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## The Grizzly, September 8, 2005

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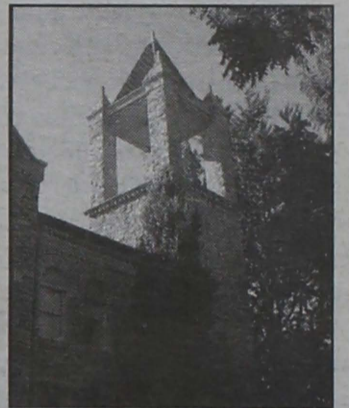
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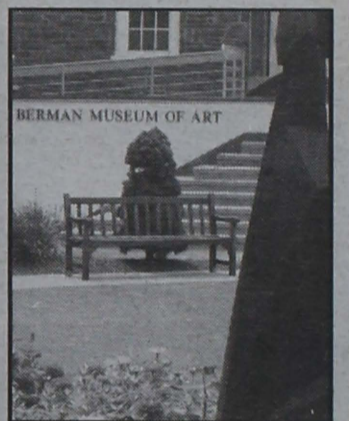
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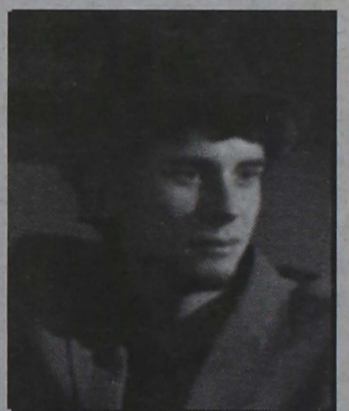
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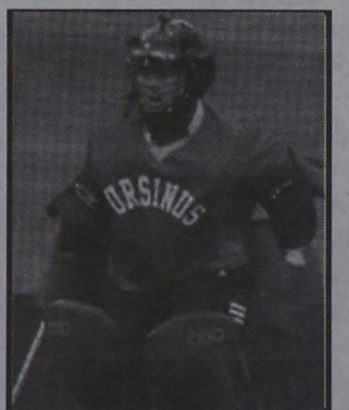
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collegeville, pa

**volume 30 issue 2**

## Hurricane Katrina devastates Louisiana

TIM SMITH

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Unless you have been living beneath a rock, Hurricane Katrina needs little introduction. Katrina was strong enough, and moved slowly enough, to do possibly more damage than any other American natural disaster in a hundred years, both directly and indirectly.

Not only was it the third strongest hurricane to hit America in recorded history, but estimates on damage costs and death toll far outweigh any hurricanes in the recent past. This is the first time a major American city has been so completely devastated since San Francisco was ravaged by an earthquake in 1906.

To put the hurricane's material damage into perspective, Hurricane Andrew in 1992 cost 36 billion dollars in damage to Florida, and is currently the most damaging hurricane in American history – however, 25 billion dollars in damages have already been reported due to Katrina, and estimates project costs of up to 100 billion dollars simply for the direct damage caused by the storm.

Beyond these costs, much of our domestic oil production and refinery is done along the Gulf Coast. With oil and gas prices rising already on the rise, the shutdown of eight refineries which would produce about two million barrels of oil a day is not helping the situation.

Over half of the soy, corn, and other grains we export to the rest of the world are normally shipped through Louisiana and Mississippi, where many ports are now thought to be shut down for months, possibly up to a year. As businesses take their operations elsewhere, tens of thousands of jobs will disappear. These long-term damages will strongly affect the entire world for years to come, and already may make Katrina's true damage incalculable.



Reuters photo, taken by U.S. Coast Guard, Petty Officer 2nd

The previous record holder of deadliest hurricane in the past century in America was the last hurricane to hit New Orleans – Hurricane Camille, in 1969, which killed 256 people. Following a similar pattern, Camille was a Category Five hurricane which struck the Gulf coasts of Mississippi and Louisiana, flooding much of New Orleans and the surrounding area. However, while Camille was technically stronger, it was a fast moving storm which struck hard but dissipated as it moved inland.

Katrina, on the other hand, has moved slowly. It first struck Florida as a Category One hurricane on August 25, which did far more damage than such a "small" storm was expected to do because of its slow movement. Once it emerged into the Gulf of Mexico, the storm began to grow into a Category Four hurricane as it headed north towards Louisiana and Mississippi. As it made landfall on the morning of August 29, it continued to move slowly, focusing and worsening the damage on New Orleans before the storm began to break apart and move north.

Death tolls are already over 1600 directly due to the storm, and hundreds more have died in the aftermath. Most rescue workers are estimating that far more are dead but unaccounted for. As of this writing, there were some 29,000 people still unaccounted for, and most estimates now point to about 10,000 dead. With the city flooded 12 to 15 feet in most areas, and estimates saying the waters will take months to be drained, no one knows how high the actual death toll may be.

Beyond that, with massive structural damage still going on, fires spreading as gas mains break, and waters still rising as more and more levees break, there is no telling how many more people may still be dying as rescue workers struggle to find survivors.

Unfortunately, in the face of such destruction and chaos some people have begun to add to the trouble, as looters run rampant and law breaks down. The police are far too outnumbered and overworked with helping survivors and have little ability to stop looters. Entire gun stores have been found looted and empty, and now random bursts of gunfire fill the air as people fight over what they can find amidst the wreckage. Some hospitals reported having to fight off looters attempting to steal supplies as they waited for helicopters to come rescue their patients.

However, not all people turn into criminals in the face of catastrophe. Some really do become heroes. People from all around the country, including some from our area, have left their everyday lives to join the Red Cross, helping out however they can with the relief efforts. The Army Corps of Engineers has been deployed to slow down the water with temporary dams and levees while the National Guard helps with the evacuation process.

Volunteers in Texas have begun to prepare temporary housing, food, and medical centers for the thousands and thousands of people who will soon be relocated there. However, there is not enough help down there. Some hospitals moved their patients to the roof waiting for helicopter rescue, which as of this writing had not come.

It may seem like a daunting task to just get up and travel thousands of miles to help out, but there are plenty of ways to contribute without being there. The website <www.deadlykatrina.com> has a post in which people are trying to keep track of who is missing and who have been accounted for so far, for friends and family members to hopefully find out how their missing loved ones are doing. General charities like the Red Cross (<www.redcross.org>) and more specialized groups such as Noah's Wish (<www.noahswish.org/Donations.htm>), which rescues stranded animals from the flooding, accept monetary donations.

While some groups accept donations of non-perishable food or clothing and blanket, most aid services, including the Red Cross say that the best donations right now are money.

With money, at least, they can buy whatever they need, including things like medical supplies which they can't expect people to be able to personally donate.

Hurricane Katrina may well go down into the history books as one of the worst natural disasters to ever hit America. We are still too busy with rescue efforts to even begin to sum up the full damage caused on an immediate scale, and a global scale.

However, in times like these, it is important to remember that it is still possible for us, no matter how far away we may be, to make a difference.

### Comment sought for tenure review

In accordance with the Ursinus College Faculty Handbook, student comments on teaching effectiveness and student-faculty interaction are invited at the time of a faculty member's review for tenure. Although student letters must be signed to be considered, student names may be withheld, upon request, when their comments are shared with the Promotion and Tenure Committee, and the faculty member.

This year, the following members of the faculty are being reviewed for tenure:

- Dr. Rebecca Evans, Politics
- Dr. Roger Florka, Philosophy and Religion
- Dr. Matthew Mizenko, Modern Languages
- Dr. Lewis Riley, Physics
- Dr. Richard Wallace, Environmental Studies

Your feedback is strongly encouraged and will assist the Committee in its review process. Letters should be sent to Dean Judith T. Levy, Office of the Dean by October 15, 2005.

## the grizzly

the student newspaper of ursinus college

volume 30 issue 1

grizzly@ursinus.edu

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### PHOTOGRAPHY

- Ivy McDaniels** Photo Editor

## Constitution stirs up debate in Iraq

**ELSA BUDZOWSKI**

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Iraq is in the process of drafting a constitution describing its new government. The final draft of the constitution was finally read to the National Assembly on August 28 after four extensions of the deadline had been placed on the drafting committee by the US-sponsored Iraq Interim Governing Council, the current ruling body of Iraq. However, conflict still reigns, as it has throughout the process of establishing Iraq as a democratic nation. The Sunnis, the Shiites, and the Kurds, the three main political groups in Iraq, are still unable to reach agreements on certain points of the constitution.

According to the Arab news source, Al-Jazeera, sticking points include the assertion that Iraq is "part of the Islamic world and its Arab people are part of the Arab nation," since the Kurds are Muslim but not Arabic, and the condemnation of Saddam Hussein's Baath party. The Shia wish to brand members of the party as criminals and forbid them from living ordinary lives in Iraq, while Sunnis argue that not all of them should be blamed for Hussein's actions.

Another controversial point is the draft's assertion that the new Iraq will be a federal republic in which the three groups co-exist under a central government. Many Sunni groups and some Shia groups fear that this centralization would deepen the rift between the three groups and cause splits in the nation.

Some concerned parties are already calling for their members to vote against the draft in the October 15 election, and protests crying out against it are a common sight. Other citizens, however, do not view federalism as a problem.

Other problems and contradictions in the wording of the constitution have been pointed out by critics, such as the fact that it promises religious freedom for its citizens, but elsewhere asserts that "Islam is the official religion of the state." The constitution also explains in separate statements that "no law can be passed that contradicts the undisputed rules of Islam" and "no law can be passed that

contradicts the principles of democracy."

Ursinus' own Dr. Walter Greason, a social historian, points out that "the two primary troubles in the Iraqi constitution are its ambiguities regarding the distribution of oil income and the role of Islamic 'sharia' law in all legal matters. The solutions found in the American constitution — the supremacy of the national legislature in interstate commerce and the strict separation of church and state — are not available to the Iraqis, due to the ethnic tensions and abuses that occurred under Saddam Hussein. Communication and trust are the keys to a stable Iraq. Without an explicit endorsement of sharia law in the Constitution, I doubt that the distribution of economic opportunity in Iraq will be resolved politically."

Still other Iraqis fully support the draft, leading a demonstration in the city of Basra, where, according to Al-Jazeera, they chanted, "Yes to the constitution," and proclaimed, "The constitution is a guarantee for a better future."

Despite these issues, the Bush administration continually expresses confidence in this endeavor to approve a new constitution. "Instead of using guns to decide the fate of the future, Iraqis from all aspects of their society came together and wrote a constitution," President Bush said in a speech in Arizona. On a separate occasion he stated that "This is a document of which the Iraqis and the rest of the world can be proud." He is backed up by Jalal Talabani, the Iraqi president, who was reported by CNN to have said, "We're optimistic the future of Iraq will be positive and it will be a united and independent democratic Iraq."

As fighting continues, both in the physical form of insurgents taking on foreign troops and in the political form of debate in the parliamentary halls, the only certain thing is that the future of Iraq is still uncertain. The creation of a brand new government in such a worldwide spotlight and with so much support from foreign governments is not an everyday occurrence. Progress in Iraq will be watched closely and curiously by the worldwide forum, waiting to see how this embryo of a nation develops.

preachy. Many found the play to be poignant, and never accusatory. It was never Sarah's intention to vilify anyone; in fact, a major two-part skit features a character whose sheltered upbringing leaves her completely unprepared for a lesbian roommate at college. This character is not homophobic, but may have acted as such for lack of experience with homosexuals. Sarah Kauffman's work is unabashed even in delving into such gray areas.

The Acting Out Project has received praise from students and faculty alike. Actor Natalie Rokaski commented, "I came into the project . . . because I felt like it was a really positive and important piece."

A sizable crowd of freshmen came to see the project as part of the orientation program. Many asked questions and seemed truly touched.

Director Domenick Scudera commented, "The Acting Out Project is living proof of how one student can make a difference in our community . . . As Sarah's honors' advisor, I was constantly impressed with her passion and creativity, and I am thrilled that her work has found a life even after Sarah's graduation.

It was always her intent to allow 'The Acting Out Project' to go beyond the scope of an honors project; Sarah wanted to provide the campus with a lasting tool that might be used in the future to help to continually address problems of homophobia on this campus."

## Music and comedy greet Class of 2009

**BRANDON BROWN**

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To help freshmen adjust to their new lives as college students, the Student Activities Office prepared a weekend full of fun and entertainment. For orientation weekend, three comedians and three musical acts were booked.

On the first night of orientation, comedy was provided by Robbie Printz and was followed by the music of Chris Cauley. Robbie Printz has been seen on Comedy Central, MTV, and NBC, and was also the winner of the 2002 Boston Comedy Festival. Chris Cauley performed originals and covers influenced by funk and soul music. Using only his guitar and the accompaniment of saxophone player Matt Corey, Cauley moved the audience with his stellar vocal and instrumental skills.

The second night brought Two Skinny Dorks and the Family, who have opened for such big name acts as Dave Mathews Band and Rusted Root. Their music was a combination of rock, funk, rap, and easy jam-band grooves.

After they rocked for the freshman in the Paisley Beach, R&B artist Chinua Hawk performed. His voice was smooth and soulful and he interacted with the audience quite often, talking about his songs and his influences.

Stand-up comedians Alysia Wood and Sarah Tiana provided comedy which touched on everything from dating to situational humor about the places they hail from. Their stand-up routines concluded two days of musical and comedic entertainment for the new Class of 2009.

## Acting Out Project

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"Homophobia starts in the family...starts with the media...starts with our culture...shows the power of a social taboo." These words began The Acting Out Project, performed for freshmen during orientation this year. Recent graduate Sarah Kauffman dedicated her senior year to countering the forces of homophobia in reaction to an incident on campus in 2003.

On National Coming Out Day in 2003, members of the Gay-Straight Alliance abided by tradition and chalked messages of tolerance and understanding on the pathways of campus. Later in the evening, messages of hatred and homophobia were written on the pathways as well. No action was taken to erase any of the chalked messages, which were eventually washed away by subsequent rain.

2005 Ursinus graduate Sarah Kauffman took matters into her own hands, staging a series of workshops on gender identity and sexual orientation over several months in the fall of 2004. She continued her effort in the spring by writing The Acting Out Project. Composed of nine skits, this play strove to address political correctness, bigotry, the fear of difference, and the aforementioned 2003 incident itself in a cautious and conscientiousness way.

Sarah did not intend The Acting Out Project to be

## career corner

What does the job market hold for the Class of 2006? Get the scoop in Career Services!

In general, the job market for the college Class of 2006 looks pretty good.

"Employers are optimistic about their hiring plans, and they report that they're seeing more competition for the best new graduates," says Andrea Koncz, employment information manager for the National Association of Colleges and Employers, which tracks job market trends for new grads. In spite of the positive outlook, Koncz cautions against sitting back and waiting for a job. "The better job market doesn't mean finding a first job will be an easy ride for seniors," she says. "It's not a job seeker's market; employers still seem to have the upper hand. If you want a job at or soon after graduation, you'll need to work hard at your job search."

Here are three actions you can take to increase your chances of getting a job offer:

- Use the resources available to you through the Career Services Office, located in Bomberger Hall. Career services invites you to schedule an appointment Monday-Friday from 9 am to 5. Don't forget "Walk-in Wednesdays" when no appointment is necessary or instant message our office using screen name "UrsinusCareer."

- Research employers and their opportunities: This may be the single biggest secret to job-search success! Research can give you a direction for your job search and will help you figure out which organizations will be the best match for you.

- Network: You'll gain an edge by building a network that can help you learn about organizations and their opportunities. Your network contacts may help you get your resume into the right hands or your foot in the door. In fact, many employers reward their current employees for referring candidates. And, your network can help you throughout your career.

## An Ursinus freshman excels at an unlikely sport

ALI WAGNER

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The majority of teenagers put on their party hats and celebrate with friends after graduation, but not Daryl Downs. This new Ursinus freshman left at 3:30 a.m. the morning after his graduation to drive to Virginia for the 100 mile Old Dominion race, and came back a winner.

The Old Dominion was held on June 10, 2005, with 26 riders participating. It was a hot day, about 90 degrees, and the terrain was rough. In the end, only 10 riders finished the race, with Daryl leading the way.

Daryl rode through the night, finishing at 16 hours and 40 minutes. The only stops they took were pit stops and vet stops, which are necessary in such a demanding race. This is a great accomplishment, considering Daryl's riding experience of only two years in endurance.

Since he began riding at Red Buffalo Farm, Daryl has competed in races ranging from 25 to 100 miles. With the exception of dropping out due to health problems with his horse, Daryl has been in the top three in every one of these races.

Daryl's first race was in April of 2004. It was a 30 mile race in which he received first place by about 15 minutes. He also participated in the Old Dominion 50 placing third, and in a 55 mile race where he placed second behind an Olympic racer, who beat him by only five minutes. That same woman who beat him received third when competing against him in the Old Dominion 100.

Daryl is now competing for an award this October. To receive this award, he must beat two competitors, which he feels confident that he can do.

Gabe Vanarman, a sophomore at Ursinus, is a stable mate of Daryl's, and hopes to follow in his footsteps. Gabe has been working with Daryl, helping him at his vet stops

during races. After training all summer, Gabe hopes to race in October. The two will compete in the Fort Valley race, Gabe in the 30 mile contest and Daryl in the 50. Gabe is excited to begin racing, and after successful training, has high hopes for the future.

So while horse racing may not be a sport in which you would normally expect to see Ursinus students participating, it is definitely something to look out for. With a freshman that is already defeating Olympic racers, and a sophomore working his way up, Ursinus may have discovered a new talent.



## What's new at the Berman? A preview of Ursinus' museum of art

MEGAN HELZNER

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Beginning September 13<sup>th</sup>, the Berman will host an exciting 170-piece exhibition entitled *CONNECTIONS: INTERNATIONAL TURNING EXCHANGE 1995-2005* of sculptural turned wood. The works, part of a ten year retrospective from the ITE or International Turning Exchange, travel nationally and internationally on a museum circuit. Since 1995, the year of ITE's inception, over 60 artists, scholars, and photojournalists from the U.S. and abroad have been brought together on their summer residency program for a dynamic exchange of ideas and technique. The artists featured in this show fundamentally changed the woodturning industry from one of function and plainness to one of form and interest. See this show (and all others) for free – Berman exhibits are open free of charge. Don't miss the opening reception (which usually takes place about two weeks after the show opens), September 24<sup>th</sup> from 3:30 to 5:30 in the Main Gallery. *CONNECTIONS* closes October 30<sup>th</sup>.

From September 1<sup>st</sup> through Holiday Break, recent acquisitions to the Berman Permanent Collection will be shown in the Upper Gallery. These pieces, collected between 2001 and 2005 from generous donors to the Museum, were created in a variety of media and completed by male and female artists from around the world. Once this exhibition is taken down, the pieces will remain in possession of the Berman Museum.

On November 12<sup>th</sup>, a new and exciting compilation of watercolors will come to the Berman for a juried exhibition of works from the Philadelphia Watercolor Society's 105<sup>th</sup> Anniversary show. Jurors Alan Wylie, AWS, BS, an award-winning watercolorist, and Janet Walsh, AWS, President of the American Watercolor Society and internationally exhibited pastel artist and printmaker, carefully chose the exhibited works from over 600 pieces competing in the jury process. Senior Lilly Rosen comments, "I am excited to see the selected pieces to be displayed in Berman. There has yet to be an exhibit I haven't been pleased with!" Be sure to attend the opening reception Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 to 5:00. The watercolors will be taken down from the Berman on January 8<sup>th</sup>.

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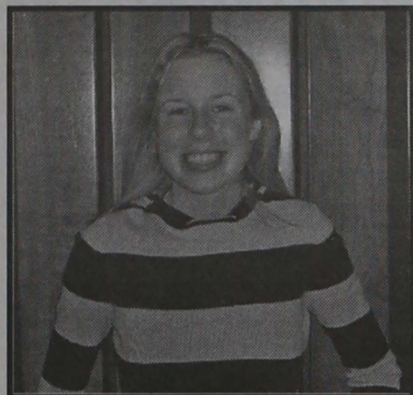
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## Stopping the Stork

Sex has consequences (many of which are more critical and awkward than running into a former, forgotten flame in Wismer.) We prevent these consequences by investing in information and methods of disease and pregnancy prevention, using these tools as modes of insurance against the unwanted outcomes associated with sex. However, sometimes the scenario in which we choose to have sex is not ideal, leaving inevitable anxiety about the consequences, specifically a possible pregnancy. Unfortunately, even when we situate ourselves in the best possible setting for a horizontal study break, the rare and unexpected can occur; for example, the condom slips or breaks. In the event of unprotected sex or the failure of birth control, (in other words, when the door you planned to leave open slams shut) emergency contraception allows you to open a window and provides another possible escape from an unwanted consequence.



**LANE TAYLOR**  
**Everything You Never Knew You Wanted to Know About Sex**

Emergency contraception, or the "Day-After Pill," refers to a pill or series of pills taken after unprotected sex in order to prevent pregnancy. According to Planned Parenthood, emergency contraception is effective for up to 120 hours (5 days) after intercourse. However, the method is significantly more effective the sooner it begins (meaning, it is better not to wait the full five days before using emergency contraception.) In some cases, emergency contraception can also refer to the utilization of an IUD, or "Intra-Uterine Device," which is a mechanism containing copper that is inserted into the uterus with the purpose of pregnancy prevention.

Emergency Contraceptive Pills (ECPs) are a form of hormonal birth control (just like Birth Control Pills), and work to prevent ovulation, fertilization, and implantation. They are

a safe and effective way to prevent pregnancy, and available through prescription only. Any physician, nurse practitioner, or physician's assistant can prescribe ECPs, but they are also dispensed in Planned Parenthood facilities and the Ursinus Wellness Center.

The IUD and ECPs effectively prevent pregnancy, but are NOT effective in terminating a pregnancy already in progress. Many pro-life groups and others skeptical about emergency contraception often argue that it is a form of abortion, while others argue that emergency contraception actually decreases the number of abortions necessary by providing another mode to prevent unwanted pregnancies.

Some possible side effects associated with ECPs include: nausea, vomiting, breast tenderness, change in menstruation schedule and amount, fatigue, dizziness, abdominal pain, and headache. (Many health professionals may suggest taking the ECPs on a full stomach or suggest or prescribe an anti-nausea medication.) The IUD is often associated with abdominal pain, irregular bleeding and infection, and in less common circumstances has been associated with heavy menstrual flow, uterine puncture, cramping, and loss of fertility. However, newly-developed progestin-only ECPs (in comparison to combination estrogen and progestin ECPs) have been shown to greatly reduce the side effects.

Like Birth Control Pills and other hormonal methods of birth control, emergency contraception does not protect against sexually-transmitted infections or HIV.

Over the past few years, there has been a battle to make ECPs available over the counter, however the FDA has repeatedly delayed its decision, preventing women from gaining easier access to ECPs in what many feel is an appropriate venue.

The cost of emergency contraception varies depending on the option that is right for you, but regarding ECPs you can expect a range of eight dollars to seventy, depending on your method and the amount of time between the beginning of treatment and the unprotected sex act. The IUD is significantly more expensive, usually amounting up to 400 dollars counting the exam and insertion.

Emergency contraception is an affordable and accessible form of pregnancy prevention that can aid in changing a scary, worst-case scenario into a situation that allows you to take control of your own body and future.

## The Food Pyramid: an overview

When we think of college, we think of responsibility. We think of how different it is, not to have our parents and teachers to force us to do what we are supposed to. Three years ago, I came to Ursinus College in a pair of size three jeans. For those who don't know, that is pretty small, and I worked hard throughout high school to maintain it. It was only a matter of time, however, before I discovered Wismer. Beer followed soon after. Without my father to make my protein shake for breakfast every morning, and gym class to keep me on the treadmill for a half hour every day, I soon gained the infamous "freshman fifteen" – and then some.

Now that I am a senior, I am finally getting smarter about my health. Although it probably took me longer than most, I am here to give you hope that it is never too late to lose that extra weight and develop a healthier lifestyle, and it is never too early to begin. So here it is, the first of many weeks of health information just for you, the Ursinus student body. I will begin with the basics.

Every five years the USDA (United States Department of Agriculture) puts out dietary guidelines for the American population. The 2005 guidelines outline how much of what types of food we should be eating, as well as how much physical activity we should be engaging in.

According to these guidelines, we should all be eating a variety of foods from different food groups – grains, vegetables, fruits, dairy products, and proteins. The grain group is what should make up the majority of our diet, with approximately six servings per day, at least half of which should be whole grain. This is where it gets tricky. Sure, we can eat tons of pasta and bagels, but those are usually made of refined flour, which does not have fiber or the nutrient-packed germ. Fiber is necessary for a healthy digestive system (and for those who are primarily concerned with weight loss, it can cause your body to absorb fewer calories than you are eating and, at the same time, make you feel full on less food). In addition, whole grains will take longer to digest, which will result in lasting energy.

Whole grains can be hard to find, especially when our main source of food is Wismer. Sure, Wismer has wheat bread, which many people think is the same as whole wheat. I can assure you, however, it is not. To ensure that bread is whole grain, it must be clearly marked as such, so read labels carefully. Choose whole-grain cereals, oatmeal, popcorn and brown rice. Keep smart-pop popcorn (it's 94% fat free, which means it's easy on the butter), a box

of whole grain cereal (more and more of them are whole grain – check the label), or a box of Triscuits in your dorm room. Even if you have to eat refined flour at Wismer (or you decide to skip the grains when you eat there), you can snack on whole grains in your room.

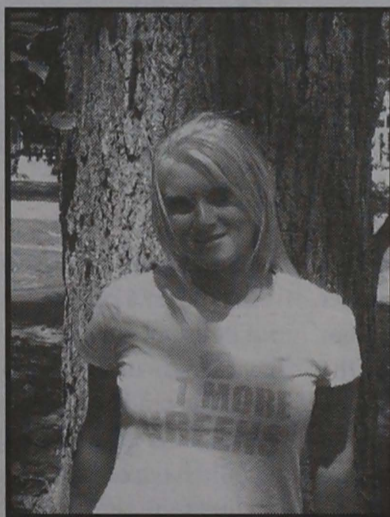
Make sure to eat a variety of fruits and vegetables every day. The USDA recommends a total of two cups of fruit and two and a half cups of vegetables per day. The vitamins in fruits and vegetables are contained in the pigment, so choose a colorful mix. Have a salad at Wismer for lunch, but do not sabotage yourself by drowning it in fatty dressings. Dressings are alright in small doses, and Wismer now has tiny bowls near the salad bar. I put my dressing in one of those and dip my fork in the dressing before each bite. It is usually just enough, and I don't use nearly as much dressing as I would if I were to pour it right on. Oh, and fruit juice does not count as fruit. Juice is just the sugar from the fruit without any of the nutrients.

Dairy products are loaded with calcium, which, for those of us who have a little belly, is said to help take fat off the waist, although some recent studies have called those findings into question. Three servings per day is the recommended amount. Dairy should be consumed in low or non-fat forms. Put skim milk in coffee, for example, or have a little parfait made of fruit, yogurt, and granola instead of a brownie and ice cream for dessert.

Finally, protein helps our bodies build lean muscle, so it is important for us to get enough in the right forms. Peas, beans, and nuts are a good source of protein, although they can sometimes be fatty. Lean meats, poultry and fish are a good idea, and can go very well in a salad. Although many people think that it is important to load up on this group for energy, we only really need it once or twice per day, as dairy products are a good source of protein in and of themselves.

With all this delicious, healthy food, who has time or room for the sugary, fatty stuff? Although it may be difficult to stick to at first, making changes in your diet can be very beneficial in the long run.

Believe it or not, it is possible to maintain a healthy lifestyle and have fun at Ursinus. So until next time, stay healthy and thanks for reading.



**CECILY MACCONCHIE**  
**Health advice for the couch potato in all of us**

## Changes Around Campus

**KERRI LANDIS**  
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You may have noticed a number of modifications around campus this semester. Here are the major ones.

**Transformation into a Non-Driving Campus:** the campus drive has been removed to make way for several pleasant brick walkways. "I love walking across campus and not being nervous about crazy drivers," says junior Lauren Rees. I agree; the campus looks much tidier than before, and there is little risk of getting hit by a car on the way to a class (unless it is one of the maintenance trucks). The redone parking lot behind Reimert directs the flow of traffic much more logically, and has created a smooth, pothole-free parking area. Although some people (mostly drivers) say that our non-driving campus is a pain, I think this is a change for the better.

**Dining Services:** At Wismer, meal prices have increased about \$2 each. I would love handing over the inflated amount of money to dining services if it meant that the food quality had improved. However, it seems the powers-that-be have decided to make renovations in the dining hall. The first and most important addition is the tray conveyor belt. I will admit that I was skeptical—I do not use trays, and getting one so I could put my plates on a fancy blue belt was not appealing. However, despite the long lines sometimes conjured by the new apparatus, I have to say emphatically that I enjoy returning my dishes and avoiding the dreaded splash. Freshmen: if you want to

know what I mean by "getting splashed," fill a tub with foul-smelling water and bits of food, throw a utensil into it, and see how far the splash goes. Solely on its merit of preventing splash, I award my approval to the conveyor belt. The next change was the addition of napkin dispensers to (almost) every table. I appreciate this addition, as I almost always forgot to pick up a napkin last year. Finally, there are equipment changes throughout the dining hall. There are new card readers, beautifully impractical salad dressing containers, and spiffy new utensils. Overall, while I am dismayed at the rising price of eating at Ursinus, I can justify the larger renovations and I admit that the food is usually still decent (although not improved).

Down at Zack's, the Meal Deal has been abolished in favor of hiking the meal credit up to \$4.25 and increasing our basic "dining dollars" to \$50. There are plenty of new renovations at Zack's. While the flashing 155° sign is a nice touch, I am not pleased with the grossly overpriced food. Price gouges aside, the most noticeable (and irking) quality of Zack's is that you save money by eating unhealthily. The cheapest salad that Greenfields offers is \$3.99; the most expensive is \$5.19. A grilled cheese sandwich is \$1.99; a cheese pizza is \$2.99. While the food is relatively tasty, it is harder to eat healthy at Zack's than upstairs. However, I did notice a few improvements at Zack's. First, the

pool table. I enjoy the atmosphere a relaxed game of billiards evokes, and I think it will blend remarkably well with the eating atmosphere downstairs. Since the balls and cues are locked up in the Student Activities Office (SAO), there is not quite the spontaneous feeling I might have hoped for, but I think the decision was justified. (The 8 ball would have been gone in ten minutes.)

**ID Cards:** We all received new IDs this semester (with the same old picture). You may have noticed the lack of hole in our new cards; this is because when a keychain chock full of keys gets dragged over the card readers in Wismer, damage happens. I can appreciate the reason behind the decision, but many cards are going to be lost or forgotten before students adjust to carrying them separately. Heck, for the amount we pay, why could the school not throw in a crappy ID holder during registration?

All of these modifications have been enabled by the most concerning change of all—the raise in tuition. "My mom had to take out a home equity loan to pay for my college this year," says junior Alex Frey. Many of us have had to stretch things a little thin in order to meet the whopping \$38,800 a year. I would not be as upset about the cost if the college matched their scholarships to the increase in costs; however, they do not.

Overall, the external changes on our campus are an improvement, while the small additions to our dining areas are not what I would expect for the increase in costs. However, the quality of life on campus has been improved by the new walkways and landscaping, and while the food is not as stellar as I would like, it is still good enough.

## Holloway Case Should Raise Awareness

**SALIA ZOUANDE**  
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Six months ago, Natalie Holloway, a graduate student from Mountain Brook High School in Birmingham, Alabama, tragically disappeared during a senior trip to Aruba. The Natalie Holloway case has been in the news headlines for a long period of time, raising awareness among youth about unsupervised trips to a foreign place.

As we might have read in the local news, many arrests from the local authorities of Aruba have been made in the months following the disappearance of Holloway, but no clues have been found leading to her whereabouts.

As the result of one unfortunate trip, many travelers, including teenagers, are taking extra precautions to places they travel, making sure that they stay close together during trips abroad. As a college student, I feel very concerned about safety at parties, especially for freshmen who have just graduated from high school and are not used to college parties. It is good to warn students, especially freshmen, about safety at parties, since one might not know the identity of the person who is dancing next to them. One never knows what is in a cup at a party until the effects have already started. As advice to freshmen, be aware of your surroundings and the people that you're with at parties. Holloway did not wish this incident would happen to her, but she was probably lured into a trap as a result of doing some drugs or drinking some alcohol until the situation got completely out of control, making her vulnerable to those who might have wished to do her harm.

College is the stage in the educational cycle where one wants to have fun, but too much fun can lead to disaster. As a college freshman, you should be determined to stay out of trouble as much as possible, and focus on your education. As a last word to all freshmen, if you do desire to drink at parties, please do it responsibly and keep aware of your surroundings.

## Movie of the Week

**SONIA N. GONZALEZ**  
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Welcome readers to the first movie review of the year. Unfortunately I could not get out to the theater in time for the first deadline. Luckily for you and me, Myrin Library has a decent collection of movies at Media Services. For this week's review I chose *Ladder 49*, starring Joaquin Phoenix and John Travolta. I must admit it was not what I was expecting. From the look of the previews that I had seen it appeared to be the story of a hero who enjoyed his fame and took too many risks. In truth, it was the journey through the life and times of a brave firefighter who was not afraid to take risks in order to save lives.

The movie begins with a fire that is burning out of control in a tall building. The search and rescue team moves to the twelfth floor. The team manages to get a few people out but one is left behind and Jack Morrison (Phoenix) goes back. He saves the man's life by lowering him down the side of the building to safety. As Jack prepares to leave, the building becomes incredibly unstable

and the floor caves in leaving Jack in peril. He falls down an untold number of floors and while Jack lies on the floor banged up and semi-conscious, the movie back tracks to his first day on the job. The movie progresses in that pattern going between the present dire situation and Jack reminiscing about his life as a firefighter, friend, husband and father.

I found it to be an interesting and touching film. Just like police officers take chances in order to protect the general public, firefighters also put their lives on the line. A rescue team tries to save Jack. While the crew works on getting through the mounds of debris, Jack has the opportunity to reminisce about meeting and marrying his wife, the birth of his children, and also the lost and wounded fellow firefighters he knew during his career. I found it fascinating to go through the emotional rollercoaster that is an individual person's life. They say that right before a person dies their entire life flashes

before their eyes. Perhaps what really happens is that when a person feels death near they cannot help but think back upon the life that they have led up until that point.

Over all I would give this film 2.5 out of 4 stars. It was informative and easy to follow, but it could have been formatted a little differently. If you are in the mood for a semi-biographical tale this movie would be a good choice. If you are expecting an action filled attention grabber, it probably is not for you.

The last thing I would like to mention is that whether you agree with me or not, everyone stop by Media Services and explore what Ursinus College Library has to offer.

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classifieds

Child Care

Easy job - good \$\$.

Ursinus alum needs after school help 3:30 - 6:00  
Mon, Tues, Thurs to pick up kids ages 8 and 10 from  
the bus stop - we are located approx 2 miles from  
the College.

Please call Terri at (610) 917-2324.



## The positives and negatives of freshmen orientation

**CHRISTINA FULCHER**  
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If I am not mistaken, the purpose of orientation is to provide assistance to the incoming freshmen in adapting to their new college environment. My purpose for this article is not structured to criticize judgmentally, but is to criticize constructively. Orientation is an event that all freshmen must experience. From this event, "the freshman experience" and adaptation are supposed to move smoother and less painful than usual, but are these expectations and intentions met? On Thursday, August 25 all freshmen moved into their rooms and began to attend scheduled activities. The main purpose was to get us better acquainted with each other, meet some upperclassmen, and learn about the environment of the school; but did it work?

One major factor that hindered the intent of freshman orientation was time. There was just not enough time for us to finish all we needed to do as a pre-step to the "entrance" of college life. Pre-steps such as the unpacking of vehicles, designing and adjusting to new rooms, and the mental preparation needed to get through our first college engagement. A few hours is not enough to adequately prepare a college dorm room to the level of personal comfort necessary for the mental preparation of the first college experience.

As for the activities, they became boring to the point where people stopped coming. The length of the activities also hindered us from unpacking and getting organized. I do not know about guys, but as a female there is so much stuff we have to do. We like to be organized, set up our room in bright colors, and besides, we bought a lot of things.

The main problem with activities was that they only required us to sit, listen, and watch. If you ask me, I thought the point of the activities was to bond with our fellow classmates. Instead of people being introduced and becoming acquainted with new people, they just conversed with people they already knew.

Some ideas to improve orientation are including more activities that allow freshmen to interact. For instance, have more shows like the Ultimate Orientation Show. This show forced us to talk to people we did not know, because we played a game. This game included a song in which we had to partner up, and then get into fours. We introduced ourselves to the people we had to group with. The activity was great, but because it was at 8:00 pm and students already had a long day, they did not show up. If this activity was moved to an earlier time, perhaps more students would have attended and gotten a chance to meet new faces.

Changing with the times is essential, and as a representative of the class of 2009, I feel improvements need to be made to the freshman orientation. If orientation next year is anything like this year, the same things will happen; students will stop coming because they know the activities are not mandatory, which defeats the whole purpose of orientation. I am not requesting the orientation committee to adhere to my suggestions and problems explicitly, but I do ask that they be taken under deep consideration.

## A Cautionary Tale

"If it wasn't for that horse, I never would have spent that year in college."

I have always wanted to learn another language. Besides seducing women and confusing the elderly, a second language opens up a world of possibility: to be someone new, to talk beautiful and incomprehensibly, and to avoid embarrassing cross-cultural pratfalls. Case in point:



**CHRISTOPHER CURLEY**  
The 7 1/2 Floor

Once, while contemplating the precious, ephemeral nature of my existence to pass the time at an airport in Des Moines, Iowa, I spotted at a table on the far side of the room the most stunning Danish dream I had ever seen: long, icy blonde hair stretching down her back, shimmering black and blue eyes, and the buxom figure of a Giacometti sculpture. Adding to this was a wide, toothy smile, and a full pair – both arms and legs. She looked healthy; free of both goiter and unsightly warts. (My last girlfriend had terrible health, a nervous disorder that made her fall asleep at random, mostly with my parent's landscaper, Juanes. But we all have our quirks. I, for instance, suffer from a strong compulsion to perform vaudeville every time someone says the word "curmudgeon." Under-

standing is important to the success of any relationship.)

But I was ready for something new and this nubile bird looked my type, possessing that rare combination of exhaustion and depleted willpower I found compelling. Taking a deep breath, I tried to summon up some machismo. I remembered the time I was accused of using cocaine to smuggle coffee grinds across the Mexican border and spent a nervous forty-five minutes in lockup before a sympathetic mariachi spirited me away in the crown of his sombrero. Or later, when I was forced to fight off a mob of angry creditors outside my house with only my wits and a three-hole punch. Reassured, I walked up to where she was sitting, and with a carefully measured dose of charm and braggadocio, slipped on a square of wet tile. My tailbone made the reassuring sound of an almond being crushed by an industrial piston, and a wooziness came over me that felt like love.

"Hello," I said, smiling up at her. She smiled back and opened her mouth to speak. What followed was a language of unparalleled beauty, a cross between Igor Stravinsky and a mallet hitting wet putty.

"Hoe bent u, lichtgelovige Engelse varken-mens?" she asked. I looked at her, startled, and began to laugh. Widening her eyes, she laughed too, and emptied the contents of her coffee onto my head. That night we made love.

In the morning I awoke to find myself in handcuffs, wearing only a pair of tube socks and feather boa. It was then I realized my mistake: she had been Dutch, not Danish, and my offense must have made her so furious she forgot to unlock me and return my credit, cash, or pants. I sighed and waited for help to arrive. To think, a simple knowledge of the idiom could have prevented it all.

*Chris Curley writes this column to avoid real work. Vilification, consternation, and general ill-will can be sent to chcurley@ursinus.edu.*

## My House Party Dreams

Ask most people why they decide to go to school and they will tell you they want an education that will allow them to pursue their esteemed career goals. While this may very well be the reason that we decided to come to Ursinus College, there is still the question: "How are the parties?"

To sum it up, it depends on how you like to party.

I truly do not enjoy most Ursinus parties. I love Ursinus, I love to party, but I absolutely despise most parties on this campus. When I think of parties, my mind immediately goes to the *House Party* movies, 1 through 3 especially. If you have not seen them, rent them immediately.

In those movies, two teenagers were able to throw the craziest parties a neighborhood/college had ever seen. The formula was simple: a room, good music, and plenty of people. Although they were simply movies, those elements created a great environment for a good time.

Most party hosts on this campus fail to execute one of the three aforementioned things needed to make a good party. Parties seem to put all their focus on drinking, making everything else trivial. I cannot count the number of parties I have walked into where people are just sitting around a beer pong table playing some horrible, outdated music.

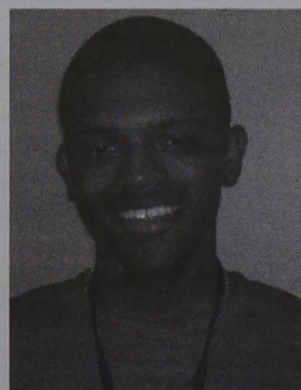
While I have run into plenty of bad parties, there are some places I go to that really know how to capture the true essence of a party. These parties put emphasis on dancing, yes dancing.

It does not matter how well you move when you are dancing, what truly matters is that you are transferring energy from the song you are hearing to your body. I have been given every excuse why people do not dance at parties ranging from "I am shy" to "I am a white boy." At a party that does not matter, awkward dancing can sometimes be funny or even turn into a dance craze (see Break dancing, Pop locking, the Harlem Shake, etc.)

Those of you that do not like this whole idea of "dancing" should not ever consider throwing a party and expect me

to come. Do not invite me to a party where beer in the carpet outweighs the total weight of people dancing. I dance, that is what parties are supposed to allow me to do.

I am trying to have my own Kid'N'Play memories when I graduate this year. Thus, yours truly along with a tandem known as "Dem Wake Boys" will be throwing a prime example of what a party should be on Sept 10 (shameless plug.) This is not just a social gathering, but a social experiment. How much fun is had at a house that serves no alcohol?



**DARRON HARLEY**  
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## Second half comeback propels Crusaders past Bears

**MATTHEW PASTOR**  
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On a perfect night for college football under the lights at Lopardo Stadium, the Bears' football team was unable to retain a third quarter lead as Susquehanna scored 24 second half points to beat Ursinus 24-16 Saturday night.

The first 30 minutes were dominated by both defenses as the Bears went into the locker room at halftime. They were holding on to a 3-0 lead after Matt Baney drilled a 35 yard field goal early in the second quarter.

As the second half began, freshmen kicker Greg Zara recovered a fumble on the opening kickoff and gave the Bears' offense great field position. Three plays later, quarterback Vince Gallagher plunged in from one yard out to give the Bears a 10-0 lead early in the second half.

Another field goal by Matt Baney allowed the Bears to hold a 13-0 lead late in the third quarter, and the Bears looked as though they had total control of the game.

A huge run by Susquehanna running back Anthony Edwards, which seemed to have been the turning point in the game, got the momentum rolling for the Crusad-

ers as they were able to score three plays later, followed by an interception on Ursinus' next series that led to another score and a 14-13 Crusader lead.

Ursinus regained the lead for the second time as Baney hit his third field goal of the evening from 23 yards out, giving the Bears a 16-14 edge early in the fourth quarter. During the ensuing drive, Susquehanna ran 59 yards in 13 plays, and put up a field goal of their own from 38 yards out. They took over the lead for good at 17-16.

Ursinus tried drastically to get close enough for Baney to get another shot at a field goal or to punch the ball in for six, but they were stopped short twice. Susquehanna put up an additional touchdown late to give them a 24-16 lead and victory.

Vince Gallagher led the Bears with 192 yards passing, 90 yards coming from three receptions. The Bears performed well on defense thanks to great plays made by Justin Ellis, Kiernan Cavanaugh, Matt Duppel and a host of other players.

Ursinus' football team returns to action this Saturday on Patterson Field at 1p.m. against Albright. Be sure to see the action and support the Ursinus football team come Saturday afternoon.

## Field hockey drops season opener

**DAVE MARCHESKIE**  
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On the path to greatness sometimes there are bumps in the road, sometimes a team may take a wrong turn for the worse. For the Ursinus field hockey team that path is just beginning and Saturday they just had a little trouble getting started as the Bears fell to West Chester 4-1 in the season opener at home.

As last year would prove, once that squad gets fired up, it will barrel down the highway like a freightliner giving no mercy to who is in the way. Fans do not be alarmed, there is always more to the story than the score itself.

The West Chester University Golden Rams are a Division 1 field hockey team which has already played three games

prior to the Ursinus opener. Although coach Moliken expected to beat a high caliber team, the squad needed to work out some kinks; kinks that the West Chester team may have already worked out. Unfortunately, the coveted Eleanor Snell Cup had to be handed over to the purple and gold for the first time in four years, particularly since the new field will be dedicated in honor of Ms. Snell.



Ursinus did catch a glimpse into the future with sophomore Lindsay Cappa scoring the lone goal for the Bears. Also, sophomore Jessica Lamina recorded 10 saves

in her first outing this season giving the Bears strong promise between the pipes. The Bears return also held WCU to an 11-7 advantage on penalty corners.

The Bears next home game will be Saturday the 17<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon against conference rival Dickinson College.

## BEARLY SPORTS REMINDER

### Saturday, Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>

M&W XC at Kutztown Invitational, 10 a.m.

Field Hockey at Messiah, 1 p.m.

Football vs Albright, 1 p.m.

Volleyball vs Immaculata/Kean, 1 p.m.

### Monday, Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>

Women's Soccer vs Cabrini 4 p.m.

### Tuesday, Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>

Women's Soccer at DeSales 4 p.m.

Volleyball vs Univ. of Sciences 7 p.m.

### Wednesday, Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>

Men's Soccer at Wesley 7 p.m.

## Phils Phight for NL Wild Card

**DANIELLE LANGDON**  
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September is a thrilling time of year for baseball fans. Now that August is over, the battle of the championships and the Wild Card lead has begun! Local fans are in a frenzy of excitement, anticipating which team in the eastern division of the National League will come out on top. Our very own Philadelphia Phillies pulled ahead in the race for the Wild Card lead Wednesday after their triumphant victory over the New York Mets.

Brett Myers tossed an amazing seven innings for the Phillies, while Pedro Martinez just could not keep the Phillies in the ballpark, as they slugged four homeruns against him. Martinez had a 2-0 lead and the chance to push the Mets ahead of their National League (East) rivals, but failed to do so.

Chase Utley hit two homeruns, while Ryan Howard and Mike Lieberthal raked in one each, pulling the Phillies ahead. The Mets' number one pitcher gave up five runs and eight hits in seven innings. Myers allowed only six hits and struck out seven. Ugueth Urbina struck out two in the eighth

inning in order to defend a 5-2 advantage (after his failed attempt to help the Phillies the night before, Urbina needed to pull through in order to hold the lead).

Bobby Abreu added a two-run double in the ninth, and Pat Burrell had an RBI single. Carlos Beltran singled, stole second and scored on Cliff Floyd's single up the middle. Kenny Lofton made two outstanding saves in deep center. David Bell didn't just meander to the plate either, his soft line drive to right field sent Jason Michaels and Bobby Abreu home.

The Phillies sent the Mets to their fourth loss in twelve games. This win against the Mets lead Philadelphia to Washington on Friday morning, leading the National League Wild Card race. They are now only a half a game ahead of the Houston, one game ahead of Florida, one and a half games ahead of the Mets, and two games ahead of the Washington Nationals. Now Phillies fans have something to cheer about!

Unfortunately with the loss of Monday night's game against the Houston Astros, the Fightin' Phils now are now half a game back in the wild card race as of Tuesday, September 6th.