobe
lijobe@ursinus.edu



Wednesday, Apr. 20

HAVANA, CUBA – Cuba's Community Party, which wrapped up its first party congress in 14 years on Wednesday, has approved more than 300 economic and political proposals meant to repair the ailing economy. The proposals involve cutting many jobs in the public sector and expanding the private sector to make up for some of the job losses. Cubans will be able to buy and sell houses and cars for the first time in decades. One proposal by current

president Raul Castro called for term limits of 10 years for future Cuban leaders. The congress also saw a rare public appearance by Raul's 84-year-old brother Fidel, who yielded power when he fell ill in 2006. The delegates also appointed a close ally of Raul Castro, 80-year-old Jose Ramon Machado Ventura, as Cuba's second-in-command. The move is disappointing to some who had hoped to see younger faces in Cuba's leadership. (CNN.com)

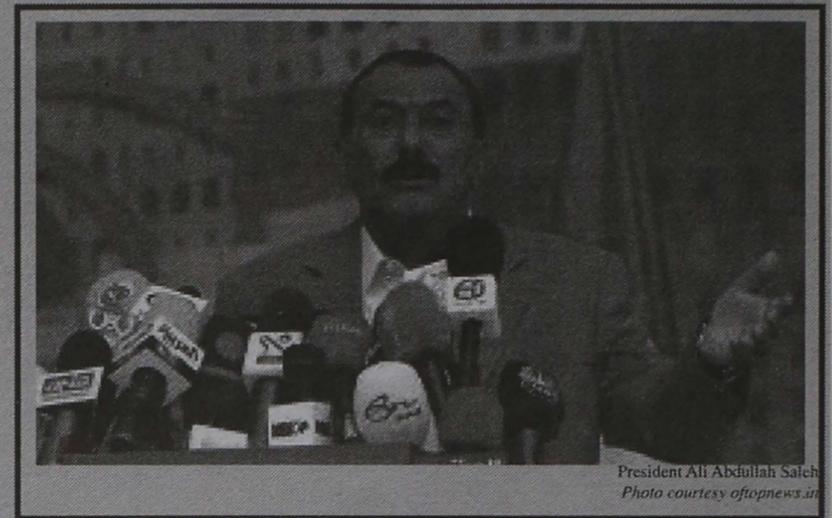
Wednesday, Apr. 20

TAIZ, YEMEN – A gunman on a motorcycle opened fire on a protester camp in Yemen on Wednesday, the latest incident in a week of increased violence in the embattled Middle Eastern country. Many protesters have been testing the patience of state security this week, demonstrating outside of their usual zones and burning tires in the streets. On Tuesday, police opened fire on protesters in the capital city of Sanaa and in another city, Taiz, killing six people. Over 123 protesters have been killed in clashes with security since protests demanding

an end to President Ali Abdullah Saleh's 32-year rule began in January. Saleh has said he will step down, but only once he can hand power over to "safe hands." (Reuters, hosted on NewsDaily.com)

Thursday, Apr. 21

MISRATA, LIBYA – The Libyan government released a statement on Thursday expressing regret over the death of two foreign journalists on Wednesday. Spokesman Moussa Ibrahim called the incident "very sad," but went on to say, "And it's war of course. People die from our side, from their side, people get caught in the middle." British photojournalist Tim Hetherington and US photojournalist Chris Hondros were killed in a grenade attack outside the city of Misrata on Wednesday. Two other journalists, Guy Martin and Michael Christopher Brown, were also injured in the attack. A BBC correspondent in the area said that there appeared to have been "a direct hit on the group." In an entry on Twitter posted just days before his death, Hetherington mentioned "indiscriminate shelling"



President Ali Abdullah Saleh
Photo courtesy of topnews.ir

by pro-Gadhafi forces. (BBC News Online)

Friday, Apr. 22

ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN – Pakistani military officials announced Friday that an American drone attack killed 23 people in North Waziristan, a northwestern mountainous region in Pakistan. The attack signaled unyielding pressure by the United States on Pakistan, even amidst growing condemnation of such drone strikes. That condemnation may continue to grow amongst Pakistani civilians as a result of

Friday's attack. According to a North Waziristan official, five children and four women were among the 23 killed. The attack targeted the forces of Hafiz Gul Bahadur, a Pakistani militant whose forces regularly cross into Afghanistan to attack American and NATO forces there. The local government intends to allow a pre-planned anti-NATO protest to occur over the weekend. Protesters intend to stage a sit-in on Saturday to block NATO trucks carrying supplies to Afghanistan. (New York Times Online)

"Safety" is continued from front page.

occurring on-campus. A week prior to the Myrin incident, two laptops were stolen—as this issue went to press, no connection had been made between the two events, although according to Taylor, a connection has not been ruled out.

As for explaining the motivations behind these campus criminals, Taylor proposes the following: "[a college] is a hotbed of

opportunity... if you're a thief, what better place?"

With the stress of schoolwork, students may tend to be a bit more "absent-minded" when it comes to leaving their personal belongings unattended— or, as is often the case, they do so with awareness. "My computer is unattended in the library right now," says junior Elizabeth Burns while at an off-campus event. Junior Erica Boyles admits to having done the same: "I figure every student here has the same laptop." But the campus isn't accessed solely

by students and faculty.

"We are an open environment," says Taylor, noting our public library and art museum. "We have an amazing campus; we want our community to interact with us."

This considered, Taylor urges students to report any unusual observations. "If you see something, say something. It takes a community effort; you have to be watching out for each other." In addition, students are advised to never leave personal items unattended, regardless of the time period.

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E!

Grad Finale is tomorrow
April 29 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
in Wismer Lower Lounge

Seniors should stop by for their cap and gown, information from Career Services, and more!
All those that ordered a yearbook can also stop by to pick it up during this time.

The Grizzly

The student newspaper
of Ursinus College

Volume 35, Issue 22

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Relay For Life benefits American Cancer Society

By Allison Nichols and Sara Hourwitz

The students of Ursinus College united at the Relay for Life event Saturday night, April 16, to honor cancer survivors and help raise money for the American Cancer Society.

Starting at 4 p.m. Saturday and running until 9 a.m. Sunday, Relay participants walked the track, fundraised, and enjoyed various forms of entertainment. This year's theme for Relay was "Wish Upon A Cure."

There were over 30 teams participating in the annual event, raising a total of \$26,000 dollars. Although they were shy of their goal of \$46,000 students have until August to continue to fundraise for this worthy cause.

Unlike past years, Relay for Life 2011 was held in the field house. According to co-chairs Rebecca Kamm and Ashley Cattai, "It's inside because of issues with the weather in the past. Turns out it was good that we planned to have it inside because the field was being redone anyways." This change of location seemed to be rather popular among students. Sophomore Grace Gennaro, captain of her team the Pink Pedal Pushers, remarked that "Relay is so much better than last year.

Because it is taking place in the Field House, there's more togetherness with the all activities being in one place."

In addition, Kamm and Cattai were hoping that the dry venue would encourage participants to stay the entire night. In order to ensure students' attendance, the Colleges Against Cancer group at Ursinus and the Relay for Life planners worked hard to bring fun events and activities at this year's Relay for Life event. There were multiple performances throughout the night, including ones by the B'Naturals, Bearitones, the Ursinus Dance Team, Seismic Step, and more. When performances weren't taking place, DJs played upbeat and fun tunes to keep participants energized.

The first major event of the evening was the survivor stories. Cancer survivors and caregivers went on stage and told the audience their struggles with the disease. One of these survivors included an 18-year-old girl who has overcome cancer twice in her young life. Her talk, along with the others, proved to be very moving, bringing many members of the audience to tears. Sophomore Chelsea Grahamslaw said, "The survivor talk was my favorite part. The 18-year-old girl was so close to our age that it really pulled on your emotions."

After the survivors and care-

givers told their empowering stories, they walked around the track together for the Survivors' Lap. Throughout the entire night, students continued to walk in honor of these survivors and all others affected by the disease.

Although the evening was very emotional, the Relay event included fun activities to encourage participation and fundraising for the cause. Events included Zumba, Mr. and Mrs. Relay, basketball, dodgeball, and even tug-of-war. The Tug-of-War competition was Derrick Wickward's favorite event of the evening.

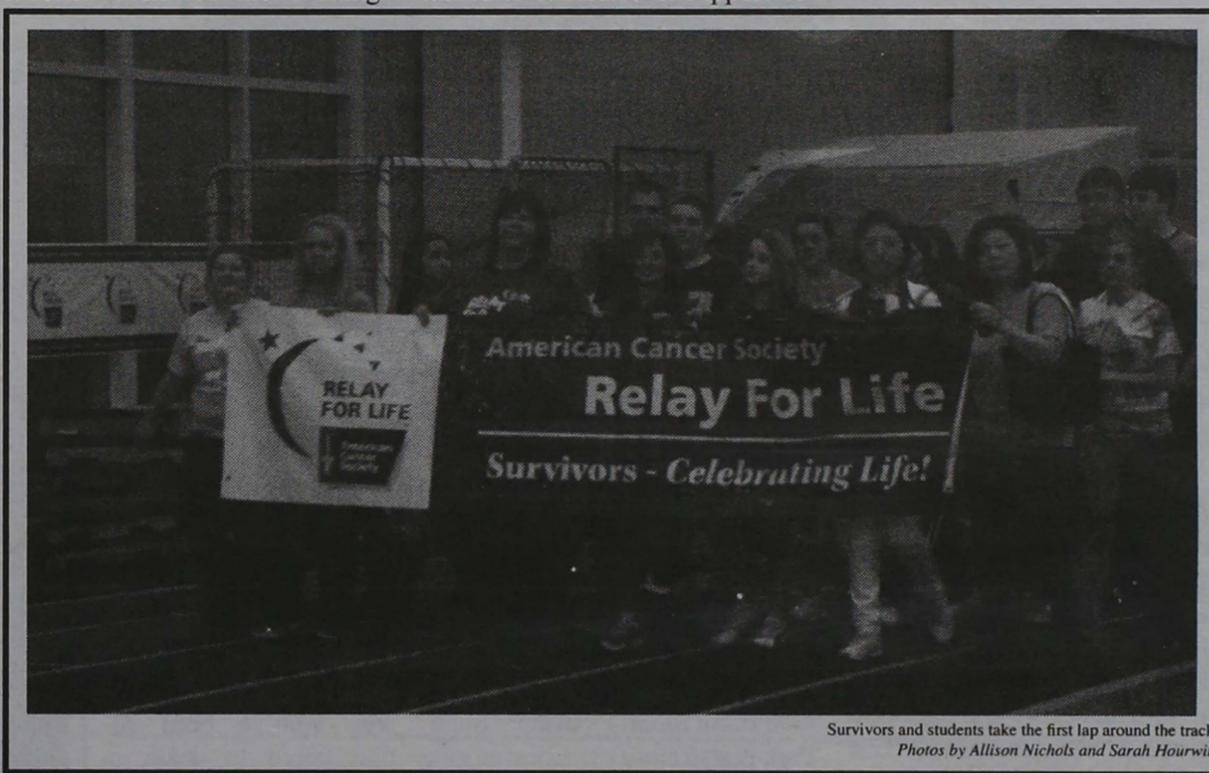
Wickward, who was from the Phi Kappa Sigma team, remarked that "this year's event was really fun. Last year, Relay was all about walking on the track. This year, there's a lot more to do."

Fundraising before and during the event plays a big part in Relay for Life. Students are encouraged to request donations from friends and family members in the months leading up to Relay. If a participant raises \$100, he or she receives a Relay for Life t-shirt.

During the event, teams continued to fundraise in support of

the cause. These included bake sales, selling pretzels and pizza, and face painting. There were also fundraising activities sponsored by the coordinators of the event, including a moon bounce and tie-dying.

Despite being short of their participation and monetary goals, the coordinators of Relay put on an event that was successful in raising money and awareness of the tragic disease. In addition, Saturday night's Relay united both students and survivors alike.



Survivors and students take the first lap around the track. Photos by Allison Nichols and Sarah Hourwitz

Active Minds hosts Art Festival

By Laura Faith
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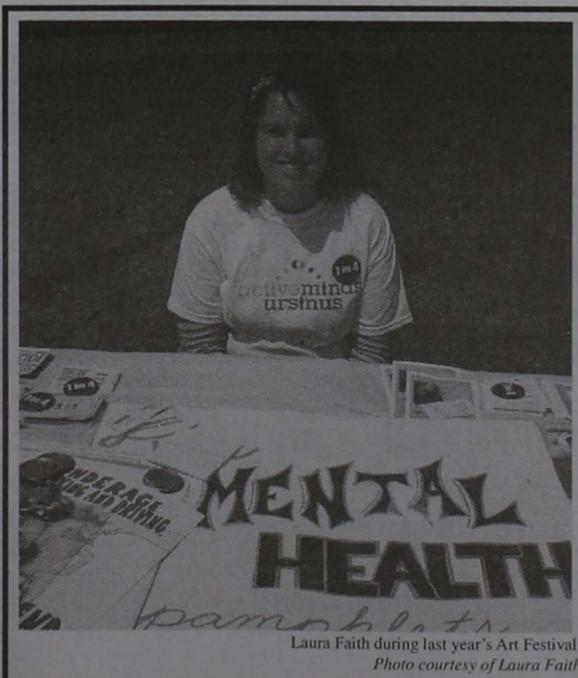
Active Minds will be hosting their 2nd Annual Art Festival for Mental Health Research this Sunday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The Art Festival will feature student and professional artists selling art along the Kaleidoscope walkway (rain location Pfahler atrium) to benefit The Brain and Behavior Research Foundation (formerly known as NARSAD). Art will include paintings, jewelry, horticultural gifts, fiber arts, and much more. There will be face painting, delicious local food, and artistic displays created by Active Minds members.

Last year, the art fair, along with additional fundraising efforts, raised over \$1,000 towards NAMI, the National Alliance on Mental Illness. This organization

focuses on advocacy to improve lives of individuals and family members affected by mental illness. This year, Active Minds chose to use their efforts to support another important cause that raises money towards mental health research. The Brain and Behavior Research Foundation distributes 100% of donor contributions towards NARSAD grants for disorders such as schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, depression, and autism.

Active Minds expects this year's Art Festival to be

even better than the last! Come support local artists, admire beautiful artwork, eat delicious local food, and buy your mom a present (Mother's Day is May 8!).



Laura Faith during last year's Art Festival. Photo courtesy of Laura Faith

"New U" is continued from front page.

t-shirt if they climb 900 steps.

A hydro fitness class was sponsored by U New and was offered for free. Employees and staff were encouraged to take advantage of the fitness opportunities offered on and around campus. For example the bike share, the Perkiomen trail, and walk/run races in the area.

This was all organized by New U, a new organization on campus which is in its third year of operation on campus. They are also responsible for the wellness fair held in the fall. "We had approximately 125 people stop by the Wellness Fair on Apr. 6 and over 50 signed up and actively

participated in the stairs challenge," said Dana Pienta, a New U committee member.

New U committee members spend much time planning and organizing wellness month. They provide feedback from fellow co-workers to share with the committee and communicate with outside Ursinus organizations to promote and provide opportunities for staff to get involved.

NewU is in its third year at Ursinus. The organization tries to promote healthy living habits for faculty and staff on campus

Wellness month was a success for the New U committee. "Our goal of having the committee is to provide opportunities and education to staff and faculty to live a healthier lifestyle," said Pienta.

Senior Reflection: The past was worth the future

By Ryan Sullivan
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In third grade Justin LeStage called me “the gay bandito” – whatever that means. I threw a carton of chocolate milk at his face. In fifth grade Ms. Jacques suspended me from St. Lucy School because I dyed my hair purple. I wrote “bitch” on pieces of paper and left them on her desk. In sixth grade David Alarcon made fun of my clothes. I punched him in the face.

My parents told me that when I chucked chocolate milk across the room, riddled my teacher’s desk with curse words, or hit my classmates I was just stooping to their level.

In seventh grade Ashley DiMauro told everyone I was so fat she couldn’t tell if I was a girl or

a boy. I did nothing. In eighth grade Aaron Coggins told me my man-boobs were so big I would hit myself in the face with them if I tried to run. I did nothing. In eleventh grade I met my first

boyfriend and Holy Cross High School wouldn’t let me take him to prom. In twelfth grade my parents sent me to Same Sex Attraction Counseling. I landed myself in the psych ward.

major, I finished French and Spanish minors.

This year I finished an Honors project, I went to my first dance audition. Three weeks from now I will be the first person in my family to ever graduate from college.

I guess what I’m trying to say is that this school opened me up – Ursinus as an institution forced me to think about who I am, who I used to be, who I will become, and how those all relate to each other.

If you ask one hundred different people who I am I would hope that you would be met with one hundred different replies. Maybe someone will tell you that I’m the gay kid with the tattoos, maybe that I’m the dancer who changes his hair color more often than most people change their t-shirts, or maybe that I’m the RA that’s in

Sigma Pi. I don’t think anyone would tell you that I’m an obese loser that prays more than the Virgin Mary or that I’m a nerdy loner who spends recess reading *Dracula* – but I was those things at one time or another.

Ursinus has shown me that my experiences shape who I am and that whether an experience is destructive or constructive doesn’t really matter because it has still changed me, my relationship to others, and the way I see the world in one way or another.

In my life I’ve had scared parents, pissed off teachers, ignorant peers, and over-zealous priests tell me all about what they wanted me to be. At Ursinus, I’ve mostly met professors, mentors, peers, and artists that have
“Reflection” is continued to Features, page 5



Ryan Sullivan
Photo by Katie Haldeman

“Collegeville” is continued from Front Page

singing skills.

If you’re tired of Wismer food (which there is no doubt that you are!), Collegeville also hosts a Farmers Market. If you take my advice and make your way to Blend Café, the farmers market will be held nearby in the parking lot behind the AmeriGreen Gas station. Over 20 vendors will be present there every Saturday starting April 30th. Support the community as well as the Collegeville Main Street Program.

If you’re looking to go a little farther off campus, you won’t have to look far. The first Friday of every month, Phoenixville holds numerous cultural events on Bridge street which is located

in their down town area. Restaurants, shops, businesses and more hold events which include entertainers, musicians, and for those of you concert goes out there- Outdoor Concerts! While the idea of traveling to Phoenixville might not sound appealing, the trip will be well worth it.

If you’re interested in relaxing in a place that isn’t the library or your dorm room, Evansburg State Park is also close by. Located just between Collegeville and Norristown, it could provide a quiet place to study, hike, or picnic with friends.

If there’s anyone out there who shares a love of Ireland as much as I do, also consider going to Molly Maguire’s, also located in nearby Phoenixville. Beginning April 17th, Molly Maguire’s began to host opportunities for

some genuine fun hosting traditional Irish sessions consisting of live music, dancers, and a three course dinner for only 15 dollars! You can even bring your own instrument and participate along with the performers!

So, for those of you who who’ve been sitting bored to death in your stuffy dorm room or studying like champions in an equally stuffy library get up off your hardworking butts, go outside and enjoy the many activities that Collegeville and Phoenixville are offering this spring. See you there!



The Farmer’s Market opens this Saturday.
Photo by Katie Haldeman

Word on the Street

with Jessica Orbon
jeorbon@ursinus.edu

“What is your favorite late night snack?”



Connor Gregory
Sophomore
MCS

Ciabatta melts from Wawa



Rachel Liegey
Freshman
Undecided

Popcorn



Jovanni Waters
Freshman
Busi & Econ

Oreos



Holly Smith
Junior
Politics

Cranberries

Students uncover papers from The Third Reich

By Jeff Centafont
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In the Spring of 2009, student interns Kristin O'Brassill and Molly Sheffer uncovered an inconspicuous box while working in the Pennsylvania German Folk-life Collection on the second floor of the Myrin Library. A box like many others in the collection, neither could have imagined the strange and decidedly out-of-place contents which it contained: official documents of the Third Reich. Their subsequent research uncovered the names of Wolfram Sievers and Walter Wüst; neither prominent names in the popular narrative of now-infamous Nazi war criminals. Yet as O'Brassill and Sheffer soon discovered, both men were heavily involved in spearheading the effort to justify by "scientific" research the validity of one of Nazi Germany's defining intellectual paradigms: The Aryan race.

The organization these men led was called *das Ahnenerbe*, a small research branch of the SS founded by Heinrich Himmler and Herman Wirth in 1935 in order to discover the pre-historic and mythological origins of the Aryan race. In so doing, Himmler,

the leader of the SS, hoped to simultaneously justify Nazi racial ideology while "re-discovering" the lost traditions and practices of an ancient Aryan civilization. The *Ahnenerbe* travelled the globe, from Sweden and the Middle East to Tibet and Crimea in search of lost Aryan civilizations. As the most recent scholarship surrounding these expeditions suggest, the *Ahnenerbe* found (and destroyed) many things on their expedition, though Aryans and their civilization were not among them.

How Ursinus came into possession of such documents remain unclear, except that they probably arrived with the rest of the Pennsylvania Folk-life Collection from Franklin and Marshall College in the 1970s. One of the collection's primary collectors, Alfred L. Shoemaker, served in U.S. Army Intelligence between 1943 and 1947 as a linguist and ethnologist. The extensively ethnographic and

folk-life-oriented direction of the Nazi papers found in the collection likely would have interested Shoemaker, regardless of his employment by the Army.

Where he found the documents is also unknown, though it is likely they came from a stash of documents discovered by the US Army in a cave in 1945. Headquartered for much of the Second World War in Dahlem, a well-to-do suburb of Berlin, the *Ahnenerbe* moved their operations to the small, Bavarian town of Waischenfeld in response to Allied bombing

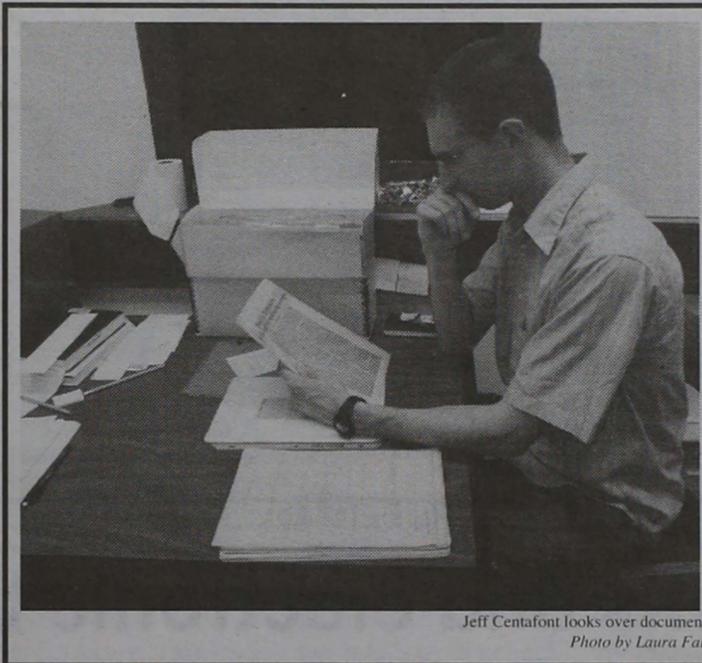
in late 1943. On the lookout for hidden documentary evidence of war crimes, American soldiers discovered a large stash of documents connected to Wolfram Sievers, the managing director of the *Ahnenerbe* and later convicted war-criminal, in a cave outside the town in 1945. As the documents at Ursinus bear considerable notation by Sievers' hand, it is likely they were among his papers during the war, and plausibly were also lifted from the cave near Waischenfeld in 1945.

So what do the Ursinus documents tell us about the *Ahnenerbe's* operations before and during the Second World War? In broad strokes, they suggest a strong connection between the *Ahnenerbe* and other Nazi folk-life projects, such as the Atlas of German Ethnography. More specifically, they detail, among other things, important contributions the *Ahnenerbe* made

toward actuating the SS's plan to employ professional water dowsers in the latter's fighting divisions on the Eastern Front, a goal that became a reality in 1942.

In these ways and others, the newly-discovered documents at Ursinus reinforce present interpretations of the SS as an organization continuously expanding its areas of involvement throughout the Third Reich. Academic disciplines such as folk-studies and linguistics became tools of war in the hands of Nazi institutions bent on winning the war and realizing their idyllic vision of a racially-pure future Germany at any cost. This process began long before the fortunes of war had turned against the Nazis.

Yet much work remains to be done with the *Ahnenerbe* collection at Ursinus College. For those interested, a more detailed explanation of the documents and the work done thus far in integrating portions of them into the established narrative on the subject will be included in a presentation by the author on May 4 at a time and place to be announced. Questions and comments are welcomed by the author.



Jeff Centafont looks over documents.
Photo by Laura Faith

Internship Spotlight: Sierra Guerin

By Sarah Bollert of
Career Services

Sierra Guerin, a senior double major in Business and Economics and French, interned this summer in the International Tax department of Teleflex Incorporated located in Limerick, Pennsylvania.

The company, which sells medical products, hired Guerin after she received an email from Career Services featuring the internship opportunity and contacted the company for an interview.

Guerin utilized her basic accounting and data entry skills while working as an International Tax Intern. "There was a lot of verification of numbers," she says. "I feel like I definitely learned a lot more about taxes," which she believes will be an asset in the future. The beginning of Guerin's internship was a lot of working on "look-throughs" to verify that international com-

panies had paid off interest and that the other company agreed that they had received this interest. She also worked on preparing tax returns and sending them to a consultant, then later noting that the numbers agreed.

Guerin says that "it was really interesting to work with a bunch of different foreign countries." She says a downside of the internship, however, was that some days "could get pretty routine," but she enjoyed her work enough that she has continued to be employed there since, and upon graduating this past December, she has taken on a full-time schedule.

"It definitely helped to have a basic knowledge of balance sheets and income statements," Guerin notes. She also says that she "learned much more about them as the internship progressed." For Guerin, the internship was a manifestation of what she's learned in the classroom as

a Business and Economics major. She says, "I reviewed debits and credits in my accounting course and the internship went over that as well."

Guerin is "definitely still considering a position in tax or accounting," but she would like to go abroad or to grad school at this point in her life. As far as networking while working as an intern goes, Guerin says, "I didn't network actively, but I got the business cards of the consultants that I worked with and I was always polite and courteous because they did write references for me for graduate school." She also notes, "It's a great company too."

Guerin, who applied to nearly 50 internships, advises that students "just apply for anything" that interests them. She also believes that you should "be open for anything," as she sacrificed going home to California for the summer to stay here and work.

"Reflection" is continued
from Features, page 4

asked me who I am and what I'm about. To me, those questions are infinitely more important because they challenge me to grow and to explore my potential. Four years ago when Rick DiFelicianantonio interviewed me for admission into the college he didn't give a shit that I got a perfect score on my AP Biology test if I couldn't tell him why I wanted to study Biology in the first place. When I wrote my first paper for CIE Ed Gildea didn't care that my sentences were perfectly edited if they didn't really say anything at all.

I know that my time at Ursinus has been worthwhile because I was given chances to learn, to grow, to change, and, most im-

portantly, to think for myself as an independent and confident person. No matter how much I've accomplished, sometimes I still feel like I'm sitting in the corner of the playground reading a book while everyone else is running around together. It's still weird for me to say "I'm a dancer" because I know people will judge me, I still don't like to wear fraternity letters around my parents in case they think the Same-Sex Attraction therapy worked, and I still don't know what I'm doing or where I'll be living after I leave the graduation tent. But, because of the opportunities I've been given in the last four years I know who I am, I know what I want, and I have the tools I need to keep exploring new possibilities.

We are looking for new Layout Editors for next year! If you are interested or have any questions, email grizzly@ursinus.edu

Point: The magic is in the turning of the page

By Brooke Haley
brhaley@ursinus.edu

One of my favorite places is the bookstore. Nerdy, I know, but it's completely true. A Borders gift card has to be my favorite gift because it gives me an excuse to go sit in one of the aisles of books (comfy chairs are for the weak), and look through all of the many titles perched upon the shelves. I like exploring the newer titles, but nothing beats seeing the books I've already read and come to love. Just seeing the title stamped on the spine reminds me of that certain quirky character, that scene that made me literally laugh out loud, or that one part that brought tears to my eyes. At the age of nineteen I will even venture into the children's section every once in a while to see the stacks of my all-time-favorite Harry Potter books.

It's hard for me to explain the excitement I feel when it comes to books. When I'm driving around, all I have to do is see a used-book store or even a table of books at a yard sale and I get excited. I

know I must sound crazy, because I don't think many people my age, or honestly, many people in general, feel this way about literature. I think it's probably the same feeling a baseball fan gets when he's sitting in the stands, watching his team play in their home park, or when an aspiring actress gets to see a Broadway show. Reading has always been my passion, and part of that passion is being able to open a book and, in doing so, open up a completely new world for myself to become a part of.

If you can understand this feeling at all, you can probably understand my dislike of electronic books. To me, they're the equivalent of telling the sports fan he has to watch all of the games on television, or the theatre enthusiast that movies will just have to suffice from

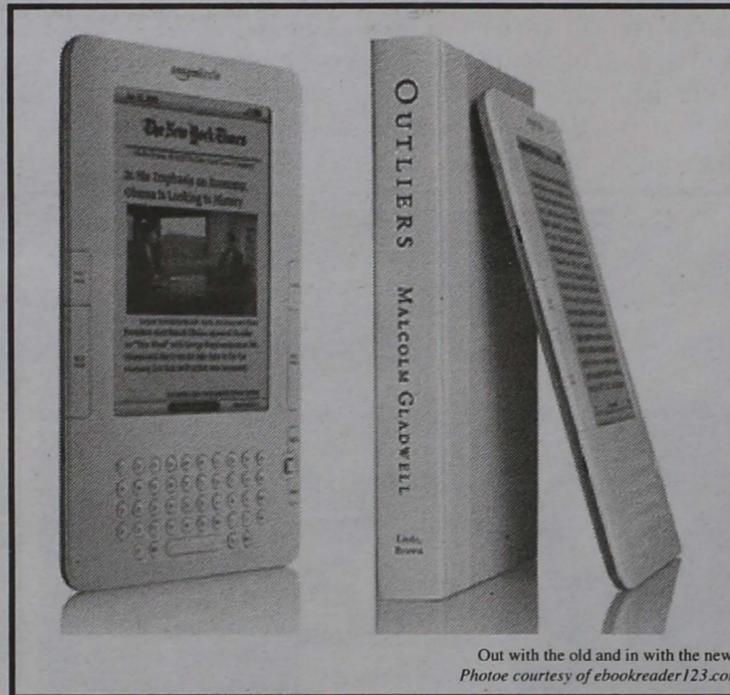
now on. The benefits of electronic books are certainly tempting: you can download them instantly, carry many "books" around with you at once in a slim, portable device and cut down on paper usage. I, myself, even find these benefits alluring, especially when one of the books I tend to read often is well over seven-hundred pages long. But there's something about the physical book that adds to my

love of reading. I know reading is about the plot, the characters and the language, but I also think that part of the experience is in the hard cover, the cracked spine, and each crisp page you have to turn to reveal what will happen next. I don't want each of my books to have the same cold, metallic feel, and for each page to just appear at a simple click.

If I haven't made you re-think buying into the e-book craze, take your hands off of that Nook and just think about our world without books. As a babysitter and an older sister, I know that one of the most important things you can do with kids is read to them. They learn through seeing the pictures and words over and over. Can you picture sitting with that little boy you babysit and reading *The Cat and the Hat* to him from your e-reader? My

sister learned how to read by the age of five because she sat in her room with her picture books and made up stories based on what we read. Are kids supposed to be interested in that boring "page" of electronic type?

As a writer, I've been told that e-books will make getting published much easier because everyone is online and will see my works much more than they would if they were sitting on a shelf in Borders. But what if that's what I want? Books have always been a huge part of my life, and I knew I wanted to write and make others feel the same way that my favorite authors have made me feel, but my dream doesn't end there. Whenever I walk into a big bookstore, I can't help but dream about, one day, seeing one of those shelves full of what I've written. There's something about my books never making it to print, and always just being a page on a website that really bothers me. But who knows? Maybe e-books and real books can co-exist and I'm worrying about nothing. All I know is, no matter what, you'll never see me with a Kindle.



Counterpoint: Books and electronic books can coexist

By Sara Sherr
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The all-new Kindle is smaller, better, lighter, with 50% better contrast, and, according to amazon.com, has built-in Wi-Fi. Complete with a graphic six inch display, new e ink pearl technology, Amazon's number one best-selling product is only \$114 on amazon.com. It's small and sleek, and its screen design is cleverly acclimated to prevent any glare for those sunny outside-reading-days.

And it has the capacity to contain over 270,000 books.

"I'd say the best thing about the Kindle is its portability. When I studied abroad in Italy last semester, I could bring all my favorite books with me. I remember reading *Cutting for Stone* while waiting for a train in Firenze, finishing that book while hurtling through the Italian countryside, and starting another before arriving in Germany," said Ursinus junior Katie Holmes. It's true that when

traveling, checking more than one bag can be accompanied by a fifty dollar fee, cars may not have enough leg-room, let alone room for your favorite 270,000 books. And your backpack may not have enough room for all of them, either.

The answer is that there really is nothing quite like the Kindle. In the mood for coffee? Pop into your favorite coffee shop, accompanied by nothing other than your new Amazon Kindle. Log onto their Wi-Fi, and you have access to your email, check up on your social network. Oh no! Did your book end with an enticing cliffhanger and you cannot breathe eat or sleep until you get your hands on the sequel? No problem! Log into your kindle and you'll be reading the sequel in a matter of minutes.

"With thousands of titles, the Kindle store contains the largest selection of books that people want to read," Amazon.com boasts. "This includes the most popular classics for free with wireless delivery in less than 60 seconds to your Kindle,

computer, or other mobile device." And while there are those who worry about the support of the struggling writers, never fear! It's not as though every book in the world is suddenly at the disposal of the Kindle owner. The reader must still pay an amount, albeit smaller, which will still find its way to the writer's hands. What it skips is the production fees and tree-killing.

"Not only will you save paper and trees, you will also save the energy that goes into making the books and shipping them out all over the world in their physical presence," enviornblog.com says. That's not the only perk that enviornblog.com points out about the Kindle, though: "You'll also save money by paying less for books and shipping and handling."

Some do say, however, that there is a tradition to be missed out on by not having a book in its physical presence.

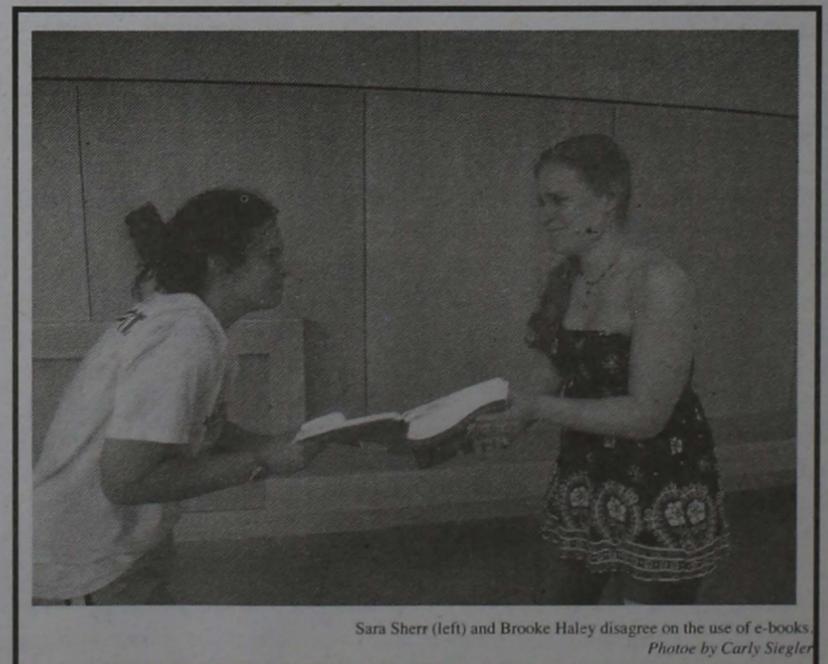
"As an English major, there is nothing more magical to me than a tangible book," Holmes said. "The smell, the ability to

dog-ear or underline especially inspiring images, or handing off a 'this will change your life,' to a friend."

Holmes also professes that these tangible passions are too deeply rooted in literature lovers' hearts to ever be replaced. "I think there will always be a place for books in both the world and literature lovers' hearts, and in no way can a Kindle replace the paper-backs

that we've grown up with."

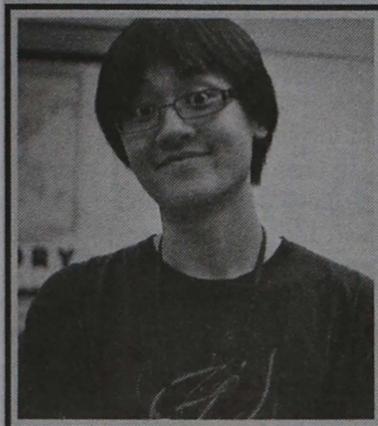
This being said, there's no rule that if you have a Kindle, You'll Never Again be Able to Purchase a Real Book. Far from. But, if you don't have a Kindle, there's no possible way to carry around that multitude of iPhone meets newspaper meets magazine meets public town hall library. The benefits can simply not be ignored.



Sara Sherr (left) and Brooke Haley disagree on the use of e-books.
Photoe by Carly Siegler

A new (satirical) take on racial (in)equality at Ursinus

By KyuChul Shin
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Well, here we go again. First it was a racial epithet on the wall of a room where an African American professor teaches; now we have another slur thrown on the door of a student. Now, I know what you are all thinking: this is going to be another lecture on how writing bad words is wrong, and how we should not be hurting other people's feelings. Well, actually, I was hoping to do something a little bit different, as

I think all of us had quite enough of those lectures back in elementary, middle, and high school. Rather, I propose something else entirely.

You see, I have always seen the United States as a place where people are meant to be equal...in theory. The Founding Fathers decided to write "all men [to be politically correct in the 21st century, let us put all *people*] are created equal," and we are doing our best as a nation to be colorblind and treat all people, no matter their racial background, equally. Thus, why not do the same with the racial epithets? Confused? Well, what I mean is we should probably put a racial epithet on a room where a white professor teaches, a Hispanic professor teaches, a Jewish professor teaches, a Muslim professor teaches, an Asian professor teaches, a Native American professor, and just for kicks, let's also put a sexist slur in a room where a female professor predominately teaches. That's only fair, right? We should treat

everyone equally, after all.

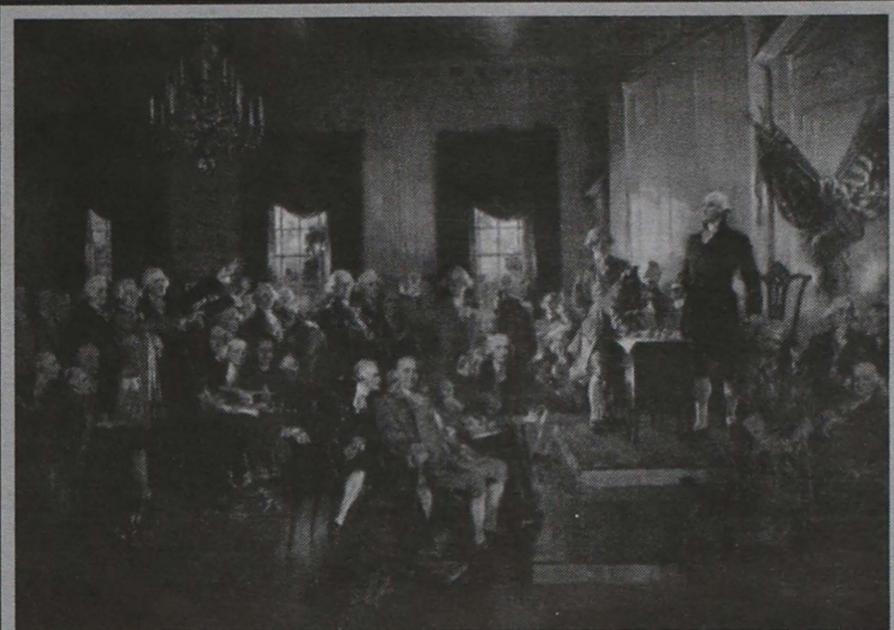
Of course we should not just stop there. I am sure the students would feel incredibly left out if they did not join in on the fun. Ursinus College has a good amount of diversity in its student population, so we might as well do the same for everyone. Finding a door of a random white student, Hispanic student, Jewish student, Native American student, Muslim student, Asian student, and whoever else I might have left out. Of course, there also needs to be a random sexist slur posted on a female student's door. Do not worry; I have spent a lot of time thinking about this. Oh wait, we cannot leave out the employees on campus either. Make sure to do the same for the employees as well.

What's that? Did you ask

what about those of mixed backgrounds? Well, I guess we should not make them feel left out. We might as well write a slur for each part of their background. We do not want any part of their heritage feeling left out.

However, then again, simply picking and choosing one person

from each of these groups would not be fair or equal. Rather, a slur should be written in the rooms of all professors and students. Now that would be equality at its best. Get ready to buy a lot of spray paint everyone; it is going to be a long night of painting racial slurs all over campus.



What would the Founding Fathers think?
Photo courtesy of wikipedia.org

Looking past senioritis: The importance of giving back to UC

By Katie Callahan
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A couple of weeks ago the Senior Committee hosted an open bar night at The Trappe Tavern. The night partially celebrated graduation soon approaching, but it was also to make seniors more aware of the process of making a pledge to Ursinus.

I was talking to one kid who currently has a rather negative outlook on Ursinus. I asked him if this is because he is a second semester senior and 1) stressed about graduation, 2) stressed about finishing assignments, 3) thinking about student loans and/or 4) wondering if he will have a

job come June or September? Or, is it because you genuinely had a bad experience your last 3.5 years here? He thought for a moment and said it was really just because it was second semester. He then recounted why he stayed at Ursinus and the friends that he made along the way.

My request, to the senior class, is not to think about the last few weeks of agonizing senioritis, or a couple of bad experiences with faculty or staff, but to think about your freshmen experience, the point where you made the decision to truly be a part of the Ursinus community, and why most of you decided to accumulate thousands of dollars of debt at this institution. I guarantee you wouldn't have done it if you didn't see some value in staying here.

There was another situation that I was involved in with another senior. Over winter break I was with a fellow senior that was bitter towards Ursinus because her GPA was not as high as she would have liked it to be. She mentioned she should have gone to [PA school name here] and gotten a much better GPA. I laughed, because I knew the education at the school she mentioned didn't

come close to the education at Ursinus. She also mentioned that she didn't get into a grad school that two family members had gotten into. One of the great things about Ursinus is that you can be proud to know that you deserved every single grade on your transcript. Regardless of who your parents are, who you know, or how much money you have, you deserve those grades. You may have studied more or less than the person next to you for it, but you deserved it.

Giving back isn't just about the money; it's about the statement that you are making with that donation. It is saying that the experience and education you received here is worth supporting and worth investing in. By giving back you show others around you that donating \$20.11 (or more) now or a year from now will make a difference in someone's life and, in turn, the future of our society.

My grandmother came from a larger family, and her parents showed her the importance of education. Because of this, each of the siblings worked throughout college to pay for the next child's education. I don't think my grandmother knew back then

that I would be attending her alma mater, but that didn't stop her and my grandfather from donating to Ursinus over the years. I believe they donated because they believed in a liberal arts education, and they believed in what Ursinus could offer their students.

I made a pledge a few weeks ago, and I know I probably don't have the money right now to give to Ursinus, but I know I will in a year from now. I feel secure in my education that I have the tools to take advantage of what life has to offer, and I want future students to have that same opportunity. Please note that I am telling

you all this to make a statement; that each of us is capable of making some sort of pledge.

Roughly 50 seniors have pledged to the Senior Class Gift Drive so far, and I am asking for the other 300 of you to do the same thing during the Grad Finale tomorrow from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Wismer Lower Lounge. All of us will have different reasons for giving back, and I can say of those that are believe in what Ursinus is doing and what it has to offer to current and future students. Leave your print at UC, make the pledge.

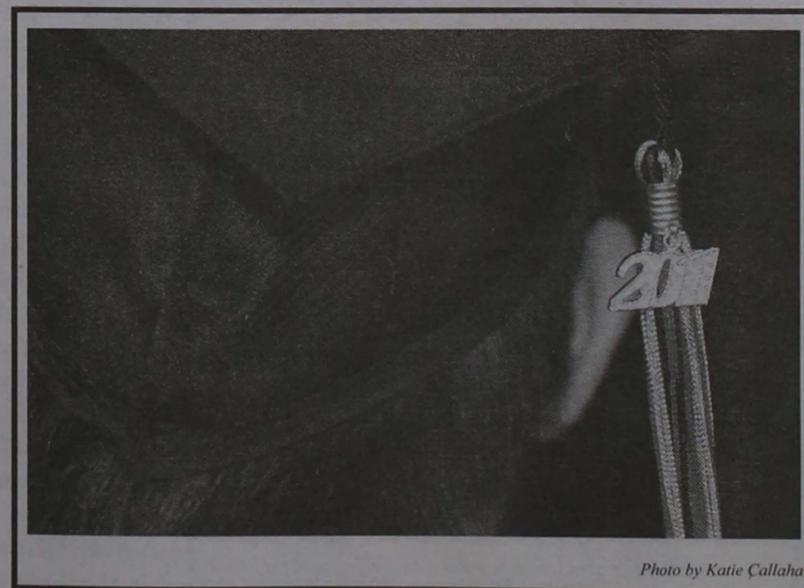


Photo by Katie Callahan

Senior Spotlight: Runner Jeremy Garavel

By Nick Pane
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Being a part of an athletic program or organization is certainly an experience that is rare, gratifying, and rewarding. While the majority of college students leave their athletic careers at the door once high school is over, a number of them have the privilege to continue their careers for an additional four years. Such an opportunity has not been lost on Senior Jeremy Garavel, a four-year athlete for the Men's Cross Country and Track & Field teams at Ursinus. Garavel has had a stellar career in both of the sports, being a three-season athlete and enduring rigorous training schedules that must be followed on a year-round schedule.

One of the luxuries of being an incoming freshman athlete is, among other things, the instant opportunity to make a

group of friends that are guaranteed to have a common interest as you. "The [Cross Country] team was the first group of students I met on campus," said Garavel, "They immediately took me in and treated me like a friend. I'll always be appreciative of all of my upperclassmen teammates and especially my freshman teammates from that first year. I'm happy that the XC team as an institution is able to provide this same welcoming for most of the incoming athletes." The continuity that teams share often play a big role in the amount of success that the team has, simply because athletes are going to be more willing to work hard and compete for their teammates, and not just for their own benefit. Garavel certainly exemplifies this concept with the mindset that he has when approaching running.

The thrill of competition is often a key component to an athlete's will to succeed, and Garavel

shares this notion in a different way. "[It's gratifying] to see my teammates beat me," said Garavel, "It has been fun to never be the best on the team. It has always driven me to be my best. Between us runners, it is

a friendly kind of competitive." The idea is that teammates will push themselves and each other to work as hard as possible to



Jeremy Garavel
Photo courtesy of the Ruby Yearbook

generate the best results. However, Garavel had something more, something that few athletes can boast. "[It's great] to be able to compete at the college level with my twin brother, Justin. We both run and are each other's best motivation to continue running. Anything I've accomplished in running

couldn't have been done without him." Though great competitors, the Garavel twins have been each other's biggest fans, willing each

other to be the best that they possibly can. Having both has been an added bonus to the rest of the team, in that it gives that much more incentive to work hard and persevere through the difficulties of the sport.

Garavel understands and accepts that his running career will ultimately come to a close after this weekend's Conference Championships wrap up on Sunday. Along with the remaining seniors, he will look to stamp one final impressive performance onto his illustrious resume, while keeping in perspective what the team has meant to him as an athlete and as a person. "The program has taught me what it is like to be someone that others rely on and to do one thing well," said Garavel, "those are the two main lessons I've learned that I'm sure to take something from in the future."

Flyers think big while Sixers try to make impression

By Nick Pane
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The aura of April is one of intrigue and excitement, a month that often brings audiences to focus more on their beloved sports teams as they advance and compete in the postseason of their respective sports. The NBA and NHL playoffs are among us, and until the middle of June, we as fans have the luxury of watching pressure-filled, thrilling games that will help to determine who can compete for a championship, and who ultimately ends up going home. Picking which game

to watch is a lot like trying to figure out which Christmas present to open first: regardless of your choice, it's probably going to be a good one. This year, fans of the Philly teams had the opportunity to watch both the Flyers and 76ers advance to the playoffs, both entering the postseason with different expectations and goals.

Entering these playoffs, it is safe to say that expectations were running high for the Philadelphia Flyers. Philly's hockey team, the most successful Philadelphia franchise based on all-time winning percentage, had dominated the regular season, sitting in first place in the Eastern Conference

before a three-week dry spell that saw them slide into the playoffs, and lose the top seed to the Washington Capitals. The Flyers settled for the second seed in the playoffs, and a first-round date with the Buffalo Sabres, a longtime playoff rival. Given that the Flyers had completely stumbled into the playoffs after playing terribly for several weeks in a row, the Sabres had initially been a popular pick to upset the Flyers in the first round, despite the remarkable overall success that the Flyers had for the duration of the season. The Sabres presented strong goaltending in Ryan Miller, something the Flyers always have major issues with, and once again entered the postseason with the exact opposite situation as the Sabres: goaltending questions. However, the Flyers held their own.

Though Miller shutout the Flyers in two games, he has also been lit up to the tune of 17 goals in the other four games played thus far, an average of more than four goals per game. To put it frankly, Miller has been anything but all-world in this series, and the Flyers are showing flashes of their early-season excellence. While some still continue the Flyers a serious contender for the Stanley Cup, the other team that calls the Wells Fargo Center home is playing in the postseason, searching for a different kind of respect.

After an abysmal season last year, the Philadelphia 76ers bounced back nicely to a 41-win season, and a playoff berth that led them to a first-round match-

up with the imposing Miami Heat, led by LeBron James and Dwayne Wade. Though they ultimately fell at the hands of the Heat, a result that was completely expected, the Sixers still defied the odds. For a team that is being handed over to youngsters Jrue Holiday and Evan Turner, the experience garnered in the playoffs is extremely important, and the fact that they were able to win a game against Miami speaks volumes larger than the average fan can see. Though the Sixers are still several years and several key players from being able to seriously contend, they took a strong first step this year. If the team plays their cards right over the next couple of seasons, the future will be bright for Sixers basketball.

The aspirations of the Philadelphia teams were on completely opposite ends of the spectrum for the 2011 playoff runs. While time will tell what happens with the Flyers as they move on to the next round after Tuesday's big win, the Sixers should be commended for a fabulous bounce-back year given the disaster that was the 2009-10 season. Both teams had considerable success this year, and it will be exciting to watch what happens for the remainder of the 2011 postseason.

UPCOMING GAMES:

April 28:

Softball
3:00PM
5:30PM
Alvernia

April 29:

Track & Field
CC Championships
throughout weekend
Muhlenberg

Men's Lacrosse
CC Semi-Final
Dickinson

April 30:

Women's Lacrosse
CC Semi-Final
Gettysburg



The Flyers big win on Tuesday night will lead them to the next round of play-offs.
Photo courtesy the talksportsphilly.com