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The Grizzly

Thursday, October 9, 2008

The student newspaper of Ursinus College

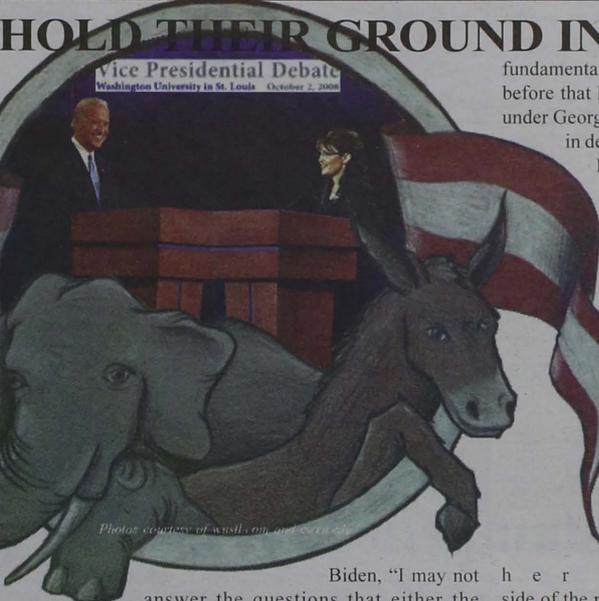
BIDEN AND PALIN HOLD THEIR GROUND IN 2008 DEBATE

Spencer Jones

Grizzly Staff Writer

Less than a week after the debate between John McCain and Barack Obama, Joe Biden and Sarah Palin faced off at Washington University in the first and only vice presidential debate, with Gwen Ifill as moderator. Republicans and Democrats expressed their hopes and expectations for both candidates, as well as the goals each would need to achieve in order to strengthen their respective tickets. Although foreign policy and the state of the economy dominated, other issues were also brought to the table, such as climate change and rights for same sex couples. Despite the political differences, the atmosphere was one of cordiality and mutual respect and lacked the frigidty of the presidential debate.

Both candidates have experience in different areas of government. Biden's thirty six years as a senator have made him a seasoned player in politics and Palin was Mayor of Wasilla and is Alaska's sitting governor. The debate marked Palin's first appearance on the national stage and in the wake of many harsh criticisms for her less than stellar television interviews, the burden of proving suitability to be vice president seemed heavy on her. Her demeanor was one of smiling, youthful charisma and she demonstrated considerable aptitude in the areas she was best versed in, but was prone to change the nature of what was asked when it suited her best. At one point she said to



Biden, "I may not answer the questions that either the moderator or you want to hear, but I'm going to talk straight to the American people and let them know my track record," which she referenced several times during the evening.

The pressure was on Biden as well, but it was of a different sort. Not only did he have to defend Obama and the Democratic Party, but he had to make sure not to come off as a bully, lest he encourage accusations of sexism. Like Palin, he echoed many of the same points his running mate did, while incorporating some of his own views. He expressed respect for McCain but called him "out of touch" especially in regards to the state of the economy. "It was two Mondays ago that John McCain said that the

fundamentals of the economy were strong. Two weeks before that he said we've made great economic progress under George Bush's policies." Palin was quick to rise up in defense of her running mate and rebutted, "John McCain, in referring to the fundamentals of our economy being strong, was talking to and talking about the American workforce, which is the greatest in the world with its ingenuity and work ethic. That's a positive. That's encouragement. And that's what John McCain meant."

When asked how they would handle being president should their higher ups pass away while in office, the candidates laid out specifically how they would handle the reins of leadership. Biden said he would continue to carry out Obama's policies, such as making health care and college tuition more affordable, giving tax breaks to the working class, and work to end the war in Iraq. Palin said she would focus her efforts on "putting government back on the side of the people" and strive to get rid of the corruption and abuses of power on Wall Street and in Washington.

The candidates expressed some differences about the climate change issue and how to deal with it. Palin didn't necessarily believe that changes in climate were due exclusively to human activity. She said that Alaska, as the nation's only arctic state, "feels and sees impacts of climate change" and acknowledges how real it is. She stressed the importance of becoming more energy independent and cleaning up the planet by cutting back on emissions. Biden argued that the causes of climate change were largely due

"Biden and Palin hold their ground in 2008 debate" is continued on page 3.

Pimps Up, Ho's Down: Hip-Hop music and modern women

Daniel Tomblin

Grizzly Staff Writer

The new generation of Hip-Hop music has brought explicit and degrading lyrics to the top of the music charts, and the center of the media's spotlight. The 2007 book release *Pimps Up, Ho's Down: Hip Hop's Hold on Young Black Women* paints a picture of the consequences of the times.

Written by Dr. T Denean Sharpley-Whiting, the book reveals how language of sexual abuse and crude violence presented in this revolutionized Hip-Hop is harmfully

impacting the teen and young adult culture in America. The Vanderbilt University professor held a conversation about her research on the evening of Tuesday Sept. 30 here on campus, in Thomas Hall.

Dr. Sharpley-Whiting received her Ph. D from Brown University in 1994. Her position at Vanderbilt University is Director of African-American and Diaspora Studies. She is the author of other books generally pertaining to women's rights including *Negritude Women* and *Frantz Fanon: Conflicts & Feminism*. The former fashion model has built herself up into a renowned scholar, and now travels across the country giving presentations to inform

people of the disastrous causes and effects of misogyny in our culture today. She is quick to hold Hip-Hop accountable for keeping women down in society.

Hip-Hop first took off in the late 1970's in New York City. By the time the millennium hit, Hip-Hop had expanded across the country and began to be reformed by America's commercialization. When the Hip-Hop became a lucrative, money-making endeavor, the entire face of the culture was recreated. What started as a celebration of urban African-

"Pimps Up, Ho's Down: Hip-Hop music and modern women" is continued on page 5.

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News in Brief: more melamine found, Algerian flood

Kristi Blust

Grizzly News Editor

October 1, 2008

NEW YORK (AP)-A new study has found that the AIDS virus has existed and been spread among people for about 100 years, several decades longer than scientists initially thought. Scientists had estimated the origin to be around 1930, but recent genetic analysis has pushed the estimate back to between 1884 and 1924, specifically at 1908. Despite knowledge of the disease, AIDS was not formally recognized until 1981. Experts are not surprised that it took 70 years for HIV to be recognized. An infection often takes many years to produce noticeable symptoms, which can hide the role of the virus. Researchers point out that the new estimated date of origin aligns with the building of many African cities, suggesting that urbanization may have a role in the spread of HIV. According to scientists, HIV descended from a chimpanzee virus that jumped to humans in Africa, likely when people butchered chimps.

October 2, 2008

ALGIERS, Algeria (AP)- North African officials said Thursday that heavy rains in the Algerian Sahara were responsible for flash floods that killed 30 people and

injured several dozen others. Around the medieval town of Ghardaia, hundreds of people were rescued by helicopter; additionally, up to 600 houses were destroyed between September 30 to October 1. Concern arise that drinking water was contaminated. Authorities were working to fix downed electricity and gas links and reopen roads. The Sahara, which covers a large portion of Northern Africa, is the world's largest desert, and also one of the driest. Occasionally, thunderstorms bring heavy rain to the region leading to engorged rivers that exact considerable damage.

October 5, 2008

HONG KONG, China- Melamine, a compound found in plastic and composed of nitrogen, carbon, and hydrogen has been found in two recalled candy products made by British candy-maker Cadbury, authorities from Hong Kong said. As reported last week by the *Grizzly*, the chemical has been found in Chinese-made milk products that have sickened many and killed four thus far. Cadbury recalled all of its Chinese-made candy products last week after tests revealed trace amounts of melamine. The Cadbury Dairy Milk Hazelnut Chocolate was pulled because, according to spokesman Tony



Bilsborough, "no level of melamine is appropriate." The sample of the candy contained melamine levels of 65 ppm (parts per million) which is more than 25 times the acceptable level of 2.5 ppm, according to Hong Kong's government.

October 5, 2008

BAGHDAD, Iraq-Three women, three children, and five people whom the U.S. military referred to as terrorists were killed this past Sunday in a raid. A U.S. military statement said troops entered a building in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul searching for a suspected terrorist. Troops were shot at in the building, and returned fire. The terrorist suspect

then detonated a suicide vest, according to the statement. Hidden firearms and explosives were found later by U.S. troops. According to Rear Adm. Patrick Driscoll, Multi-National Force-Iraq spokesman, "this is just another tragic example of how al Qaeda in Iraq hides behind innocent Iraqis. The terrorist exploded his suicide vest in close proximity to women and children, and in a house full of explosives and weapons." *All information and photo for "News in Brief" taken from www.cnn.com.*

Indian temple stampede kills hundreds, injures others

Kristen Stapler

Grizzly Staff Writer

Most college students have been to at least one concert in their lifetime. Whether it was a hardcore punk show with studded belts and mohawks, or a once-famous boy band singing to teary-eyed teenage girls, everyone knows the feeling of being surrounded by too many people and becoming claustrophobic. Mosh pits, too, often result in large crowds getting rowdy. Another incident of masses of people being in a small space occurred overseas in a much more tragic manner, this time not at a concert.

Last Tuesday, at a popular tourist site in India, a stampede injured hundreds and killed 224 people at the Chamunda Devi temple. This temple attracts thousands of visitors every year, but is also an active religious sanctuary for worshippers. Over 25,000 citizens arrived at the temple earlier this week for the Hindu festival, Navaratri.

Devoted Hindus crowded inside this hill-top shrine dedicated to the celebration of Navratra, the Mother Goddess. A wall inside the temple collapsed, contributing to rumors of a bomb threat. Thousands of worshippers stormed the doors, which is when the chaos began. According to *The Washington Post*, "the temple's floor had become slippery when devotees broke hundreds of coconuts as religious offerings."

As soon as the first person slipped, others fell on top. Hundreds were pulled out of the building and rushed to hospitals, but the total count of those killed climbed drastically. Although many were physically injured, the majority of deaths were due to suffocation.

The temple was reopened the following day, but the majority of Hindus chose to remain at home and mourn their friends and fellow worshippers. It was reported that only 200 arrived at the temple that Wednesday, a drastic decline from the 25,000 counted just one day before.

Surprisingly, deadly stampedes are not uncommon in India. When many humans congregate in a tight space, accidents become quite frequent. This was actually the fourth stampede to occur in India this year. In August, during a pilgrimage at the Himachal Pradesh temple, over one hundred were killed when heavy rain caused one of the temple walls to collapse. Rocks began to break away from the walls and fall onto the people, which caused panic and resulted in a massive stampede to get out.

It is surprising how similar these two events were. Both took place at a religious place of worship, a falling wall was the cause of hundreds of deaths, and people created a stampede in an effort to escape. Rumors spread easily when many people are crowded into small places and the exits are limited. Next time you find yourself surrounded by large crowds (or at a party in Reimert), make sure you don't slip on the floors. Better yet, make sure you have a way to get out if something happens.

COMMENTS 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:

- Professor Chris Aiken, Theater & Dance
- Professor Mark Ellison, Chemistry
- Professor Holly Gaines, Music
- Professor Leah Joseph, Environmental Studies
- Professor April Kontostathis, Mathematics and Computer Science
- Professor Matthew Kozusko, English
- Professor Shannon Mudd, Business & Economics
- Professor Kelly Sorensen, Philosophy & Religion
- Professor Cathy Young, Theater & Dance

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 10, 2008.

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Hollywood mourns legend Paul Newman

Liz MacDonald
Grizzly Staff Writer

The Hollywood elite give off the vibe that any kind of publicity is good publicity, right? For some, that may be the case; however, one iconic legend was quite satisfied without the constant flickering of camera lights and high profile living that characterizes the Hollywood lifestyle. Unfortunately, the Hollywood community had to say goodbye to this influential figure last Friday, September 26, 2008.

Paul Newman was a rare gem in the Hollywood arena. Not only had he managed to stay out of the celebrity spotlight (unless it was to promote his charities), but he remained married to his wife, Joanne Woodward for fifty years. CNN reports that when asked about his long lasting marriage, Newman justified its longevity by explaining "I have a steak at home, why go out for a hamburger?"

Newman played significant roles in more than fifty movies, such as "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid" and "The Verdict." Similarly, Newman was considered a "heartthrob" in his day with his good looks and "piercing blue eyes," according to MSNBC. He was among the likes of James Dean and Marlon Brando. Interestingly enough, he sought after roles where his acting was showcased more than his looks. He was depicted as an outsider, "a rebel, or loser." Newman received ten Oscar nominations other awards, according to MSNBC. In regards to his successful acting career, Newman claimed that he never read his movie reviews; he explained that he didn't want to get a big head, or be depressed about a bad review.

Newman was the son of Arthur Newman and Theresa Fetzner Newman of Cleveland, Ohio. He began acting after



Photo courtesy of abnews.com

much encouragement from his uncle, Joseph, and his mother. After serving in the navy in World War I, Newman attended Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio and graduated with a degree in English. Next, he studied drama at Yale University along with Marlon Brando, James Dean, and Karl Malden. Newman then travelled to New York to pursue television and the performing arts. According to MSNBC, Newman caught his break through an unfortunate event, he was cast in the a television depiction of "The Battler" by Ernest Hemingway. James Dean was originally cast as the lead; however, a fatal car crash in 1955 changed this. Newman's career took off. He

was nominated for his roles in such movies as Cat on a Hot Tin Roof, The Hustler, and The Absence of Malice. Some recent movies Newman was involved in included The Road to Perdition, Empire Falls, and he lent his voice to the character Hornet in Disney's Cars.

Newman was also active in his charities, according to MSNBC. He had a "soft spot for underdogs in real life." Newman established various charities through his food company, "Newman's Own." His food company raised \$175 million dollars in 2007 where all proceeds went to his charities. He established summer camps for children with various severe illnesses. After Newman's son, Scott died of an alcohol and drug overdose in 1978, Newman set up the Scott Newman Foundation to raise funds towards producing "anti-drug films" for kids.

It was noted that when Paris Hilton was trying to raise money for children in Darfur, Newman raised \$200 million dollars through his food company but kept that fact under-wraps. He made an impression in the Hollywood community, not only through his acting, but through his efforts.

Earth shattering stock market fall shakes nation

Nathan Humphrey
Grizzly Staff Writer

The Dow Jones Industrial, an index of America's 30 top industrial companies, took a record hit of nearly 778 points on Sept. 29. The huge sell-off was in response to Congress's failure to pass the economic bailout package. The loss was the biggest single day fall since the market reopened after September 11th and fell 684 points. Stocks responded immediately to the failure, falling 500 points as the vote took place in the House of Representatives. In monetary terms, the market lost over \$1 trillion in a single day.

Even before the trading woes began, Wachovia Corp., the countries fourth-largest bank, was up for sale to Citigroup or Wells Fargo. This was the fourth largest bank to fail and the most recent to feel the pains of sub-prime lending. As the market opened in New York, it immediately fell 1 percent.

The Nasdaq stock index, the Standard and Poor 500, and the MSCI World index, which follows 23 markets in developed countries, all took giant hits as no one seemed safe from the economic catastrophe. The Standard and Poor 500 lost 8.4 percent which was the largest drop since the 1987 crash. The only stock in the S&P 500 to gain value was the Campbell Soup Co.

The market's earth shattering fall shook other international markets. India's market fell 4 percent, while Brazil's stock exchange closed trading after the market dropped 10 percent.

As the sell-off occurred, investors began to panic and short term credit markets immediately froze. Short term credit

is an essential part of a business's daily activity. It gives the business the ability to pay out expenses before receiving their gross sales.

The fear of risky investments drove traders to buy US Treasury securities, which are widely regarded as the least risky investment one could take. But, the prices of treasuries increase as they are increasingly bought and their return decreases as more are bought. The rush to buy the Treasury backed securities depleted their value drastically in one day.

The sheer volume of poor economic news instilled a deep fear in the American consumer. The Gallup poll on U.S. economic conditions reported 56 percent of American's believe the economy is in "poor" condition while only 13 percent reported the economy as "excellent" or "good." A second poll compiled by Gallup reports 86 percent of American's see the economic outlook as "getting worse."

The Associated Press reported that the federal Office of Thrift Supervision, who is partly responsible for government banking oversight, believed the market was overreacting to the failure of the bailout and the fears of consumers are misplaced.

It seemed that no sector was safe as the day wore on and the market took hit after hit. The financial sector was hit hard, which was not a surprise, but the price for sweet crude oil fell over 9 percent and market powerhouses Apple Inc. and Google Inc. took giant hits. The Nasdaq, consisting of mostly technology stocks, recorded its third largest percent decline ever, falling 199.61 points, or 9 percent.

Figures for this article obtained from MSN.com.

"Biden and Palin hold their ground in 2008 VP debate" is continued from front page.

...to human activity. He said that by investing in alternative energy sources, like solar energy, new jobs could be created both within the United States and abroad.

The one issue that Biden and Palin were in total agreement on was same sex marriage, which they both made very clear they did not support. "In an Obama/Biden administration," Biden said, "there will be absolutely no distinction from a constitutional or legal standpoint between a same sex and heterosexual couple. Same sex couples should be able to have visitation rights in hospitals, joint ownership of property, life insurance policies etc. That's only fair." When asked whether or not she would support the same thing, Palin said she would, so long as it didn't interfere with the "traditional definition of marriage" which, she believes, is one between a man and a woman.

Toward the end, the debate took an emotional turn. Both Biden and Palin have sons that are either about to be deployed to Iraq or are already there. Palin spoke passionately about her concerns for Track, her oldest son who is in the army and her newborn, Trig, who is a special needs child. She reflected on when she and her husband, Todd, worried about the cost of health insurance and how to pay for their children to go to college. Biden fought back tears while speaking of the car crash that severely injured his two sons and claimed the lives of his wife and daughter.

So who actually won the debate? Both candidates received mixed reviews. The general consensus was that Palin had performed much better than expected, but did not do enough to distance McCain and herself from the highly unpopular Bush administration, as was hoped. According to the New York Times, Palin was more appealing to working class voters than Biden because of her "folksy" manner and frequent use of colloquialisms. Biden's primary tactic was to repeatedly point out McCain's political connection with the Bush administration. He said that McCain was no maverick, given the amount of times he's backed President Bush, who has the lowest ratings in the history of the American presidency. Biden was forceful without being condescending and held his own against an opponent, who, according to the Times, "was difficult to attack given that she's a newcomer and a woman in an arena long dominated by men."

GRIZZLY RETRACTION MISATTRIBUTIONS IN TURF ARTICLE

The Grizzly wishes to make a full retraction regarding the article on a new turf field that appeared in last Thursday's paper (Oct. 2) on page 12. In the article, the Bears' head coach, Peter Gallagher, and defensive coordinator, Chris Rusiewicz, both were quoted extensively. In fact, neither coach was contacted by the article's author, so all quotations were entirely fabricated. The Grizzly editorial staff deeply regrets these misattributions and apologizes to both Coach Gallagher and to Coach Rusiewicz for misrepresenting them in the paper's sports section.

At the same time, the editorial and reporting staffs wish to reassure our readers that every effort is made to guarantee accuracy in each story that we publish. We take this matter very seriously, because members of The Grizzly work diligently to produce a weekly newspaper that adheres to ethical journalistic practices. We also wish to make clear that no one on The Grizzly editorial staff had any reason to believe that the article had not been submitted in good faith.

Spotlight on Sally Rousse: dance artistry at its finest

Roger Lee

Grizzly Features Editor

Last Friday, an exhausted group of Ursinus dancers finished up a 19-hour rehearsal week for an upcoming ballet number in the fall Ursinus College Dance Company program. They also bid farewell to a very special guest, choreographer and artist Sally Rousse.

From Sept. 27 to Oct. 3, Ursinus College housed a major figure from the current dance world. For seven days, the dean's apartment became home to this semester's visiting guest artist Sally Rousse. She flew in from Minneapolis for a weeklong residency with a lucky group of Ursinus Dancers. On the morning of Sept. 27, Rousse held an open audition for a new ballet piece she would choreograph as part of this fall's UCDC concert. The audition saw a large number of eager ballet dancers vying for a spot in the piece. However, the grueling audition process left only 15 lucky dancers cast for the ballet.

The hard work had just begun for those cast by Rousse. For the next six days, intense 2-3 hour rehearsal sessions were crammed into busy schedules, biology labs and endless paper assignments. Last Friday was Rousse's last day at Ursinus as she finished up the promising piece slated for a November debut.

Before Rousse's departure, I had the opportunity to sit down with the talented artist and discuss her life, artistic visions and impressive dance career.

"I lived in Vermont, Chicago, Belgium, New York City and Minneapolis," smiled Rousse. Out of all these places, Rousse finds it hard to forget Belgium "Belgium was beautiful!" smiled Rousse. "I felt very connected there...I still dream about it." The experienced traveler also spent 15 years in New York City training as a dancer while experiencing the fast paced city life and enthusiastic arts scene of the big city. Although Rousse no longer lives in New York, she still visits about four times a year.

Now as a mother of two, Rousse resides in Minneapolis. She loves the environment and enjoys raising her children there. "I want my kids to do chores!" laughed Rousse. At a Montessori school her children learn to become tillers of

the land, and more importantly about cause-and-effect in everyday life through responsibility.

Sally learned all about responsibility as she juggled working with dancing. By the age of 17, Rousse was dancing with New York choreographers, sometimes sacrificing paying jobs to meet the rigorous demands of company rehearsals. "I definitely suffered," said Rousse. While dancing with Omaha ballet, Rousse learned how to live in the Mid-West. She learned firsthand about dance company politics and procedures, often wondering "Is there room for my vision?"

Sally Rousse definitely had visions of her own, ones that were hard to contain. After working with numerous small and large companies, she gained a lot of experience and learned the difference between choreography/choreographer and repertory driven companies.

"Each has their own distinct set of rules," explained Rousse. Some sets of rules helped Rousse move her ballet career into a new direction. After dancing with the Royal Ballet of Flanders, 25 out of 50 company members left at a rapid pace. Rousse was one of those dancers who felt compelled to leave the company. This is when she ran into James Sewell, a great choreographer and "leader" as Rousse called him. By 1990, the two co-founded James Sewell ballet; the rest is history.

Eighteen years later, Sally Rousse is married to James Sewell and a proud mother of two children. She is still going strong, performing and choreographing countless

works. Looking back on her early beginnings, Rousse remembers her introduction to dance. She met a popular girl in second grade who was beautiful, friendly and a talented dancer. Sally Rousse figured that if dance was part of this girl's success, then why not dance? Rousse enrolled in a ballet class with the popular girl and the two are still friends to this day.

"She's one of my only friends from Vermont," smiled Rousse. "She is very loyal."

This loyal friendship landed Rousse in ballet and tap classes. She credits much of her unique rhythmic sense and musical relationship in her ballet choreography to tap. The rhythm and percussiveness of tap dance has rubbed off in Rousse's ballet work.

"It makes you view music in a new way," she said.

Rousse also talked about her love for classical ballet. Although she has studied numerous styles of dance and performed in different types of companies, Rousse will always have a soft spot in her heart for ballet.

"I am absolutely sincere when I am in it," said Rousse. "You cannot fake it!" She also explains from her experience of being a dance company muse, the best way to stand out is to perform fully at all times. "It is okay to mess up," said Rousse. She mentioned that while dancing fully, a choreographer can critique and

work with that person. Mediocrity will not help the dancer or choreographer in a rehearsal setting. "You have to be willing to embarrass yourself!" laughed Rousse.

Taking that chance, stretching a little farther, breathing a little deeper, jumping a little higher has all helped Rousse reach the platform that she is at today. Taking a risk to "be embarrassed" by going full out in rehearsals and asking important questions has helped set Rousse apart from other dancers. Her company and performance experiences have helped shape this modern-day dancer as a "renegade ballerina" of our times. There is surely more to come from this outstanding human being known as Sally Rousse.



Photo courtesy of jsballet.org
Sally Rousse and Christian Burns performing with the James Sewell Ballet.

Ursinus in Tuebingen students travel to Berlin, Munich

Serena Mithbaakar

Grizzly Staff Writer

I've been in Germany for over a month and have had plenty of opportunities to travel beyond Tübingen, namely Berlin, Munich (twice, once for Oktoberfest), the former East German city of Leipzig and around Saxony-Anhalt including the Harz mountains as well down south around Bodensee or Lake Constance. But today I will honor Berlin, a city that has emotionally overwhelmed me a lot in many different ways.

Walking through Berlin, it is hard not to notice the German capital is growing at an incredible pace, probably faster than any other European city. Today's Berlin is a modern, busy, international, vibrant, political and economic capital. As a tourist or in my case, a student on a four-day excursion, it is common to rub shoulders with high school students dressed in Goth fashion, East European and African émigrés looking for a new experience and tourists from all over the world out on the streets or the brisk subways. Berlin is also home to a livelier alternative culture including the art and the music scene, the string of vegetarian restaurants, world class museums and even some of the world's best graffiti, which is officially accepted, and legally speaking, "totally fine!"

Upon arrival, this modern side of Berlin is very overwhelming, particularly if you are freshly out of the quaint old Collegeville. But what about the tumultuous times that Berlin has gone through? What happened to The Wall?

It would be wrong to say that Berlin has completely reinvented itself. The past still remains an integral part of the Berlin's identity. The former East and West parts of Berlin may look indistinguishable, but as you walk through Berlin and pay closer attention, the past comes alive. Some parts of The Wall remain, most notably on Bernauer Straße and the East Side Gallery in Friedrichshain, the longest remnant on the wall by the Spree River and also the largest open air art galleries in the world are both important monuments today. Through monuments like these, Berlin continues to stand as a monument to people who fought against oppression and continue on doing so in 2008.

Berlin is very unpretentious. Close to the wall at Bernauer Strasse, there is a small sign on the ground that pays homage to the people who died while crossing The Wall, from the East to the West. The life behind these falls affected the common people immensely. An installation of a brief history of The Wall at Bernauer Strasse has been created, and one can see life behind the Berlin Wall

through the eyes of the common people. Their sufferings have produced iconic images and photographs—most famously that of a soldier jumping over some of the border controls, relatives waving at each other as the wall is being built. When I saw these photos, many of which were replicated enormously and used on postcards and on picture frames in cafes, it serves as a reminder of how hard life had been in Berlin. To me, these photographs are precious documents. Most of them gave me goosebumps and made me want to know what the personal story of each individual photographed.

More of Berlin's dedication to freedom of people around the world and mockery of its communist past can be seen in the East Side gallery, the largest remnant of the Berlin wall that stands by the spree river. Almost a kilometer long, it is also a tribute to the people's freedom struggles not just in Germany, but all around the world. Some of its images are slightly disturbing, but they convey messages rather humorously. I will continue more on Berlin and Munich in the near future, but if I were to compare both, I would say that Berlin might not have the "picture perfectness" of Munich, but its unpretentiousness and "cosmopolitanness" is unrivalled.

Introducing the Gender Wage Gap How much progress has really been made?

Laine Cavanaugh
Grizzly Staff Writer

If Sarah Palin is elected vice president, will she earn 77 percent of what Dick Cheney now receives? Though it may seem ridiculous at first glance, it's a reasonable question. According to the US Census Bureau, in 2007, women were paid 77 cents for every dollar men received for comparable work. While many factors come into play, the majority of this gender wage gap remains unexplained.

What accounts for this difference? According to Dr. Maggie Ussery, a professor of Black American Studies at the University of Delaware, women come into college with a variety of majors and career ideas.

"Initially, women want what men want in college—a good job," she says. By

graduation, however, "women typically choose majors that are related to female-dominated fields," Ussery explains. These fields include areas such as teaching, nursing, and social work—all which tend to be associated with lower earnings. It's unclear why women make this transition.

"Research literature suggests that something is happening in college that is steering women into traditional fields," Ussery explains.

Although occupation may be a contributor to this gender wage gap, there are a few other variables that present themselves. While women may work fewer hours and spend more time with their families, these factors do not fully account for the wage gap. According to an American University Women Education Foundation study, women earn less than men just 12 months after graduation. Female business majors earn 81 percent of what male business majors make, and female biologists get paid 75 percent of what their male counterparts earn.

Even in traditionally male-dominated fields, women see less money. Female math majors earn 76 percent of what males make, and female engineers earn 95 percent of what male engineers make. This study is particularly significant because just one year after graduation, these students do not typically have children yet, and both genders are starting without a great deal of experience.

This initial inequality is hard to explain.

"Women are as likely, if not more likely, than men to go to college and to graduate. So the differences in wages, hours worked, and job status are not due to skills or training differences," Ussery asserts. Because the variables are controlled in the first year study, the only explanation for this disparity seems to be discrimination. The initial wage gap only widens over time, leaving women to earn only 69 percent of what men do within ten years.

One explanation for the increasing wage gap could be the fact that women expect less, therefore becoming less likely to negotiate their salaries. According to Linda Babcock, an economics professor at Carnegie Mellon and co-author of *Women Don't Ask: Negotiation and Gender Divide*, men initiate negotiations 4 times more often than women. In addition, women are more pessimistic about what is available to them. When they actually do negotiate, they ask for less than men do, and as a result, earn less.

While negotiation is an interesting and possibly hindering variable for women, it

fails to explain the initial wage gap. Although a likely cause is discrimination, many insist it can be explained by a woman's role in the family.

"Women are more likely to accommodate to a spouse's job change or promotion," Ussery adds. If this is eventually exposed as the cause, Palin should get her fair share.

within society has become the mainstream image of society today thanks to the media.

Ursinus senior Catriona Whitehead has created her thesis based on Hip-Hop and how it negatively influences young women. Describing how this commercialized Hip-Hop was created she says "It's like a mirror faces a mirror. One mirror is society and the other is commercialized Hip-Hop." Each one reflects the other

Career Corner Consider interning!

Career Services
career@ursinus.edu

An internship is a structured and supervised professional experience that gives a student the opportunity to link academic studies to "real world" experience and develop practical skills in a work environment. With the approval and support of a faculty internship advisor, you can receive credit for an internship and satisfy your Independent Learning Experience (ILE) requirement. There are many reasons to consider an internship:

Try out a career field: An internship gives you experience in a field and can help you make more educated career choices. Would you buy a car without a test drive? Marry your partner without a date? Well don't jump into a career field without trying it out first. An internship allows you to explore careers in different fields to help you narrow down your focus.

Develop career-related skills: Employers want to know what you can do for them and they are especially interested when you've already done it for someone else. Many skills are best learned on the job and internships can provide you with opportunities to demonstrate your transferable skills, such as leadership, analytical thinking, communication and interpersonal skills.

Great networking contacts: If you want to know about where the opportunities are in an industry, the people you want to talk to are the ones already working in it. Internships give you the perfect opportunity to make connections and develop a network of professionals in your field.

An inside track to a job: Most organizations will hire successful interns over candidates they've just met. Many companies use internships as extended interviews for full-time employment. Some hire new graduates almost exclusively from their internship pool.

Also, Career Services has a New Partnership with Internships USA. This site provides summaries and links to internships in many fields including sports, international affairs, corporate America, communications & media, human services, social change/human rights, politics, the environment, and more!

Log in to your UC CareerNet account and link to Internships USA in the quick links section of your home page or go directly to <http://www.internships-usa.com/> (username: interns; password: learn)

For more information on finding and securing an internship contact Career Services, career@ursinus.edu or 610.409.3599.



This progressive poster was used as part of a campaign for the British Conservative Party recently.

Photo courtesy of wordpress.com

"Pimps Up, Ho's Down: Hip-Hop music and modern women" is continued from front page.

something much less promising. Instead, Hip-Hop catered to America's desires. The industry grew chock-full of sexually explicit music videos, rich gangsters, and damaging lyrics. What started as a small piece of reality

back in forth in an endless cycle, multiplying the negativity present in both the society and in the Hip-Hop world. "In order to get ahead, you basically sell yourself..." Catriona explains, describing how girls can succeed in the commercialized Hip-Hop industry. It promotes this idea that a girl has to wear revealing clothing, and virtually view herself as a sex object to compete in the glossed over world of Hip-Hop.

Ashes Divide: On the stage and behind the scenes

Laurel Salvo
Grizzly Staff Writer

I'm sitting on a cushy leather couch that spans the length of Ashes Divide's tour bus. The showroom lights that outline the mirrored ceiling above are dimmed down, there's a sense of ambience and calm in the atmosphere, and the liquid track of "Between Breaths" by Blaqk Audio is flooding out of surround sound speakers loudly. Billy Howerdel, former "A Perfect Circle" guitarist and now "Ashes Divide" frontman walks shyly out of the back room and plants himself quietly in a booth parallel to me. He's wearing a t-shirt that reads "Innerpartysystem," the local Philly electro band they toured with only a few months ago at this same venue. I and a few friends ended up spending time with them after the show and it gave me the opportunity to learn a lot more about each band member as individuals.

Having gone to dozens of shows before, I can tell everyone reading this that Ashes Divide is like no other group I've met. Being at a close end to their third tour (still not working as a headliner just yet), I've been fortunate to spend post-show time each instance they've played around Pennsylvania. Earlier this year in May, they were at the Crocodile Rock and ended up contacting my friend and I afterwards via Myspace. After that, we ended up seeing them at Projekt Revolution in Camden and were able to go into Philly with guitarist Andy Gerold until his 3am bus call after the show.

This string of events finally led into the end of September when the band returned to the Crocodile Rock once again, this time on tour with Seether. Observing them all closely during that time, it was easy to see that they

aren't just in this band to make money. It seems to be about inspiring fans and interacting with them. At one point, Keyboardist Adam Monroe mentioned a band he liked and how he recalled that they always came out after shows and spoke with the fans. It's not about existing on a separate plane of fame from fans. They have casual meet and greets after a lot of their concerts but after that time, they're the type of band to say, "Join us for a drink afterwards." Most artists (whether they headline or are openers) are content to leave the venue immediately after their sets and if they do have meet and greets, they pick a select few or have it so fans have to enter some sort of drawing and it becomes a contest to actually interact with the band.

In a blog written by Howerdel on their official website, he mentions, "Getting to meet all of you after the show has been pretty cool. This is why I got into this whole music thing in the first place, to have my music touch people the way so many musicians have inspired me."

I think that a lot of fans today are missing out on this with the groups they admire. It's one thing to see a role model on a stage in front of you but for a lot of young kids to be able to casually walk up and shake Billy Howerdel's hand and have him smile back and strike up a conversation afterwards without the feeling of

him wanting to walk away as soon as the meet and greet has ended is something else entirely.

Furthermore, there aren't enough artists today that take this sort of initiative of becoming friends with their fans, yet the potential impact and meaning that's behind it is important. Howerdel has been in the music scene for over a decade now, starting out as a techie for Tool and later collaborating with frontman Maynard James Keenan in "A Perfect Circle." I firmly believe that he remembers how it is to be star struck and can recall that awe of being a fan that's so familiar to all of us, but now a past memory to him.

They're coming around Philly in mid-November once again and will be playing at the Electric Factory as an opener. If you're interested in seeing a band that's in tune with their fans and cinematic on stage, I highly recommend giving Ashes Divide a chance. Their live performance is unforgettable, and offstage in person, they really are wonderful to spend time with.



Photo by Laurel Salvo

Billy Howerdel, frontman of Ashes Divide, smiles shyly during meet-and-greet time

Democratic and Republican extremes at Ursinus College

Joshua Krigman
Grizzly Features Editor

This past September 11th, at the Denver Metropolitan State College, English teacher Andrew Hallam asked his students to write an essay about Sarah Palin's speech at the Republican National Convention and to point out the contradictions that Hallam felt the Republican Party created by trying to make Palin's life seem like a fairy tale. Hallam asked the class to, "Note her body language, facial expressions, the way she dressed, what she said and who she pointed out or talked about in her speech." This assignment, deemed bias and potentially bullying by the administration, was only brought to the school's attention after Janna Barber, a student in the class, went to Channel 4 in Denver and spoke to them about the situation instead of the faculty at the Metro State College.

But this atmosphere of collegiate bias is not restricted to the West Coast. Back here in Collegeville, Pennsylvania, students at our very own Ursinus College are dealing with the same issues. Though there have not been any publicized instances of teacher's openly favoring one candidate over another, there are daily occurrences of republicans and even Hillary supporters uncomfortably sitting through mini-Obama rallies in their CIE classes. It is easy to feel overwhelmed and inundated by the 'Far Left', and at the same time it is hard to sit there and let it all wash over you, trying to pretend you're still talking about Descartes, or whatever the subject was that transformed into Bush-bashing. But it is harder still to let your opinions be heard

when the majority is not willing to listen.

"I spoke up to explain my side once but at that point I felt more attacked then anything and it just wasn't worth it," an anonymous student says, explaining the situation he often deals with in class. "As soon as those conversations started...I'd be automatically wrong. I wouldn't even bother because I knew what I was saying wasn't being listened to carefully, it wasn't being listened to critically."

Liberalism is formed around the idea that individual liberty is the most important political goal. To then have liberal minded students impose their beliefs on others to the point where those of the opposing view are silenced due to the fear of being publically ridiculed is in essence contradicting everything that these liberally-minded students should be standing for.

"I usually don't mind talking about my beliefs, but when I do, I only want to talk about them when I know the other person will listen to what I have to say and actually pay attention," the anonymous student went on to explain. "I mean, I disagree with most of what they have to say, but I don't really care, people are completely entitled to their beliefs, I just don't feel like I'm publically entitled to mine."

And this is where the real problem lies. Students

should feel completely entitled to their own ideas, and also should be comfortable enough in their environment to share and argue these ideas in a social forum. There is nothing wrong with arguments and disagreements in the class or dorm room. If anything, discussion and conflicts concerning different perspectives should be promoted on a day-to-day basis. But when these arguments are suppressed, and the opposing side is silenced not by the faculty, but by the fear of public mockery at the hands of their own classmates, something has to be changed.

• But what is there to be done? We all attend a Liberal Arts school, so it is expected that a majority of the students are liberal. There isn't

anything wrong with that. There isn't anything wrong with that the same way that there isn't anything wrong with people who are on the extreme left or the extreme right or those that are extremely ambivalent. What we all need to be aware of is that there is a good chance that someone involved in your discussion doesn't feel the same way about things as you do. We need to remember not to do or say anything that would make those people afraid to challenge our opinions. We need to remember that feeling free to challenge the voice of the majority because you disagree with it is what being a liberal the past 8 years has been about.

"Though there have not been any publicized instances of teacher's openly favoring one candidate over another, there are daily occurrences of... mini-Obama rallies in CIE classes."

Hey, do you think about things sometimes? Why not write those thoughts down and send them to zashamberg@ursinus.edu? What's the worst that could happen?

Harold Lloyd versus Harry Potter

Abigail Raymond

Grizzly Staff Writer

Let's be honest—Harry Potter is a wuss. He's a fictional character with "magical powers" and really, what does that even mean? Some may say that makes him a hero of children's literature. I say that makes him a delusional nutcase who, if he were real, would probably would too hopped up on anti-psychotics to be of much use to anyone. And this is why, amongst other reasons, silent film star Harold Lloyd would win in a fist fight against Harry Potter. Not convinced? Here's some more proof:

Harry Potter is a wizard, which is basically the male equivalent of a witch. And you know who's all about witchcraft? The Devil. That's right, Mr. Potter is in the same league as the devil himself. Meanwhile, Harold Lloyd was an actor from the 1930's who performed wholesome comedy for the masses. No Devil worship there, which obviously means that he was on God's side. And God always wins.

Harold Lloyd is missing two fingers on his right hand. Though you might think that this puts him at a disadvantage, it only proves his strength. He lost those fingers when a prop he was holding exploded. If the man can survive a bomb, then he can certainly survive a few punches from some scrawny teenager. Lloyd went from handicapped to handi-capable when he then learned to use that hand to climb buildings, shoot archery, and play a mean game of table tennis. Let's see Mr. Potter do that with a full set of digits!

Harold Lloyd is an original. Who was the first character to wear black round-rimmed glasses? That's right, it was Mr. Lloyd. Just like he was studying divination and making friends with giants before Mr. Potter was even conceived. Experience will always trump a copycat.

Harold Lloyd is real. Harry Potter is not. That's right, I went there. Sorry to all of you fanboys and girls out there who are still waiting for that Hogwarts letter to arrive. It ain't coming. You can stop composing all that fan fiction about how you are the long lost heir to Hufflepuff, or whatever. The truth is that you aren't because there is no Hufflepuff. What is real is the ghost of Harold Lloyd stomping the hell out of *Prisoner of Azkaban*.

So there you have it. My prediction is that after four tough rounds, Mr. Lloyd would prevail over Mr. Potter on the technicality of reality. Of course, even if they were both real and still alive, Harold would kick ass because he lived through two world wars and the Golden Age of Hollywood. And we all know that the Golden Age was fueled by opium and hookers. So if he can survive that, he can survive anything.

Feel like challenging Abby Raymond about the tenacity of another hardly-heard-of film star? Email her at abraymond@ursinus.edu, but don't expect to win.

Christopher Schaeffer

Grizzly Staff Writer

Listen, I'll be honest with you guys—I have never read a Harry Potter book. Now, I know Harry Potter fans. I know what a "muggle" is, and I think I basically know the difference between a Slytherin and a Snufflepuff. I also remember bits and pieces of one of the movies, as seen extremely drunk and falling asleep. Admittedly, in light of these facts, I may not be the most partisan Potter-ite, but Abby really, *really* wanted to boost Harold Lloyd. So here we are.



Photo of the boy wizard from the movie *The Order of the Phoenix*, courtesy of criticsrant.com

Now, normally when called upon (as I often am) to predict the odds of a 12-year old boy versus a grown man who does his own absurdly masochistic

stunts, I tend to lean towards the conservative. But, let's take a trip down memory lane and look at some textual evidence in our boy H.P.'s favor.

At the beginning of the movie, Harry is playing some kind of... space rugby? I've known my share of rugby players in my time, and they were some tough customers. Harry Potter manages to scrum it up *while flying* and, I guess being attacked by green skulls on fire? Hardcore, Hank.

Harry Potter is, above all else, a young wizard. A wizard is basically British for "magician", right? This implies that Potter has an entire arsenal of tricks up his sleeve in a fight. I love Harold Lloyd, but I'll bet he'll be just as flabbergasted as you or I when H.P. guesses his card, makes the Statue of Liberty disappear, or dresses like Kris Angel.

Harry Potter is the people's hero, as shown by this quick interview of audiences leaving each of our combatants' latest movies: *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*, 2006: Pretty good! I loved Harry's track jacket and stallion-like forelock! *The Milky Way*, 1937: It's the Great Depression! Oh God! I want to die! I want to die! Cool, Mr. Lloyd. You're a real pick-me-up.

Most importantly, Harry, while a young Turk in some ways, is a boy in his prime. Harold Lloyd, by contrast, was born in 1893. Damning enough before you take into account that he's also been dead for over thirty years!

Harry Potter isn't real. You can't beat up a fake person. And believe me, I've tried. You'll get yours someday, Ethan Frome.

So let's review: Harold Lloyd, comedy genius. Film pioneer. Big deal. Harry Potter is a rugby player who can fly, spit fire, and hasn't been dead for any years at all. Smart money says Hogwarts all the way.

Think Chris Schaeffer should stop pretending not to know anything about Harry Potter and own up to his secret fascination? Email him at chschaef@ursinus.edu. Chances are, though, he's had enough false accusations this semester.



Photo of Harold Lloyd from the movie *Safety Last*, courtesy of wordpress.com.

Opinions

Zack's Dining: Why wait?

Spencer Cuskey

Grizzly Staff Writer

Think about what time you typically get out of class before the cafeterias open to serve lunch. Now think about what time you actually get served your food, eat, and finally leave the cafeteria. The fact of the matter is this: the above time

frame takes way longer than it should. As Ursinus College students, we are paying top dollar for a premium education. Should we not also receive a more efficient means to satisfy our daily hunger? "When I walk into Zack's I am usually met by a long line backed up to the bookstore," said senior Doug Yodice. It is ridiculous that in order to get served a meal in a timely manner on this campus, one has to incorporate different strategies for different cafeterias.

One such strategy shared by some students on campus is known as the "ducking" strategy. Students using this method to satisfy their hunger must plan out when they have to leave their dorm room. If they leave two minutes too late, all is lost, for the line at Zack's is already too long, and they will be late for class. The ducking method has its pros and cons. If carried out successfully, lunch is served on time. The only problem is that the only good times to go to Zack's are before when one would normally go to lunch.

Ursinus College is not the only educational institution plagued by overcrowding. According to USA Today, the number of U.S. high school graduates has peaked this year (around 3,402,355) and is expected to start declining due to a weak economy. There is a projected estimate of 3,225,017 graduates by 2011-2012. The heavy influx of freshmen this year has not helped the situation at Wismer or at Zack's. Schools across the country are trying desperately to solve overcrowding issues in housing situations, classrooms, and cafeterias. Warren Wilson College in North Carolina is experiencing the same high number of freshmen enrollment as we have here at Ursinus. Administration and Dining Services at Warren Wilson are encouraging students, staff, and faculty with flexible schedules to avoid the cafeteria during the busiest hours of the day.

St. Joes University is also experiencing a boom in freshmen numbers this year. Admissions report that enrollment went over the limit by 250. To remedy the overcrowding, St. Joes has added faculty and increased hours of operation of their cafeteria and other student help centers.

So what is it going to take for the line at Zack's to diminish? What is Dining Services doing about the ever-growing lines at Hometown in Wismer Dining Hall? These questions shouldn't take long to answer, but it wouldn't be a surprise if it's not until 2011 that Zack's purchases another computer kiosk. With overcrowding in campus cafeterias being a nationwide problem, it will be interesting to see what angle Ursinus takes on solving this issue compared to other educational institutions.



Women's Rugby in for incredible season

Emily McCloskey
Grizzly Staff Writer

A broken hand, a black eye, and a sprained ankle were just some of the injuries of last weekend's women's rugby game. Rugby is the only full contact sport offered for women and is increasing in popularity.

According to USA Rugby, "Growth at the high school level has increased 1000% since 2002 from 50 to 5000 in 2007-08." There are 11,000 women collegiate club rugby players playing on 347 teams. One of those teams is Ursinus' who is hoping to continue its tradition of excellence this season. Led by team captains Jeanette Graham and Erika Bradley, the girls have an optimistic view of this season.

"Our new players have picked up the sport quickly and are doing well. Two of our freshman, Emma Cave and Rebecca Walter, have played rugby in high school and are very strong players who have even taught us thus far," shares Graham on the loss of great seniors.

"The new players are amazing!" adds Elysia Price.

The team has started strongly. The team had a spectacular first game, beating Swarthmore 32-5. They also won their second game against Drexel with the impressive score of 36-5. The team fought hard in their first league game against Gettysburg, but were defeated.

Ursinus' Women's Rugby won division championships in 2005 and 2006. The team also appeared at championships in 2007. Before 2006, the team was in division IV, but after a stellar Fall season, they were promoted to Division III where they compete now. They remain unsuccessful in their championship play, but believe this year could be the year to change that.

"Our team is working really together, well. We seem to be overcoming injuries and still having a lot of fun. Everyone works hard and has a great attitude. I have a

good feeling for this season and I think that we could do well in the championships," shares sophomore Spencer O'Connor.

"We are all very close and it shows on the field. We are playing more cohesively than ever before," adds Price.

Rugby is a club sport meaning that it is not financially supported by the athletic department, but by AFAC funding and team fundraising.

"Being a club sport demands more organization and participation from its members in order to keep the team going. The team is mostly student run," Graham says. "Like, the captains run most practices. We have a part time coach, who volunteers his time and is unpaid."

Women's rugby only has five NCAA teams, but USA Rugby has recently started an initiative to continue its NCAA expansion.

"USA Rugby and the Emerging Sports Initiative focus on the expansion of female participation and is intended to provide additional opportunities for women athletes to play NCAA rugby. The Initiative also extends to the creation of girls' high school varsity rugby," according to the USA Rugby website.

"We are always looking for new players. We are a good team, but you don't need to have any experience. Hopefully with our winning seasons, we can gain support from fans" says Graham.

If you are interested in joining the rugby team or just learning more, please contact Erika Bradley at erbradley@ursinus.edu or Jeanette Graham at jegraham@ursinus.edu.

sport	opponent	date	score
Football	Gettysburg	10/04	7-38 L
Field Hockey	Gettysburg	10/03	4-0 W
M Soccer	Haverford	10/01	2-1 W
	Dickinson	10/04	0-4 L
W Soccer	Bryn Mawr	10/01	2-0 W
	Gettysburg	10/04	1-0 W
Volleyball	Haverford	10/07	0-3 L
	Gettysburg	10/04	0-3 L

UC Men's Rugby: Sport with quickly growing popularity

Jamey Cooper
Grizzly Staff Writer

Men's Rugby is a sport that has been gaining popularity very rapidly here at Ursinus, evident by the startling number of first year players who joined the team this year. This influx of young talent could not have come at a better time for the team after enduring the losses of numerous key veteran players last season.

Although they have gone 1-2 thus far in a transitional year, the team has taken some significant strides forward. They played very well and came up just short in two tough losses to Penn State

Berks and The University of Delaware, despite needing to play many rookies that are still learning the game.

Their one win came against West Chester.

Team Captain Nick "Huggie" Paxton attributes much of the progress the team has made to new coach Jim Hall, formerly of the U.S. Rugby team.

"It's been tough, one of the hardest parts of rugby is finding a coach," Paxton said. "It's hard to find an experienced guy. But he's brought a lot to the table. Most teams don't have this luxury."

The younger players have certainly benefitted from Hall's extensive knowledge, but even the veteran players say that adapting to his new system has been a good learning experience.

"[There is a] strong camaraderie that exists amongst team members; the casual, amiable setting the team offers is what makes it so easy for anyone to fit in."

"It's been tough adapting to a new system, just getting our coach back after a year off," said Team President, Chris Orser. It is never easy adjusting to something so brand new, but there is no better time to implement a new system than now, when the majority of the team is still underclassmen. The fact that so many freshmen and sophomores are all getting a fresh start together definitely bodes well for a team that figures to be very good in the future.

While the players take Rugby very seriously, it is a club sport and they are there to have a good time above all else. With no strict schedule governing them, players are

free to come and go as they please. This has made the job of team officials that much harder, but they understand that it is just the nature of the beast.

"It's a club sport, and because people are busy with school, it's not taken as seriously," says Paxton, "Our time has definitely been limited. But that's okay. We don't want to take things so seriously that we can't have a good time."

"The unique thing is that we have to police ourselves. We have to do everything ourselves," added Orser.

Another encouraging sign for this young team is the strong camaraderie that exists amongst team members; the casual, amiable setting the team offers is what makes it so easy for anyone to fit in. Assigning special nicknames to each player, they make it a point to get everyone involved



in the experience. Orser, nicknamed "Sexzilla," spoke about how strong team unity has been this year.

"We have a very good core group of friends within the team itself, and we're very inclusive," said Orser.

"We're friends first and rugby players second. Rugby is a very social sport," Paxton added.

Rugby is more social than most of you out there probably realized. Did you know that after each game it is a custom for both teams to hang out and socialize together? After an 80 minute dog fight that features both sides virtually trying to kill each other, the two teams get together for a few drinks and discuss the game. How many sports do you know where bitter rivals are this civil with one another right after a hard fought game?

This is one of the most unique parts of rugby and the culture surrounding it. On top of teaching this young team the basics of the game, the culture and lifestyle embedded in rugby is being passed on to a core group of younger guys that will make up the future of this team. Paxton and Orser both made it clear that although winning now would be great, having a good time and making sure this team will improve is what is most important, for the present and future.

"I'm very excited about the future of this team," Paxton said, "When they learn the intricacies of the game, we're going to be a very formidable team. And just to be a part of the formation is very exciting for me. It's an honor."

The team has 3 more games: home against Susquehanna on October 18th, and two more away games at Gettysburg and Franklin and Marshal. If you want to learn more about the team you can visit their homepage at www.ursinusrugby.org.