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The Grizzly, October 15, 2009

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The Grizzly

Thursday, October 15, 2009

The student newspaper of Ursinus College

Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde draws in large audiences

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More tickets were reserved than ever before for Ursinus College Theater's production of *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, which took place last Wednesday through Friday in the Kaleidoscope's Lenfest Theater. By that Friday, October 9, nearly 200 tickets had been reserved for both Friday and Saturday nights, a figure slightly higher than that of the average performance. Over the four night run, it is estimated that a total of 700 people attended the show.

The popularity, according to Producer/Director Domenick Scudera, could have likely been owing to the audience's familiarity with the production. "They're familiar with the title," said Scudera, "I think that draws people to see the show."

Audiences, however, were perhaps not as accustomed with this version; it is believed that the script, written as the original in 1887 by T.R Sullivan, was last produced around 1907, if not earlier. Scudera had found the script published within a book titled *Jekyll and Hyde Dramatized*, which studied the play's history.

On Saturday evening, one of the book's coeditors, Martin A Danahay delivered a free lecture prior to the

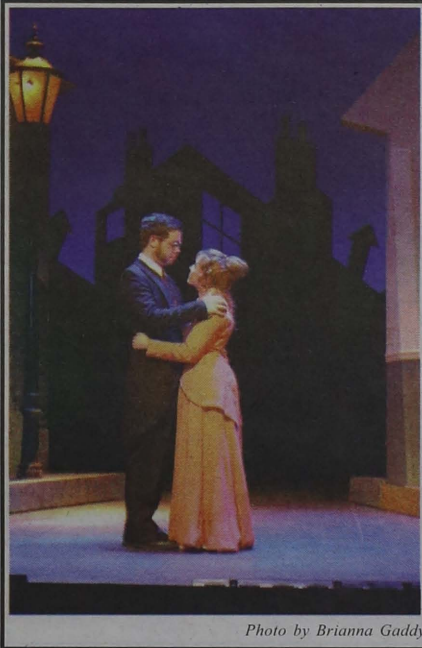


Photo by Brianna Gaddy

performance, titled "Sex and Violence in *Jekyll and Hyde*." The lecture took place in the Black Box studio before an audience of approximately 75. Danahay then attended the performance, which began at 7:30 p.m. and ran for an approximate 80 minutes. According to Scudera, this was Danahay's key reason for traveling to Ursinus: he wanted to see the production. "For a scholar to study a play on paper is a very different experience than sitting in the audience and feeling it," said Scudera, who was looking forward to hearing Danahay's feedback. In an email to Scudera, following the performance, Danahay congratulated those involved on "such a superb production."

All in all, those involved in the production received "Dr. Jekyll" is continued to News, page 3.

UC Student hit by car on Main Street, makes \$50

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"Safety Pays in Every Way." Or so it says in *The Accident Prevention Signs, Labels and Identification Products Booklet*.

Math major, Jose DeJesus, would beg to differ. "I made \$50 in two minutes," he boasted, as he recounted his recent run-in - literally - with a car on the morning of Monday, October 5, at approximately 8:55 a.m., as he was making his way back from his residence at 424 Main Street to campus to grab a quick bite to eat. DeJesus had been riding a bike rented through the UC Bike Share Program.

DeJesus admits that he sped up to pass in front of a gray jeep that was pulling out of a driveway, saying it did

not look as if the car was going to make an attempt to exit. The driver, described as being in his early 30s, exited the vehicle after the incident, and asked the UC student if he was alright.

The UC senior did not appear too shaken. "My first thought was...S***, I'm not going to eat before class. My second thought...where's my cell phone?"

Upon noticing the misplaced chain on the bike, the driver gave DeJesus \$50 and a ride back to campus. DeJesus, who walked away unharmed, laughed as he recounted the incident: "It was pretty comical." Although this may not seem like the most serious of accidents, one must ask: Does this point to a more pressing

"UC Student" is continued to News, page 2.

MRSA Awareness Month

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Last year, an unwelcome visitor—methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA)—made its infectious way through a portion of Ursinus' student body. On Oct. 2, 2009, awareness of the contagion went global; the MRSA Survivors Network declared it World MRSA Day, an event created to spread the knowledge that MRSA is a serious and potentially fatal infection.

World MRSA Day was launched with an International Press Conference on Oct. 1, 2009 at Loyola University in Chicago, IL. According to World MRSA Day's official Web site, the following day's event would "give survivors a voice," allowing them to share their stories in an effort to raise awareness. A candlelight vigil was held in Salt Lake City, UT, for those whose lives were taken by MRSA, and a collage was compiled from photos sent by families of diseased victims.

The day's activities were arranged by the MRSA Survivors' Network, an organization—began in 2003 by MRSA survivor Jeanine Thomas—dedicated to raising awareness, to educating, and to preventing MRSA infections worldwide by promoting collective efforts toward ending the disease, according to World MRSA Day's Web site. "The hundreds of thousands of lost souls who were allowed to slip away...haunted me, and I wanted their deaths to be not in vain," Thomas says. A United Kingdom organization, MRSA Action UK, worked with the MRSA Survivors' Network to promote the event. Their Web site explains that Oct. 2 was chosen in honor of the date on which MRSA was discovered in London on Oct. 2, 1961, though awareness efforts extend throughout October as World MRSA Awareness Month.

Thomas, also a national spokesperson, expert, and consultant on MRSA, has even turned to the White House for support. In a letter featured on the MRSA Survivors' Network Web site, President Obama addresses Thomas' suggestion for increased MRSA hospital infection research funding, which would seek prevention of MRSA contraction due to individuals' hospital visits for other problems. He writes, "This is simply unacceptable, and perhaps greater transparency of hospital infection rates would...incentivize hospitals to clean up their act. I hope that the Federal and State governments will make addressing this public health concern a greater priority."

The goal of October's events raises an interesting query; do people understand how serious MRSA is? During the outbreak on campus last year, students—

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News-in-brief: Car bomb in Kabul, Saturn ring discovered

Lisa Jobe
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Wednesday, October 7

NASA – Scientists have discovered a new ring around Saturn, one that’s barely visible even with advanced equipment. This ring is very large – it starts 3.7 million miles away from Saturn itself, and extends for another 7.4 million miles. According to NASA scientists, its entire volume could hold 1 billion Earths. Anne Verbiscer, an astronomer, published a paper Wednesday along with two co-authors that details the find. The reason it took so long for scientists to discover the ring is because its particles of ice and space dust are so spread apart. The ring also does not reflect much sunlight, which Saturn does not receive in abundance in the first place. But the ring gave off a faint thermal glow that NASA’s Spitzer Space Telescope was able to pick up. Scientists believe that the ring is caused by space dust kicked up when one of Saturn’s moons, Phoebe, collides with comets. The discovery of the new ring may also explain the dark side of Saturn’s moon Iapetus. Iapetus and the ring orbit in opposite directions, and “it’s possible that the moon’s dark coloring is a result of the ring’s dust particles splattering against Iapetus like bugs on a windshield.”

Wednesday, October 7

BRITAIN – Archeologists in Britain have discovered the remains of a new stone circle near Stonehenge, suggesting the theory that Stonehenge was part of a funerary complex. The new circle, known as “Bluestonehenge,” sits along the Avon River, a mile away from Stonehenge. It has been dubbed Bluestonehenge because of the blue-colored

Welsh stones that once composed the monument. Though the stones there were removed long ago, the indentations left behind suggest the massive blue stones found in the Preseli Mountain in Wales, which is 150 miles away from the site. Archaeologist Joshua Pollard, co-director of the excavation project, believes that Neolithic people would travel down the Ayon by boat, stepping off directly into Bluestonehenge. From there, they may have carried the remains of the dead in a funeral procession to be buried at Stonehenge. Experts have been debating the purpose of Stonehenge since its discovery. Other popular theories assert that it was a prehistoric temple, or a marker of the passage of time.

Thursday, October 8

KABUL, AFGHANISTAN – A suicide car bomb attack early Thursday morning near the Indian Embassy in Kabul has killed at least 13 people. The Taliban has claimed responsibility for the attack; the intended target was the Indian Embassy itself. The bomb went off around 8:30 in the morning, as shops and businesses were opening for the day. Conflicting figures about the number of casualties are coming out. According to hospital officials, 13 were killed and 83 were wounded. The Taliban, however, claims the attack killed 35, among them top Indian embassy officials, and Afghan police officers. Afghanistan’s president Hamid Karzai decried the attack, releasing a

statement from his office that said, “the perpetrators of this attack and those who planned it were vicious terrorists who killed innocent people for their malicious goals.”

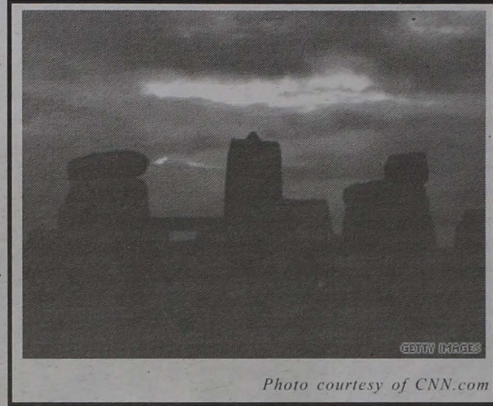


Photo courtesy of CNN.com

Friday, October 9

WASHINGTON – On Friday, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton left for a six-day trip to Europe and Russia. The trip comes during a time of crucial decision-making for the Obama administration on the situation in Afghanistan. During the trip, Clinton will discuss Obama’s strategies for Afghanistan and Pakistan with key U.S. allies; meetings are planned with the foreign ministers of France, Britain, and Russia, as well as Britain’s prime minister and Russia’s president. She will also discuss North Korea and Iran and their nuclear capabilities. Clinton will also discuss two international conflicts coming to a close: strife in Northern Ireland as well as Turkey’s relations with Armenia. The highlight of the trip will be Clinton’s visit to Russia, where she will discuss such issues as Russia’s invasion into Georgia, religious diversity in the country, and the development of a new agreement to take the place of START II (Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty), which expires in December.

All stories taken from CNN.com.

“UC Student” is continued from page 1

issue on campus, in terms of bike and pedestrian safety on and near Main Street?

This incident is particularly pertinent for the UC Bike Share, a program which was created last year by recent graduate, Laura Ng, and has become widely popular on campus. News of the incident reached the heads of the Bike Share program – Ray Clarke and Jay Fetterolf – a day or two after it happened.

Fetterolf, a sophomore who helps with bookkeeping and registration, spoke of the accident saying, “We were surprised...this is one of the first ones we’ve heard about.”

Kim Taylor, Director of Campus Safety, was also surprised to hear of the incident. When asked about what Campus Safety specifically has been doing to ensure safety is upheld, she spoke of the recent decision to decrease the speed limit on Main Street from 35 MPH to 30 MPH.

The borough of Collegeville made this request to PennDOT numerous times before it was finally accepted. (The borough must go through PennDOT because Main Street is a state road.)

“We can’t just make the decision,” Taylor said. “We’re part of the bigger picture. Lots of voices have to be heard.”

Additionally, Taylor also spoke of efforts to make the crosswalks stand out more to cars passing by campus. This should give sophomore Eva Bramesco, and others who live on Main Street, some piece of mind.

Bramesco, an International Relations and Spanish double major, lives in Todd and has to cross Main Street every day. She shares her own comical musings as a

pedestrian: “We do joke sometimes that, at some point this year, we’ll eventually be hit. It’ll stop being funny once it actually happens.”

While Jose DeJesus regards his accident as more laughable than anything else, it is important to be aware of the possible perils of walking or cycling near main roads.

Ray Clarke, a Junior Economics major who serves as the mechanical go-to-guy for the UC Bike Share, offers a piece of advice: “Treat a car as hostile....be completely cautious.” Heed his warning. There are much safer ways to make that \$50.

The Grizzly

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Omega Chi sponsors blood drive

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Halloween isn't quite here yet but that doesn't stop the blood from flowing all over Wismer Lower Lounge. Actually this is much to the relief of countless people across the country; because of the Omega Chi sponsored Red Cross blood drive, some people may have a chance to live thanks to blood donations. All it took was a few hours out of the days on Oct. 6 and 7.

Junior Lauren Meeley is the Community Service Chair for Omega Chi and organizer of the blood drive with the American Red Cross. She is also in charge of arranging everything with the school.

Omega Chi has done the blood drive since 2002 and they have held 31 in total.

Meeley reported that the first day's goal for blood wasn't quite reached. By the second day, however, they received their goal amount. Meeley gave some advice on what to do before donating in the future. She advises potential donors "to start eating iron-rich foods, hydrating and getting plenty of rest before they donate, so that they are not deferred."

There was a fair amount of donors but some missed their appointments and some weren't able to donate for various reasons. The amount of reasons that could potentially prevent one from donating is vast but typically involves disease or other medical conditions.

Most reasons for preventing a person from giving blood are temporary, so it's always good to keep trying if an ailment is not permanent. There are, however, a few other conditions that prevent individuals, for example,

recently receiving tattoos or piercings around the time of a previous donation.

You can find out more information about the requirements and guidelines prior to donation by going to the Red Cross Web site.

For sophomore Amber Samuels, it was her first time giving blood. She was worried about the process at first but says, "It was my first time, and I was petrified, but you're saving three lives. Why not?"

Samuels said the process was a bit long and involved being asked a few standard questions first, to make sure you're eligible.

Next, she had her finger pricked, and was soon asked to lay on the table; she had started to "clot early" and so they got about a half a bag from her donation. Needles have been known to scare people

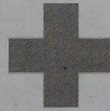
but the confidence of a friend always helps.

Senior Abbie Cichowski was unable to give but said she offered her presence to a friend who was.

Senior Cathy Hauk couldn't participate due to giving blood recently but she said, "The benefits of giving blood outweighs the slight discomfort enormously."

Hauk happens to have O negative as her blood type, which is the "universal donor" type. But just because you don't have the same blood type doesn't mean you shouldn't donate in the future.

Omega Chi does a blood drive every Fall and Spring. "Our next one will be held sometime in the beginning of April and we hope to have a great turnout," said Meeley. And with the amount of people who say they would do it again "in a heartbeat," including Samuels, Meeley's hopes, as well as the hopes of many across the country, may be achieved.



American Red Cross

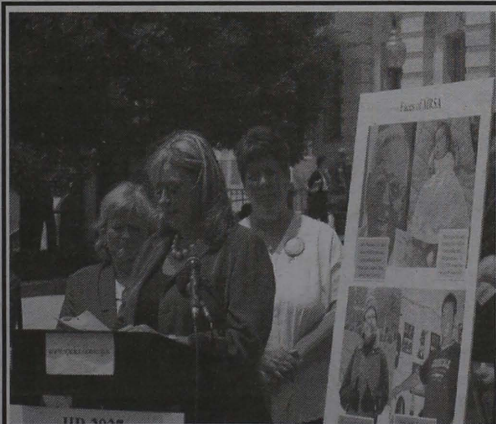
Together, we can save a life

"MRSA" continued from page 1.

especially athletes and athletic-facility users—were exposed to emails and flyers that warned against MRSA's risks and offered prevention tips. Many, however, were more disgusted by the disease than afraid that it could take their lives. Sophomore Andrea DeToro says, "Sports like wrestling or gymnastics involve mats that a lot of people share. I figured that if one of my teammates got it, we all probably would. Gross."

Students are not alone in underestimating MRSA's dangers. According to the Mayo Clinic, a strain of the bacteria *Staphylococcus aureus* emerged years ago in hospitals, where doctors learned of its resistance to the antibiotics being used to treat it. As it became prevalent in hospitals and other health care facilities, many believed that MRSA was nonexistent elsewhere. By 1990, community-associated MRSA—that which evolved beyond health care facilities—was known, and its

occurrence is progressing. Patricia Devlin, registered nurse and mother of a football player who contracted MRSA due to teammates being inappropriately prescribed antibiotics, explains, "The hospital had us read extensively and perform skills labs dealing with MRSA. It's rising in the community, especially in athletics, in fitness facilities where towels and equipment are shared, and in people with weakened immune systems." She also reveals that, like many sexually transmitted infections (STIs), MRSA carriers are not necessarily symptomatic; outbreaks may only show up in those to whom they spread the infection.



Jeanine Thomas, founder of the MRSA Survivors' Network. Courtesy of www.worldmrsaday.org.

The Mayo Clinic suggests washing hands carefully, avoiding sharing personal items, covering wounds, showering after practices, sitting an athletic event out if you suspect infection, getting tested, and taking antibiotics appropriately. The measures are preventative efforts to consider whether you're concerned that your classmate or teammate might be a carrier or you simply want to acknowledge World MRSA Awareness Month in honor of the millions taken by the disease.

"Dr. Jekyll" continued from page 1.

positive feedback from peers and family members; "everybody seemed to like it," said sophomore TuckerBacon, the show's lead. Bacon described the production as being "visually stunning," an assertion to which sophomore Sarah Dougherty would perhaps agree. "The set was really unique; I didn't expect the structures to rotate as they did," said Dougherty. Dougherty is referring to the two large, rotating platforms on stage, which comprised much of the set. The platforms were meant to represent various buildings throughout London, where the story takes place. Both rotated to reveal interiors, which served as a way to change locations without confusing the audience.

"It's an elegant and simple way to make those transitions," said John Raley, the show's technical director. "I don't think the audience was expecting it."

According to Scudera, the double-faced structures were meant not only to change locations, but to "mirror the theme of the play." Seeing as there are two sides to the lead character—the good (Dr. Jekyll) and the evil (Dr. Hyde), Scudera had sought to mimic this visually, explaining that he "wanted the set to feel like the character." However, according to Raley, getting these structures to rotate properly ended up being "the most technically challenging part of the production."

Several challenges were faced throughout the production—for the actors, the greatest struggle was perhaps needing to adjust to a melodramatic acting style, which the play, like most written during the 1900s, required of the cast.

According to Scudera, acting styles have "changed and evolved over time," and actors were essentially getting a "glimpse at acting in history" while performing.

According to Melanie Stefan, the junior cast opposite Bacon, melodrama can be best described as acting in which there is an "exaggeration of the emotions." Capturing this was by far the greatest challenge for Stefan, whose acting experience is within the realm of realism. "It was so far from anything I was used to," said Stefan.

Bacon, too, struggled with the style, explaining that it did not "come naturally." In order to break the actors from their shells, or rather from "their typical way of approaching the character," Scudera conducted several different types of rehearsal. During one such rehearsal, Scudera requested that the actors go "overboard with the emotion" when running through the performance, and to the point that characters were being mocked. This strategy was "most helpful" to Stefan, who found that the amplification helped in capturing the appropriate level of exaggeration for the real version.

Still, though, Scudera claims that actors within a melodrama must be truthful, and must still feel the appropriate feelings of the character. In order to enforce this notion, Scudera held yet another unique rehearsal, this time in the Black Box Studio, where students sat in close proximity to one another and recited the lines realistically.

According to Stefan, this rehearsal helped her to "care more about everyone inside of the play" and to "get back into that actual Victorian time."

Rehearsals for the play began within the first week of the semester, and were held five times per week. According to Scudera, the actors were, from the beginning, "ready to dive into it and do their best."

E-mail outsourcing and its effects on the Ursinus community

Jonathan Barber

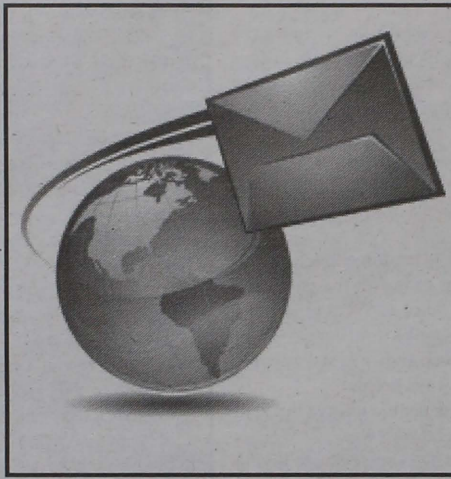
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If you forward your UC emails to another account such as Gmail, you may be surprised to know that you are not alone. According to an article on *InsideHigherEd.com*, more and more students are forwarding their school e-mails to personal e-mail accounts. Therefore, it is not so surprising that many colleges are choosing to outsource their e-mail systems, according to a front-page article in the Sept. 25, 2009 *Chronicle of Higher Education*.

"Outsourcing" in this case would involve a college's e-mail system being run by an off-campus entity, namely Google or Microsoft, as opposed to the college's Instructional Technology department. According to an Aug. 14, 2009 article on *TIME.com*, in the 2008 Campus Computing Project (CCP) survey, 42% of colleges said that they had already switched or intended to switch to an outsourced student e-mail service.

Could Ursinus see such a change?

Network Technologies Manager James Shuttlesworth says that it is unlikely that Ursinus would go to the outsourced e-mail route in the foreseeable future.



The first reason, he says, is that Ursinus can't necessarily trust student information, "to an outside vendor." Being that important information is transmitted via e-mail, privacy issues could arise if an entity other than

Ursinus' IT department oversaw the operation of campus e-mail. The other reason, Shuttlesworth says, relates to the issue of, "system persistence." If Ursinus outsourced its e-mail to a company which changed its terms of service or, worse yet, went out of business entirely, the college could be left in a position where it would have to switch the system over to Ursinus' IT department and server with little notice. John King, Chief Information Officer of the college, agreed, "The main benefit to outsourcing Ursinus e-mail would be the dramatic increase in mailbox storage size."

The Ursinus Web Site's IT section states that students have a maximum mailbox-quota of one hundred megabytes. Outsourced e-mail provides multiple times that space. Google Apps Education Edition, for example, boasts over seven gigabytes of storage per student. According to a

simple conversion operation at UnitConverter.org, seven gigabytes is over seventy times the space as a hundred megabytes.

However, according to Tech Support student workers who were surveyed, outsourcing Ursinus e-mail would not make practical sense. Few of the questions that are presently posed to Ursinus Tech Support student staff relate to e-mail problems, which indicates that there may not be many e-mail-related problems that could be solved by outsourcing e-mail.

Ty Wetzel, a junior Tech Support worker said, "A very low percentage of students actually come in asking for assistance with e-mail."

Emily White, a senior worker, agreed, "The vast majority of the questions I see fall into categories that wouldn't necessarily be resolved by outsourcing."

In fact, outsourcing could even make the problem worse, White reasons. She alludes to Shuttlesworth's point that Ursinus IT staff need to have control over the operation of the campus' own e-mail system. "It's my opinion that switching to a third-party server would just create additional barriers to resolving a tech support issue because we wouldn't have immediate access or control to resolve the issue." In that situation, she says, "We would be little more than experienced users of the system." Outsourcing e-mail is a major decision which requires consideration of finances, privacy, storage, and the operational and administrative structure. While it seems to be practical at other colleges, it may not be suitable for a college such as Ursinus.

Study Abroad Programs create great opportunities for students

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If you want to get out of the small town of Collegeville, the Study Abroad Program is a good idea for you. Ursinus College opens the application process up to all students looking to learn outside of the United States.

Each year, more than 100 students use the program and have valuable experiences in foreign countries. Different types of programs include Semester Abroad Programs, Summer and Winter Programs, Exchange Programs, Special Relationship Programs, Independent Programs, and Faculty-led Programs. These opportunities allow students to go to European, South American, and Asian countries.

As long as a program matches the students' interests, and they are accepted through the application process, they can study or work in these countries. Also, if students get an approval from the Dean's Office before they go abroad, the program would fulfill the Independent Learning Experience (ILE) requirement, which is one of the core requirements for all Ursinus students.

A senior student, Mary Massey, went to Florence, Italy for her fall semester of 2008. Massey learned and became excited about the Study Abroad Program when she was a freshman. She says the program is a, "definitely unique" point of Ursinus' curriculum. Besides student's being able to go away from an ordinary life and study in other countries, Massey thinks that because the college runs the Program, it is easier for students to go abroad than going there by themselves. In Florence, she took four classes: Italian, Italian Society, Art, and English; with 27 other Ursinus students. Massey made great friendships with them, and their bonds grew stronger during the stay. She remembers the farewell dinner party on the last day in

Italy where the students exchanged various stories about their individual stays. After Massey came back to Ursinus, she continued to stay in touch with them and still enjoys talking about their memories in Florence.

Serena Mithbaokar, who is also a senior, went to Tübingen, Germany, when she was a junior. Mithbaokar took classes as a full-time student and she worked at an elementary school as a teacher's assistant. She taught English to children between the ages of 7-11 and still keeps in touch with them. She also went to travel around not only Germany, but Poland, Austria, and the Czech Republic during the program. Mithbaokar says the program is about, "not just going there and having fun, but also making us think about [culture]." The stay in Germany made her think more about her own culture, she says. She now works as an assistant for the Study Abroad Program and shares her experience with other students at Ursinus.

Lori Kuttler, a senior student majoring in Art, went to Southern France during her fall semester of 2008. She received information about the program from her advisor in her freshman year, and then applied to the Independent Program. The experience in France was challenging for her. She stayed at her host mother's house where no internet was available, because she was the only UC student in the program, it was hard for her to adapt. Yet, Kuttler feels her study in France made a certain improvement in her French, and she enjoyed her Art classes too. Kuttler says studying abroad is worthy for students who want to learn language.

Even though they feel hardship, they could have valuable experiences if they have a strong intention. Kuttler hopes to go to France again, and plans to visit her host mother after her graduation.

The Assistant Dean of International Studies, Dr. Melissa Hardin, states that an event for the Study Abroad Program will come soon after the fall break where prospective study abroad students may get information about the program. Ursinus College Study Abroad also will have U.S. passport applications available on campus on Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2009. For more information, check out the study abroad section on the UC website.



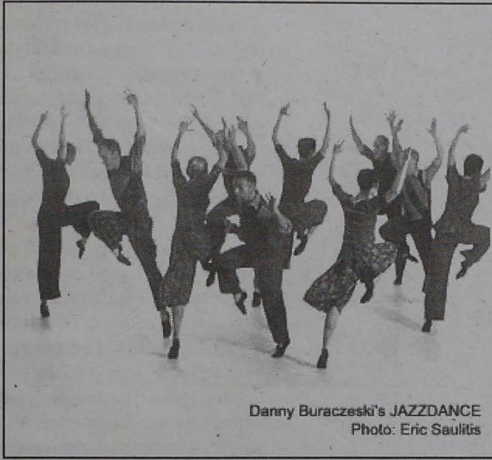
Above, UC students take a moment out of their Florence Study Abroad Program in front of the Ponte Vecchio to take a quick snapshot. From left to right: Cara Saraco, Will Freeman, Bailey Pruner, and Abbie Cichowski
Photo courtesy of Caitlin Dalik

\$10,000 grant brings Danny Buraczkeski's Swing Concerto to dance students

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Ursinus College is proud to welcome world-renowned American jazz choreographer Danny Buraczkeski to campus for a weeklong residency. His arrival took place last Saturday with an advanced master jazz class open to the Ursinus campus and surrounding community. This week Danny has worked extensively with select dancers from the Ursinus College Dance Company.



Danny Buraczkeski's JAZZDANCE
Photo: Eric Saulitis

This amazing opportunity was made possible by the work of Theater and Dance Department Chair, Cathy Young. She applied for a prestigious grant for Ursinus' growing dance department. On Dec. 8, 2008, the dream of the grant became a reality. Ursinus News officially reported on the matter. "The Ursinus College Dance Department has been chosen for the competitive American Masterpieces College Grant to reconstruct and perform a designated American dance masterpiece."

"Ursinus was awarded \$10,000 from the American Masterpieces: Dance-College Component, a program of the

National Endowment for the Arts, administered by the New England Foundation for the Arts with Dance/USA, for the restaging of Swing Concerto by premier concert jazz dance choreographer

Danny Buraczkeski," read the Ursinus website. As the news spread, Ursinus dancers and community members were full of anticipation for this unique opportunity.

"We are thrilled and honored to have been chosen for this prestigious grant," said Cathy Young. She serves as the rehearsal coach and is in the process of restaging Swing Concerto for the Ursinus College Dance Company." This will create a unique opportunity for our students to be immersed in the work of a master choreographer, and for our college to become more visible to the national dance community," said Young.

When speaking with Young about Buraczkeski, I learned a great deal about his work and character. To be fully immersed in the work of Danny Buraczkeski means to be fully committed. Even if a dancer is unsure of the movement, it is better to dance as fully as you can to make up for loss of any details. Danny Buraczkeski is a quirky and energetic dancer with his own identity on stage. He embraces individuality, hard work, strong physicality, and most important, a "dancer's spirit."

Cathy Young knows all of this first hand because she was a dancer in Buraczkeski's company for many years.

She became his muse and was appointed to the role of company assistant, coaching dancers through his concert dance jazz choreographed works. Young was one of the original nine dancers in Swing Concerto. "Swing Concerto is a 1993 piece for nine dancers by Buraczkeski, who, after a career on Broadway, formed the company JAZZDANCE by Danny Buraczkeski, which has performed all over the United States and internationally," said the Ursinus website.

After performing the piece over one-hundred times, Young noted that not once did the company fail to receive a standing ovation for the work. Now she is happy to teach her Ursinus College Dance Company dancers the work that is so near and dear to her heart. "It's a huge gift to our students, our Dance Program, and the entire Ursinus community," she said.

Last February, Young held an audition for Ursinus dancers to take part in Swing Concerto for the 2009-10 season. She double casted the piece and used 18 dancers from the Ursinus College Dance Company to train all year and perform the work in the fall and spring concerts. This fall, excerpts from Swing Concerto will be shown and in the spring, the full 18-minute work will be presented in full costume and lighting.

This week, the dancers have the opportunity to meet Buraczkeski, work with him on Swing Concerto and participate in his advanced master jazz class. This is a dream come true for many dancers and aspiring artists who happen to be a part of Ursinus Dance at the right time. For a small liberal-arts college to receive this grant is an amazing accomplishment. It will also help our college gain National Recognition and push Ursinus Dance to the next level. For more information on Swing Concerto and the Ursinus College Dance Company, please contact Cathy Young, cyoung@ursinus.edu.

Senior Halloween Party planners leave under 21 year olds out

Ashley McComeskey

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The Senior Halloween Party is quickly approaching, along with some controversy. But the plans are set, and the party will be held at Club 212 in Phoenixville on Sat., Oct 24. The Club is new to Phoenixville and boasts spacious dance floors, state-of-the-art lighting and sound systems, and includes a number of bars for convenience.

Senior Class President, Kyle Fox, took on the daunting task of organizing the party and he admits it was a lengthy process. The party took nearly all summer to plan; the 2010 Student Council started early to avoid problems that were faced during last year's planning.

The seniors almost missed out on the traditional celebration because of the difficulties in finding a venue. Fox mentioned the Ursinus community does not have the greatest reputation around the area, making it difficult to find a venue that would not only allow the seniors to hold their party there, but would offer the space at a fare price.

"[Venues] wanted to charge an obscene amount of money for security and things like that, which would have rocketed our ticket prices to over \$75 apiece," Fox said, "Club 212 has been bending over backwards to help us... it's not only affordable, but also big enough to accommodate the numbers we are looking at."

Because of the club's reasonable prices, the twenty dollar ticket fee covers all drinks during the open bar. It also covers prizes that will be offered for costume contests, which will probably include categories such as: best costume, most original/creative costume, sexiest costume,

etc. Any extra money needed for prizes and transportation is being covered by a combination of the class funds and the bar itself.

Since the bar has agreed to a four hour open bar, the council has also taken into consideration that some students may not want to stay the whole time, or might even have to leave early. If that is the case, the council is planning to have sober Ursinus students on call to run, "a shuttle system" for any students who would like to return to campus before the buses drive back at 1 a.m.

While the Senior Halloween Party is designed for only the Class of 2010, there are also other limitations. All attendees must be 21, which has been the cause of much controversy. The Senior Council has refused to comment on the subject, but encourages anyone with inquiries to contact the council for answers.

To those students who are able to go, Fox said, "It's going to be a great time, and

you will be hard pressed to find a better deal than this one."

And dress for the occasion! Even though you won't be turned away for not coming in costume, Fox said, "What's the fun in that?"



Photo used with permission of Natalie Rosenberg, '09
Tau Sigma Gamma seniors dressed as Crayola Crayons at last year's Senior Halloween Party (shown above). Last year's party left students out initially, but was then brought back to Lower Wismer later in the evening to accommodate all of the senior class.

“The Last Lecture”: A father’s last words to the world

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Write my own movie. Marry Leonardo DiCaprio. Perform on Broadway. Invent a time machine. What relates these bizarre statements to one another? When I was ten years old, these were my dreams. At that moment in my life, I refused to believe that there was a possibility of them not coming true. As time went on, my dreams seemed to fade with the realities of life. However, after reading Randy Pausch’s “*The Last Lecture*,” I realized that no dream is ever out of reach, and that with just a little encouragement, commitment, and dedication, dreams really do come true.

Randy Pausch taught computer science and human-computer interaction at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. In addition to teaching, Pausch completed his sabbaticals at Disney’s Imagineering and Electronic Arts. At the age of 37, Pausch married his wife, Jai, and the happy couple had three children: Dylan, Logan, and Chloe. Unfortunately, Pausch was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and given six months to live.

Instead of crawling into a corner of defeat, Pausch decided to make the most of his time, which led to the presentation of his last lecture, titled “Really Achieving Your Childhood Dreams” on Sept. 19, 2007. Due to the wide success of his lecture, including appearances on *Dateline* and *The Oprah Winfrey Show*, Pausch combined with Disney’s publishing company, Hyperion, to transform his powerful lecture into a book. “*The Last Lecture*” immediately became a *New York Times* best-seller.

Slim and feasible to read in one sitting, “*The Last Lecture*” illustrates the highlighting moments of Randy Pausch’s life while also demonstrating the significant impact they had over the years. Along with his own life experiences, Pausch divides the book into several sections, successfully portraying lessons learned, how to enable the dreams of others, and the art of truly living. Throughout the book, the readers ride the rollercoaster of life with Pausch as he fulfills his dreams, from becoming Captain Kirk to creating a family. More importantly, Pausch spreads his developed wisdom by sharing key principles he deems necessary for success, including the importance of brick walls in helping us determine what’s worth fighting for in life and “a bad apology is worse than no apology.”

As a college student not too far from entering the real world, I found Pausch’s advice beneficial in that it equipped me for the struggles that lie ahead. Pausch stressing the need for preparation, stressing “all you have is what you bring with you,” and that despite what job you acquire after graduation, “no job is beneath you.” Despite all of his mind-blowing guidance, the aspect of Pausch’s book that touched me the most was his emphasis on how, if you put your mind to your dreams, they will come true. As Pausch asserts at the end, “If you lead your life the right way, karma will take care of itself. The dreams will come to you.”

Overall, I can continue to blather on about how amazing I find Randy Pausch’s “*The Last Lecture*,” but the truth is, no words I say can ever give this extraordinary work proper justice. All I can say is after reading, Pausch left me believing that marrying Leo DiCaprio is not too far out of reach after all.

Obama’s Nobel Prize: criticism warranted?

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President Barack Obama became the 2009 recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize, a stunning surprise to both liberals and conservatives. And even to the President himself.

Some have stood behind the President, while others have harshly criticized the Nobel committee for a seemingly politicized and unwarranted award. I’ve attempted to form my own point of view after sifting through all the hubbub surrounding this highly controversial decision.

First and foremost, the Nobel committee justified its decision by saying, “Obama has, as President, created a new climate in international politics. Multilateral diplomacy has regained a central position, with the emphasis that the United Nations and other international institutions can play.”

Further into their Nobel Prize announcement, the committee writes, “Only very rarely has a person to the same extent as Obama captured the world’s attention and given its people hope for a better future.”

The logical follow-up question to the Nobel committee’s statement, which many political pundits and countless Americans have posited, would be: *Yeah, but is that enough?* Many have suggested that Obama’s peaceful visions for international politics have plenty of pomp and respectability, but haven’t materialized to the extent warranting the \$1.4 million Nobel Peace Prize.

KT McFarland, a contributor to *FOXNews* and a former national security official under Nixon, Ford, and Reagan, expressed such concerns in her Oct. 9, 2009 “*FOXForum*” blog post titled “*Obama Doesn’t Deserve Peace Prize*.” McFarland writes, “President Obama has done nothing of substance—he has not halted one nuclear enrichment plant, stopped one missile program, converted one terrorist,

signed one treaty or even softened one bellicose speech by an adversary.”

In addition to the criticism of political inaction, many have questioned Obama’s Nobel Prize nomination itself. All nominations were due on Feb. 1, 2009, just two weeks into Obama’s presidency. That seems ludicrous, even to a liberal like myself, who would love to see international praise levied upon the left-leaning Obama. What could Obama have done in that time to deserve such a prestigious nomination, besides provide hope with his lofty campaign promises?

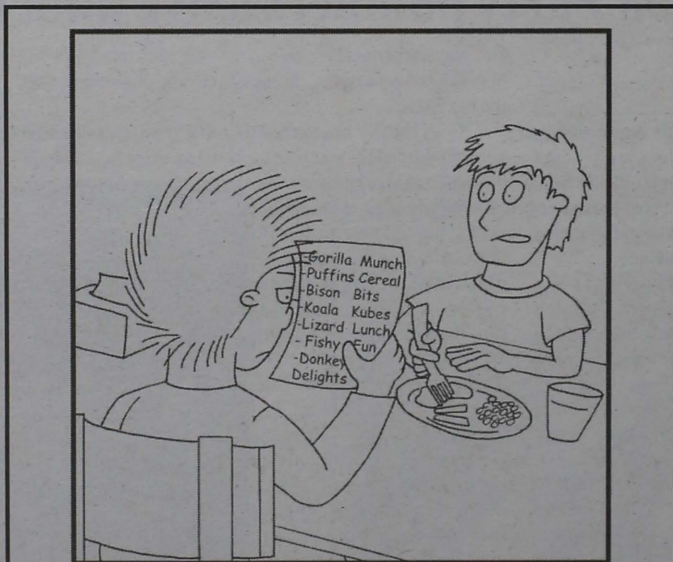
Others, such as liberal blogger Joan Walsh of *Salon.com*, have backed the legitimacy of Obama’s reward.

Walsh, in her Oct. 10, 2009 blog post titled “Why Obama deserved the Nobel Peace Prize,” writes, “Of course all of Obama’s encouraging moves are merely pledges and initiatives and discussions and pledges. We are right to press for more. But they are pledges and initiatives and discussions and all kinds of slow but necessary efforts that weren’t taking place at all for eight years under the Bush-Cheney regime.”

After investigating the facts and various views regarding Obama’s Nobel Prize, it’s become clear that Obama surely didn’t deserve the reward based on merit and accomplishments in attaining international peace. So yes, people have a right to feel outraged and betrayed by the seemingly anti-Bush, pro-Obama political jab from the Nobel committee. And yes, Obama surely didn’t accomplish enough within the first two weeks of his presidency to even warrant nomination. In short, the committee’s decision definitely deserves the criticism and derision voiced by many.

However, critics ought to reconsider an outright condemnation of the decision. Obama has greatly improved the international perception of American politics. He has also ushered in an era of international diplomacy unknown for the previous decade; his willingness to open talks with various nations previously ignored during the Bush-Cheney years, such as Russia, North Korea, Iran and the Muslim world as a whole can explain how the committee came to place so much importance in Obama’s presidency.

Perhaps the Nobel committee seeks to send a message to the global political community, signaling the importance of progressive leaders like Obama who hope to address many of the world’s greatest challenges, such as nuclear anti-proliferation, climate change, and human rights violations. Unfortunately, doing so in this forum was probably in bad taste. Conservative pundits and Obama critics will be strengthened by what appears to be a political ploy carried out to make a point, rather than award those really deserving such an honor.



Mike Delaney MBS
11/1/09

“Is that the cereal survey?
Are they naming all the cereal
after animals again, like
Gorilla Munch?”

Cartoon by Mike Delaney. Have ideas for Mike? Think something at UC would be funny for the Grizzly? E-mail Mike or the Grizzly your ideas at midelaney@ursinus.edu or grizzly@ursinus.edu.

grizzly@ursinus.edu

Film review: A “Bright Star” shines onscreen

Carly Siegler

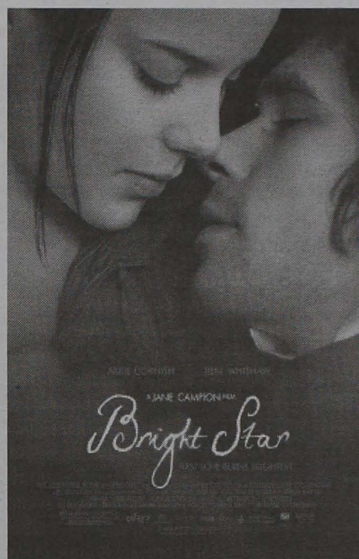
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“Bright Star” is the story Jane Austen would have written if she had been looking at 19th century England through the eyes of a contemporary woman. Incidentally, that task has fallen to another Jane entirely. Writer and director Jane Campion finds her film’s heroine in Fanny Brawne, who possesses the familiar wit of “Pride and Prejudice,” Elizabeth Bennett and the volatility of “Sense and Sensibility” Marianne Dashwood. Its hero, the poet John Keats, although lacking the income and grand estate that is always so requisite in Austen novels, has the benefit of having actually existed, short-lived as his time may have been. There is even a scene of country dancing. It is when Fanny casually propounds, “I was wondering this morning if you were sleeping in my bed last night?” that “Bright Star” ceases to be a Masterpiece Theater adaptation of a classic novel, and takes its rightful place as one of the most romantic films in recent memory.

“Bright Star” is an ode in equal parts to the love that influences poetry, and to the poetry that influences love. It is both beautiful and tragic as opinionated Fanny (Abbie Cornish) and self-deprecating Keats (Ben Whishaw) are brought together in a love so pure and generous that when the two are eventually torn apart by Keats’s death from tuberculosis at the age of twenty-five, it makes you wonder at the cruelty that fate seems to flaunt in the face of true love. Yet, despite the fact that you know how the story is going to end from early on, it is impossible not to revel in

every letter, every whispered nothing, every caress (over the bodice, of course) that these two share.

In a very short time Abbie Cornish has proven herself not only a versatile and wildly talented actress, but one who makes wise choices, and who is not willing to compromise her craft for top billing in a mediocre blockbuster. As acted by Ms. Cornish, Fanny is somewhere between a poised and intelligent young woman and a hormonal and idealistic teenager, a characterization which I find myself relating to more often than not. In less capable hands, the wrenching scene in which Fanny learns of Keats’s death may have come off as melodramatic, but as it is, it may earn Ms. Cornish a spot on the ballots come awards season. I was familiar with Ben Whishaw as an actor before “Bright Star,” having seen him in both “Perfume” (skip it) and last year’s “Brideshead Revisited” (see it), but while watching his latest film, I made a very



important revelation: the boy is talented *and* sexy. His eyes alone were so beautifully expressive of every emotion, ranging from sensual to searching to haunting, that he could have done nothing more than stare into the lens for two hours and still had every woman in the theater hypnotized.

Visually, “Bright Star” proves that no words are necessary to make a poem. As the seasons change, so to do fields of flowers regenerate themselves in a radiant spectrum of species. As Fanny learns from brief experience with a butterfly farm, the most beautiful moments are also the most fleeting. I cannot say that I admired Fanny’s wardrobe (homemade), but her clothes too are a metaphor for something greater. While the movie begins with collars that look as though they have been imported straight from Elizabethan England, as Fanny gradually lets her guard down and embraces love, so too do her collars recede to lacy fringes.

What has been produced in “Bright Star” is a film burning with such deep passion that even as you are aware of its being only an echo of a light that burned out long ago, you cannot help but be engulfed in its heat, and dazzled by its closeness.

Assisted Living: Call it “assisted dying” for many

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Most people are familiar with nursing homes. Some are aware of assisted living, but few know about the problems surrounding these facilities. The assisted living program is taking a hard hit these days, with many people bringing their personal stories to the forefront.

A Web site designed to provide information on assisted living facilities describes them as places for people who need help with everyday activities, but wish to live as independently as they possibly can. “Assisted living exists to bridge the gap between independent living and nursing homes,” says assistedlivinginfo.com. Residents of assisted living are not capable of living solely independent lives, but they do not need “around the clock” care, either. This is the gray area within the assisted living plan; it makes you wonder “how much care is required, exactly?”

“Assisted living facilities offer help with things such as eating, bathing, dressing, laundry, housekeeping, and assistance with medications,” says the informational website. However, it is no secret that the medical attention is not on the same level as nursing home facilities.

The site reads, “Most assisted living facilities create a service plan for each individual resident upon admission. The service plan details the personalized services required by the resident and guaranteed by the facility.” It goes on

to say that the plan is often monitored and updated to accommodate any changes or developing needs of the residents. While this all sounds great, I cannot help but wonder, if in fact, assisted living meets all of its ambitious goals.

Some of my worst fears were confirmed when I was directed to another website. I came across the homepage for the Pennsylvania Assisted Living Consumer Alliance, PALCA. Their mission statement reads, “The citizens, family members and the advocacy community in the Commonwealth who have come together to form PALCA all have a personal experience with someone who is or has resided in an assisted living facility.” These personal experiences have not all been happy stories. The site states, “Places that call themselves assisted living facilities are actually licensed as personal care homes, in a system in which regulations have been so minimal and enforcement has been so lax that numerous reports of bad outcomes and, even, tragic results for residents have been published.”

As the assisted living industry gained popularity in the new decade, the Pennsylvania General Assembly passed a bill to license the fast growing facilities. The new law took effect in July 2007. “The new law, however, did not clearly establish what standards apply to assisted living. The Pennsylvania legislature had questions of residents’ rights, staff qualifications, fire and safety codes and physical plan configuration, to be established in state regulations.” These

are legit questions, ones that should have been answered before the bill was passed and Assisted Living facilities began to accept residents.

While I may be in the minority about the issues associated with assisted living, I am definitely not alone. “I spent almost two years taking care of my 85-year-old grandmother, Zella Gabriel, while she was living in the Colonnade Assisted Living of Schwenksville,” said Shawn Marie Brown of the Alumni Office. This winter, Shawn’s grandmother relinquished the administration of her medications to The Colonnade. “Immediately, I discovered that they were not giving out the medications on time...they did not watch her ingest the medications as state law says they are supposed to do,” said Shawn. Her story is one of many that appeared on the “Shared Story” section of the PALCA website.

“Several days after the constant under-dosing and double over dosing (at the facility), my grandmother fell, broke her hip and had a heart attack...Literally, like a flip of the light switch, we “lost” our grandmother. She now has full dementia. It was the most rapid decline you’ve ever seen,” said Brown.

Brown’s story is one of many. The sad state of the assisted living program needs to be addressed. Why put off today what we can do tomorrow? We are the future generation, the educated leaders of tomorrow. We can start by taking a stand and fighting for better regulations in Pennsylvania. This could happen to your family, or even yourself in old age. I feel that we need to honor our elders by making sure they are being taken care of by programs such as assisted living. At this rate, the program should consider calling itself “assisted dying,” because that is what will happen to residents if some serious changes aren’t made.



Women's Rugby gets down and dirty for 2009 season

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After watching a game of rugby, it is clear that this is no easy sport. Mud is flying everywhere with players getting tackled facedown into the barely-there grass. It is hard to remember that when the members UC Women's Rugby Team are not on the field, they are a bunch of put-together, smart, social women.

When questioned about the Women's Rugby Team, most students would probably look at these girls as "not real" or non-varsity athletes. That is probably because they are not varsity athletes; Rugby is considered a club sport on Ursinus' campus and many other campuses in the area.

Being considered a club sport comes with some big disadvantages. For example, the girls are not allowed to use the athletic training room or its facilities for even something as simple as ice. In a twenty-minute span during their Oct. 10th game against the University of Pennsylvania, approximately six girls collapsed to the ground in severe pain. There were no school athletic trainers at the game, (while there were about five at the football game that kicked-off two hours after the start of the rugby match). Only a first responder with limited medical supplies was there to help the injured.

Parents watched on the sidelines in a mix of disgust and mockery. "And what injury number is that again?" "I think the first responder ran out of ice packs." "Jeez, that's got to hurt!"

One UC player, who fell shoulder-first into the end-zone area after being creamed by a UPenn player, finally was able to walk off the field only to hear her teammate say, "Hey, I'll drive to the hospital." The injured player courageously responded, "No, I don't need to go."

Not using the school medical assistance is the biggest disadvantage for the women, but there is a whole laundry list of other drawbacks. They are forced to use the torn-up football practice field filled with sprinkler heads and ruts for games. During the off-season, they cannot use other facilities to keep in top shape and continue their practice regiment together. And most of the funds used to run the team come from the players and students themselves.

Not having school funds to run a team has poses the question, "Who coaches?" Jared Good, more commonly known as "Goody," is the volunteer coach for the Women's Rugby team. Being a former Ursinus graduate and rugby player, he clearly has the experience and knowledge to lead the team. He spends as much time as he can at team practices, games and events helping to keep the group going without being paid for his efforts. But the team seems to enjoy his presence and benefit from his expertise.

When asked about trying to become a varsity sport, Captain Emma "Yaya" Cave comments, "We have made multiple efforts to become a varsity sport. We are kind of caught in the system though." Being a varsity sport would entitle them to better conditions, but also would subject them to NCAA rules and regulations. If they become an official NCAA team, then they could only play other NCAA teams. Currently, they play in a Division Three club league

with other schools like themselves, but moving to an NCAA level would put them against unevenly matched teams.



Photo by Emma Cave

Despite the constant battle of not being a varsity sport, the women love spending time together. They eat meals together after to practice, send dozens of hilarious team emails and hang out before and after every game usually partying together after their Saturday matches. As the biggest symbol of their togetherness, they "squeeze" each other in a large circle after every practice (if only there was

some way to copy their high-pitched, "Pokemon"-like smiles and voices in print!). Again, Captain Yaya comments, "There is a mix of people and personalities but we all work together really well... While we are serious about what we do, we also like to have fun together and encourage each other as much as we can."

The blustery Oct. 10th game against UPenn was a prominent example of this. Yelling in unison before the game, "Blood makes the grass grow... KILL BEARS KILL!" the women played their hearts out. Although the score (24-0) does not reflect their effort, Coach Goody was pleased with the team, "No one backed down and it's nothing to hang our heads at."

Record falls after the bears' big defeat over Gettysburg

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The afternoon of Saturday, Oct. 3, 2009 is a day to be remembered for the Ursinus Bears football team who defeated the Gettysburg Bullets 55-50 for the first time since 2005 on Homecoming at Patterson Field.

With Centennial Conference records set and broken, this memorable day featured 1,327 yards of total offense for both teams. The Ursinus athletic homepage highlighted that the Ursinus squad set a Conference record for points in a half with 48 in the first half. The Bears controlled the ball for an overwhelming amount of time- 40 minutes of the afternoon. But head Coach Peter Gallagher commented, "Getting the win was the most exciting," referring to records set and broken.

Gallagher, proud of his team and both their offensive and defensive efforts remarked, "Scoring 48 points in a half, I'm not sure if that's ever going to be done again." He continued, "One record we didn't break but came fairly close was our 35 first downs in a game. 38 is the conference record."

After a buy weekend last week, the Bears had more practices to prepare for Gettysburg's offensive and defensive schemes. The preparation for games is always through watching film, practices, and confidence. "Monday is a big day that we create our plan and practice and buff it out Tuesday and Wednesday... final product on Thursday," Gallagher pointed out. Coach also commented, "I think a

lot of that build-up and a lot of the emotion and getting psyched happens on the practice field Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday."

Along with Gallagher, the Bears' players were ecstatic with the win over the Bullets. Justin Decristofaro, Ursinus' quarterback and winner of the Kenneth Walker Memorial

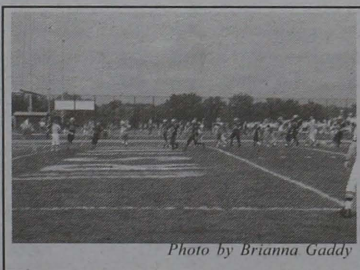


Photo by Brianna Gaddy

Trophy given to the outstanding Ursinus player in the Homecoming game, described some of his emotions. Coming out of the locker room "I felt confident... continually watching film to understand what our opponent was going to do. My comfort level was great. My reads were awesome." Feeling almost as if he were "blacking out," Decristofaro said, "I completely had to think back on what just happened" referring to the

impressive halftime score of 48-23. At the end of the game, overwhelmed with excitement, Decristofaro commented, "I was punching my linemen in the head due to my excitement." The quarterback thanked his six linemen, stating "Part of my success is because of these six gentlemen. The award I won on Saturday is just as much theirs as it is mine." Along with the Kenneth Walker Trophy, Decristofaro was also the recipient of the Centennial Conference Co-offensive Player of the Week sharing the honor with the Gettysburg senior quarterback Matt Flynn.

Bob Wise, junior captain and one of Decristofaro's offensive linemen, felt the excitement of him and his

teammates coming out of the locker room. "I felt a great sense of anticipation and excitement to go out and battle a Gettysburg team that none of us had ever beaten before. The winning feeling after the game was awesome, and it was something I hadn't felt in a while."

According to Gettysburg's athletic website, with 50 points, they set a record for most points scored by a losing team. Their record falls to 1 and 4. Ursinus is now 2 and 0 in Centennial Conference play. And the Bears look forward to the next two games against Franklin and Marshall followed by Johns Hopkins. Decristofaro also added, "Every week is routine. You watch Saturday's game on Sunday... by 9:30 I'm in coaches' office on Monday morning. I also like to watch film after practice but I am a student athlete. I want to keep my books together." Decristofaro exemplifies characteristics that every NCAA athlete should carry within themselves; success on the field and in the classroom.

Lastly, Coach Gallagher stated his goals for the 2009 season. "Any time you start any season, your goal is to be the champion of the league. This year is no different than that. We've been in some big games here in nine years. Been in big games that matter in November. Getting the program to that point is something to be proud of. We want to win a meaningful game in November."

Check out Women's Soccer, Field Hockey, and Volleyball as they each take on McDaniel at 1p.m. on Saturday