



9-24-2009

The Grizzly, September 24, 2009

Caitlin Dalik

Katie Callahan

Roger Lee

Liz Kilmer

Ashley McComeskey

See next page for additional authors

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



Part of the [Cultural History Commons](#), [Higher Education Commons](#), [Liberal Studies Commons](#), [Social History Commons](#), and the [United States History Commons](#)

[Click here to let us know how access to this document benefits you.](#)

Authors

Caitlin Dalik, Katie Callahan, Roger Lee, Liz Kilmer, Ashley McComeskey, Akasya Benghe, Lisa Jobe, Cory Kram, Elizabeth Mahoney, James Kilduff, Rebecca Smyth, Jonathan Edward Barber, Christopher Wierzbowski, Jason K. Mullins, Zach Shamberg, Gianna Paone, and Abbie Cichowski

The Grizzly

The student newspaper of Ursinus College

Thursday, September 24, 2009

Introducing Ursinus' New Graduate Assistant

Roger Lee

rolee@ursinus.edu

When the Residence Life Office looked to fill the position of Graduate Assistant, they had no idea what they were getting into. Out of the competitive crowd emerged a talented athlete, dancer, and scholar, a candidate that shined brighter than the rest. A triple-threat sealed the deal and became Ursinus' first Graduate Assistant—her name is Sheena Posey.

The 22-year-old Calvert County, Maryland native came to Ursinus all the way from Lynchburg College. This small liberal arts college in Virginia had a similar look and feel to Ursinus, part of the reason Sheena decided to work here. "I was so excited!" she said, recalling the moment she was offered the Graduate Assistant

position. On the way home from the interview, Sheena received a call asking if she would take the Ursinus Graduate

Assistant position. As fate would have it, Sheena accepted the position and the rest was history.

"It (Ursinus) was a great fit, the family life feel, and close proximity to the city," said Sheena. "It's close to the city, but not inside of the city," she smiled. She is happy to be close to Philadelphia, but living in a more rural environment like Ursinus. "I'm a country girl at heart," laughed Sheena. This rural environment reminds Sheena of her undergraduate years at Lynchburg College in Virginia. "It was a great fit," said Sheena. She enjoyed the small private institution, taking full advantage of the extra-curricular, social, and academic offerings of Lynchburg.

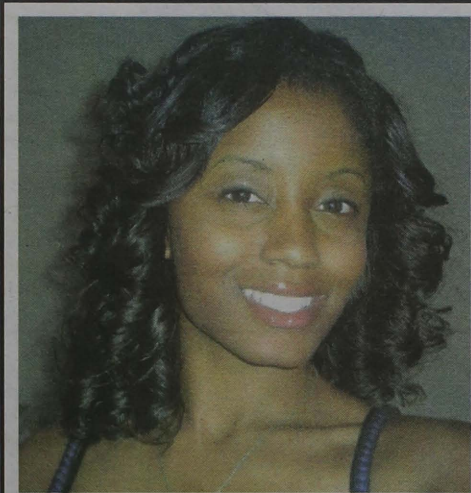


Photo Courtesy of Sheena Posey

"New Graduate Assistant" is continued on page 3.

CIE celebrates 10 year anniversary, makes changes

Liz Kilmer

elkimer@ursinus.edu

In celebrating the tenth anniversary of CIE, professors Stephen Salkever and Paul Franco delivered a presentation last Sunday, September 13, in the Lenfest Theater. The discussion, titled "Thinking About Contemporary Liberal Education: Philosophical Grounds, Curricular Implications," was presented as a debate- first to speak was Salkever, a Bryn Mawr professor, who distributed an outline of his arguments to audience members.

"My assignment is to say something thought provoking regarding liberal education and to do so within 30 minutes," said Salkever, who went on to describe liberal education as "a practice to which we all return."

Soon joining him on stage was Franco, a Professor of Government at Bowdoin College, who agreed with much of what Salkever asserted, yet sought to "refute several points for the sake of discussion."

More than anything, the two seemed to disagree on the role which piety plays or, rather, *ought* to play within a liberal education setup. The dispute prompted questions amongst audience members- most coming from students, whom both speakers were impressed by, says CIE coordinator Paul Stern.

According to Stern, the speakers were also impressed by "the turnout" - approximately 150 students and faculty members attended - as well as by "the willingness of faculty members from every department to be engaged in teaching CIE."

But teaching is not the only way in which professors may involve themselves in the program- there is also a CIE advisory board and, as of this year, four CIE coordinators. In years prior, the course had only one coordinator- a position last held by Professor Robert Dawley. However, it was decided that parceling the position would allow coordinators to "expand the separate programs within CIE," said Cathy Young, the coordinator responsible for organizing evening events.

According to Young, several new common hour events have been added to the curriculum- two of which have already occurred. Perhaps the more extravagant took place first; on the Friday preceding the start of classes, all CIE students partook in a bonfire event, which, according to Young, "took months to plan." Clusters of faculty

"CIE celebrates" is continue on page 2.

Tenth annual Fringe Festival kicks off this week

Ashley McComeskey

asmccomeskey@ursinus.edu

The tenth Annual Fringe Festival kicked off yesterday and is scheduled to run until Saturday Sept. 26, offering free events for the Ursinus community. The Ursinus Fringe Festival is just a mini version of the Philadelphia Fringe Festival: a two week event that showcases new and established artists in venues throughout the city. The biggest difference, besides the scale of the festival, is that Ursinus offers all events free of charge.

The festival on campus started at noon yesterday, with a panel discussion entitled, "The Business of Show: Making a Living in the Performing Arts." The panel was made up of Broadway designer Tobin Ost, Broadway performer Renee Chambers and Ursinus alumnus and model Eduardo Ramos. The discussion was moderated by Ursinus alumna Karin Swartz. The panel was a new

addition to the festival this year, though it was introduced in Philadelphia's festival two years ago to discuss the work and experience involved in the performing arts.

Today "Brian McCann: Living Statue" will be on display from 11:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. outside of Wismer Hall and at 12:30 p.m. to 1 p.m. on the 300 block of Main Street.

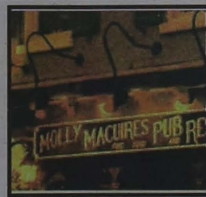
Three different events will take place tomorrow, in the Kaleidoscope, starting with Ursinus Improv at 7:30 p.m. The performance will be improvised by eight Ursinus students that recently studied theater improvisation with Bobbi Block, a professional improv artist. Following the amateurs, Bobbi Block's improv group Tongue & Groove Spontaneous Theatre will perform at 8:30 p.m. Tongue & Groove have performed on campus before and also take part in the Philadelphia festival.

"Fringe Festival" is continue on page 3.

I
N
S
I
D
E



Poet Review
Page 2



Restaurant Review
Page 5



Television Review
Page 6



Politics Review
Page 7

Visiting Professor Taije Silverman shares poetry

Akasya Bengé
akbenge@ursinus.edu

Having just published a book of poems, Ursinus visiting Professor of English Taije Silverman held a poetry reading last Thursday, Sept. 17 in the Black Box Theater. The reading, sponsored by The Lantern, took place at 7 p.m., and was followed by a book signing.

Silverman is in her third and final year teaching at Ursinus, and was introduced by one of her students, Robert Whitehead, that she had in class no less than six times. He told the audience about her life- how she was born in Charleston, Virginia, and graduated from Vassar with a B.A. in English. Silverman then went on to the University of Maryland, where she received a MFA in Poetry. She now lives in Philadelphia in an apartment with "pretty high ceilings" and a "tiny kitchen."

Then Professor Volkmer did a short introduction, letting the audience know that this event was sponsored by the Lantern, and that there would be a reception afterwards with chocolate-covered strawberries. He spoke about her book of poems, titled *"Houses Are Fields."* Published by Louisiana State University Press in May,

"Houses are Fields" was available for purchase after the reading.

She read both from the book and other works as well. Her second piece was an entirely new piece, and with a soft voice she read it.

With lines like "winter had been cut to shreds and eaten by wolves" the poetry was found to have created beautiful temporary worlds for her listeners. These poems were overflowing with flowery imagery and light, and love and



death were her two main topics. Poems like *"Circos,"* a poem of youth and loss, *"Next to last to first kiss,"* *"First Love,"* were all the adventures or misadventures of young girls.

The poems which really moved the audience however, were the poems of death like *"Little by Little,"* and *"In the Afterlife."* These poems had a more raw and open language than her other poetry, and left the listeners in a somber state.

She had other poems, poems inspired by both Italy and the Italian Language. Poems like *"Lingua"* and *"Insonia."* *"Philtrum,"* a poem which talks about the part of the body between the nose and mouth, was a crowd favorite. The poem explained that angels touch this area to make children forget all of the secrets of the world that they learned in the womb. It was also about the fantastical secrets babies learn and forget in the womb.

The poet whose poetry had been largely advertised as poetry of her own mother's battle and loss with cancer ended the reading with a poem about learning and birth.

Photo by Brianna Gaddy.

"CIE changes" continued from page 1

members were spread throughout the campus, all reciting "mythical, ancient stories," said Young. Students, accompanied by their CIE instructor, walked from station to station by way of lantern light. The night concluded with a giant bonfire, accentuated with African drumming.

"It was a good chance for everyone to get together as a unified group," said freshman Brandi Killian, "we talked about [the night's events] in CIE."

Each event is meant to "tie into the syllabus and hopefully deepen and expand [the students'] classroom experiences," said Young. For example, this past Monday, students watched *The Matrix*, and were asked to recognize similarities between ideologies present in both the film and *"Plato's Cave."*

According to Stern, a main goal within the CIE program has always been "to interweave academic and social life." And although this is perhaps accomplished through the evening events, coordinators chose to take it one step further this year: introducing Project Delphi.

Project Delphi, a social experiment of sorts, involves two sections of CIE- one taught by Stern and another

taught by Dawley. (Dawley's section will be assumed by Professor Kelly Sorensen during the second semester.)

In seeking to "enrich the conversation that goes on outside of the classroom," says Stern, students in each of the sections have been placed to live together on the second floor of Stauffer. There they engage, often voluntarily, in discussions centered on various works and topics covered in CIE. Currently the group is planning a hall dance, a picnic to Washington DC, and several other activities.

According to Stern, much of the project is run by junior Patrick Hayakawa, the group's Resident Advisor. And although the CIE facilitators have met and had dinner with the Delphi students, it is Hayakawa who primarily interacts with the group.

"He's been great," said Killian, in regards to Hayakawa, "he pushes us to be proactive and work through things ourselves."

This perhaps is one of the main initiatives of CIE, standing for the Common Intellectual Experience. Since its start, the program has sought to "generate intellectual curiosity amongst students," said Young.

Although changes in regards to CIE are made each year, Stern asserts that this year has had the most "in the history of the course." And there's likely no one better to make that statement than he, the first ever CIE coordinator.

"I think of Paul as our mentor," said Young. The two were both sure to acknowledge fellow coordinators, Professors Rebecca Kohn and Sheryl Goodman, for their strong contributions to the program.

The group, along with the advisory board, has facilitated an additional anniversary celebration, to be held in October. Dr. John Churchill, Director of the Phi Beta Kappa society, will lead a similar discussion to that delivered by Salkever and Franco.

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 Meredith Goldsmith, English
Professor Walter Greason, History
Professor Codrina Popescu, Chemistry

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 9, 2009.

The Grizzly

The student newspaper of Ursinus College

Volume 34, Issue 4
grizzly@ursinus.edu

EDITORIAL BOARD

Caitlin Dalik
Katie Callahan

Editors-in-Chief

Liz Kilmer
Laurel Salvo
Zach Shamberg
Matt Campbell

News Editor
Features Editor
Opinions Editor
Sports Editor

PHOTOGRAPHY

Matt Whitman Photo Editor

ADVISOR

Dr. Lynne Edwards

grizzly@ursinus.edu

News in brief: Iraqi “shoe-thrower” released from prison, South American arms race

Lisa Jobe
lijobe@ursinus.edu

Tuesday, September 15

BAGHDAD, Iraq – The Iraqi man jailed for throwing a shoe at former President George W. Bush was released from prison Tuesday. Muntadhar al-Zaidi, a 30-year-old journalist, claims that he was tortured after guards removed him from the news conference where the shoe-throwing incident occurred. During the incident, which occurred on December 14, 2008, al-Zaidi threw both of his shoes at Bush and called him a “dog,” two of the worst insults in the Middle East; Bush was not hurt. Al-Zaidi remains defiant about the incident, saying “I got my chance, and I didn’t miss it ... I am a person with a stance. I saw my country burning.” Al-Zaidi was sentenced to three years in jail for assaulting a foreign head of state; an appellate court shortened his original sentence to one year. Al-Zaidi was released early on a “conditional discharge” which allows for an inmate to be released after serving three-quarters of his or her sentence with good behavior.

Wednesday, September 16

WASHINGTON – Tensions rise between the United States and Venezuela after the South American nation made an abundance of weapons purchases. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said Tuesday that she fears the purchases may spark an arms race in South America. Clinton also met with Uruguayan President Tabare Vasquez to discuss the situation in Venezuela. On Monday, the Russian government lent Venezuela \$2.2 billion to fund purchases that include 92 Soviet-era tanks and missiles with a range of 55 miles. Venezuela’s President, Hugo Chavez, said the country would purchase an anti-aircraft missile system with a reach of 185 miles. Chavez also said that the arms buildup is in response to increasing U.S. presence in the region, which he says is “threatening and dangerous to

Latin America.” The U.S. is also concerned about the growing relationship between Venezuela and Iran; besides military cooperation between the two nations, the Iranian government has supposedly agreed to help Venezuela develop nuclear weapons.

Thursday, September 17

KABUL, Afghanistan – At least 16 died on Thursday when a car bomb exploded in a residential area of Kabul, Afghanistan’s capital. At least six Italian soldiers were killed; the remaining 10 were Afghan civilians. The soldiers were traveling on Kabul’s Airport Road when a suicide car bomber targeted them. Beyond the 16 killed, 55 people were also wounded in the attack. A spokesman for Afghanistan’s Ministry of Interior said that 21 shops were damaged in the attack, as well as “seven vehicles, five motorbikes and three bicycles.” Afghan military ambulances could be seen taking the dead and wounded from the scene, and a few U.S. military vehicles were spotted heading toward the scene after the bombing occurred.

Friday, September 18

TEHRAN, Iran – Huge crowds gathered in Iran’s capital city of Tehran on Friday for the annual Quds Day rally, in support of the Palestinian people. The rally is an international event, though it originated in Iran, and takes place on the last Friday of Ramadan. Thousands of supporters of the opposition movement were present at the rally as well. Opposition supporters and regime supporters faced each other, separated by a line of riot police, and chanted political slogans. Many opposition supporters were clad in green, the color symbolic of the movement, as they chanted “death to the dictator.” At the nearby Tehran University, President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad made an anti-Israel speech as part of the rally. He spoke in support of Palestinians, while reasserting that the Holocaust is a “myth” and decrying the United States and other supporters of Israel. The rallies

this year were especially tense, due to the violent clashes that occurred after Iran’s presidential election. Though incumbent Ahmadinejad was reelected, supporters of his rival Mir Hossein Mousavi claim the election was rigged.

“Graduate Assistant” continued from page 1

Sheena graduated Magna Cum Laude this past spring with a double major in Psychology and Spanish. She received high honors in Spanish thanks to her 50 plus page thesis. This scholar also held an officer position on Lynchburg’s hip-hop dance team. She even found time to continue cheerleading on the college’s competitive squad. Sheena has 13 years of cheerleading experience under her belt, being ranked in the region, nationally, and receiving the honor of *All-American* from the National Cheerleading Association.

Sheena is a modern-day example of a superwoman. Is there anything that this impressive graduate cannot do? Some would argue “no” because Sheena did plenty more during her undergraduate years. “I was very involved. Especially with my sorority,” said Sheena. She is a proud member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated. From sophomore year on, Sheena served in various leadership positions including President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Correspondence Chair. She even served on the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) as President, overseeing all of the historically black fraternities and sororities. “I’m still very active with the sorority’s community service efforts,” said Sheena. She hopes to work with a Domestic Violence House in the near future.

Although Sheena has numerous interests, her deep love for residence life is what ultimately landed her at Ursinus. At Lynchburg, Sheena served as a Resident Advisor (RA) and was promoted to the position of Assistant Hall Director by her senior year. In this position, Sheena was responsible for all of the athletic buildings on campus. She described it as the equivalent of all Main Street housing plus the lengthy College Arms complex! This massive responsibility came at the same time as her honors project, NPHC commitments, dance, cheerleading and balancing a 21 credit course overload! Sheena executed excellent time management throughout her undergraduate career and is happy to help students achieve that same success at Ursinus.

“I knew I wanted a Graduate Assistant position at a small liberal arts college,” said Sheena. She wanted a job where she could reach out to students while further pursuing her own education. Sheena is currently a graduate student at St. Joseph’s University working towards her PhD in psychology. “Hopefully I’ll have a Masters in Experimental Psychology with an emphasis on Neuropsychology,” said Sheena.

As for her new position as Ursinus Graduate Assistant, Sheena will help teach a weekly alcohol awareness course, advise Wellness Programs put on by the RAs, handle first-level judicial cases, and be on Resident Director (RD) duty rotation each month. “I also have office hours,” laughed Sheena.

The promising Graduate Assistant hopes to kick up programming initiatives at Ursinus. She wants to produce programs fostering to the themes of social norms on a college campus, alcoholism prevention, Greek Life, Sports, and departmental topics ranging from the arts to sciences. “I really want to help out when I can,” said Sheena. She loves her family, life, and the many activities she is involved in. To find out more about Ursinus’ new Graduate Assistant, Sheena Posey, contact her at sposey@ursinus.edu

“Fringe Festival” continues from page 1

According to Associate Professor of Theatre Domenick Scudera, the most popular event will take place at 10:30 p.m. tomorrow, when students are given the chance to perform any act they want, from singing and dancing to poetry and stand-up comedy. “You never know what people are going to do,” said Scudera. However, The Ursinus Fringe Cabaret always proves to be “the most well attended” event.

Finally, closing the Fringe Festival on Saturday, Sept. 26 is “The Chairs” by Eugene Ionesco, presented by Idiopathic Ridiculopathy Consortium. According to the Fringe Festival fliers, for 80 minutes the group will bring “absurd theatre that celebrates life and laughter, inspired by silent films and vaudeville antics” to the Ursinus stage.

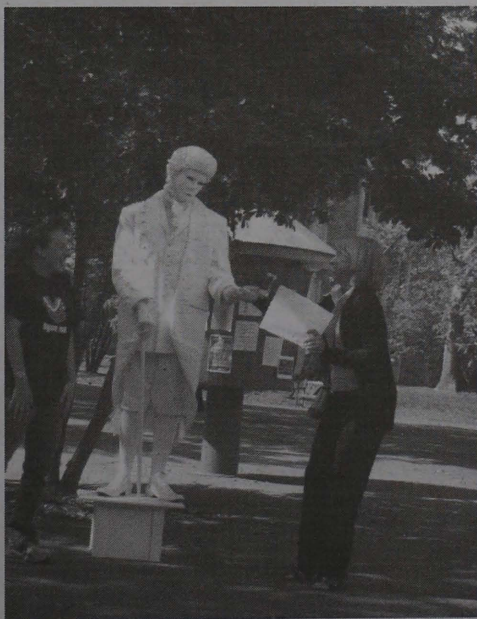


Photo courtesy of Domenick Scudera.

There’s nothing bad about it!”

“The Chairs” has been receiving great reviews in Philadelphia, which makes it “really exciting” to have them performing here at Ursinus, says Scudera.

The Philadelphia Inquirer’s columnist Toby Zinman said the direction was “brilliant” and described Ionesco’s acting as “brilliantly brave.” Of the show as a whole, it was “tragic... hilarious...absurd,” just to name a few of the adjectives used by Zinman.

Each event of the festival will be held in the Kaleidoscope, excluding street performer Brian McCann, and every show is free to students, courtesy of the Arts and Lecture Committee budget.

“There’s no other place that the festival goes to, after Philadelphia... so this is a really great opportunity [for students] to see work they may have missed,” says Scudera. “And it’s free!

Is American Idol Rigged? : An Investigatory Review

Roger Lee
rolee@ursinus.edu

The last time I wrote an opinion article on *American Idol*, it was to praise the show for its longevity and promising future. Now I am writing to let fans know that there is a strong possibility the show is rigged. If you don't believe me, just try and type the word *rigged* on the Idol message board and watch the moderators delete your entire post.

After eight highly-rated seasons, *American Idol* has become the number one reality show in television history. It has set the golden standard for the string of reality shows that have followed. Many have tried to duplicate Idol's success but failed to create the magic that made the show a ratings giant and a cultural phenomenon.

Premiering as a mid-season replacement in June 2002, Idol entered the homes of millions. The concept of turning an ordinary person into a superstar struck a chord with the sentimental American audience. They felt empowered by the voting process that allowed anyone to call in and vote for their favorites. The winner of *American Idol* is determined by audience voting each season.

The race to the winners circle is no easy feat on Idol. Along the way, the show has lost some amazing singers and performers. In fact, some of the most successful contestants to come out of the show are the ones who lost the competition in their respective seasons. It makes you wonder where their fans were during the voting rounds. Why did the public suddenly embrace these fallen Idols?

My theory is that there is something fishy going on with the voting process. The current format allows callers

to dial for an unlimited number of times within a two-hour block. But that's just it—host Ryan Seacrest says at the end of each episode, "Phone lines are open for at least two hours!" At least two hours? How many hours to be exact?

If the sketchy voting hours aren't enough, think about the constant busy signals. Callers often complain that the lines are busy for their favorite contestant. During the 2003 Idol showdown between Ruben Studdard and Clay Aiken, numerous fans complained at the results. When they dialed Aiken's number the machine said they voted for Studdard instead. Ruben Studdard ended up winning Idol by a mere 134,000 votes.

During the most recent installment of Idol, controversy surrounded the most shocking finale of all seasons. Critically acclaimed contestant Adam Lambert batted it out against pop crooner Kris Allen—and lost. If this wasn't shocking enough, the *New York Times* ran an article claiming that Allen's win came from AT&T "...providing phones for free text-messaging services and lessons in casting blocks of votes at parties organized by fans of Kris Allen," said Bridget Daly in a *HollywoodScoop* online blog. Of course FOX

responded later that same day, denying the accusations of foul play.

Even if they didn't organize the party, the troubling thing is that only AT & T phones can text in their votes to the show. Producers look at demographics and who has access to the AT & T phones. Particular demographics will most likely vote for particular contestants in the end. Is this coincidental? I don't believe so.

The icing on the cake came in July when season eight semi-finalist Ju'Not Joyner claimed that Idol was completely fixed. Producers lost interest in the young R&B singer for a number of reasons. He would not sign legal documents without asking questions, nor would he portray the struggling singer from the ghetto story that Idol so desperately craved. Ju'Not said in a blog post, "They didn't like the fact that I wouldn't sign 'just anything'... so I think they ousted me the first chance they got."

Idol will remain a well casted television program first, and a talent show second. I think that we should appreciate the great musical talent the show provides and take the rest with of Idol with a grain of salt. At the end of the day, it is show with the goal of making money and "producing" new talent.

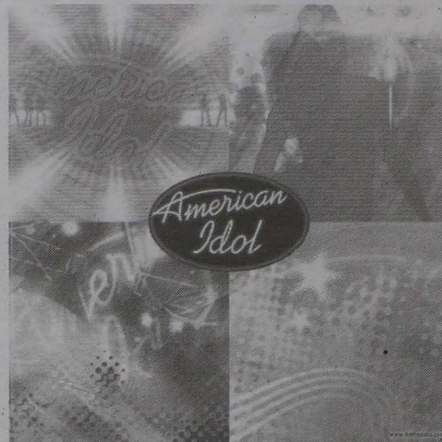


Photo courtesy of Google Images

How far will you go to stretch your dollar in this economy?

Cory Kram & Elizabeth Mahoney
ckram@ursinus.edu, elmahoney@ursinus.edu

The dollar store has a plethora of "delicious" food. This week, we decided to try something that even the dollar store had on sale – Ronzoni Bistro pastas in 90 second microwaveable sacks. Usually \$1, these were on sale for \$.50 each. What a bargain! There were only three out of the four selections, and we tried them all! First up: Spaghetti and Meatballs.

Cory: As I opened the sack of pasta and peered in at its contents, I was absolutely horrified. I thought pasta sauce was supposed to have a reddish color. This pasta sauce was an ugly shade of brown. I did not even want to taste it. The noodles seemed to be drowning in the excessive amounts of brown sauce. The taste was overwhelming; too much spice and herbs were used to cover up the actual taste of the noodles.

Elizabeth: But don't forget the meatballs! They were the best part of this meal, which isn't hard to believe considering I could barely taste the

pasta through the overabundance of sauce. While they were coated in the herby mush like the pasta was, at least the meatballs were well cooked and allowed some flavor other than the sauce to come through.

Next up: Penne with Chicken and Broccoli

Cory: Penne with Chicken and Broccoli? More like Penne with Chicken and Broc-e-coli. I thought I was consuming vomit. Once again, the white, "creamy" sauce overpowered the meal. Also, the noodles were tiny and hard to find under all the sauce.

Elizabeth: With no visible broccoli, this was a letdown from the start. The chicken was tough and the penne was way overcooked, leaving me with the odd sensation of eating a piece of

overcooked leather with mush on top. This sauce was less herby than the first one, but not by much. Another disappointment, but there was still the third type of pasta to look forward to.

And Finally: Rotini with Tomatoes and Basil.

Cory: This meal was very much like the spaghetti: terrible. At least there were no meatballs. The noodles were cooked a little bit better in this one, but this didn't make up for the overall lousy taste. Once again, the sauce was brown. It was almost like eating bad tomato soup with a couple noodles thrown in. Blech!

Elizabeth: This one would have been better off without the sauce. The noodles were cooked perfectly, and without the sauce it would have been a much better meal. While it certainly lived up to its name by including basil, that was almost all I could taste, leaving me to wonder why it was called Rotini with Tomatoes and Basil instead of an all encompassing name like "Basil Sauce and a Few Tiny Pieces of Rotini."

Overall, Ronzoni Bistro selections are not for the squeamish. Not only do they come in pouches, but halfway through the cooking process you need to massage the piping hot bag of saucy noodles. Cory almost got burned while trying to accomplish this step. Besides the hazardous cooking process, there are the aftereffects to consider. One of our test subjects got sick after eating these pastas. It could be the overall sauce explosion contained in each bag or the meat that was being stored in a sack, but something was off about these "savory" products. While thrifty, with \$.50 bags of pasta you get what you pay for. Don't let the deceptive packaging fool you. The pasta in each pouch looks as if it has been sitting around for days. Only buy this product if you are starving and only have \$.50 to buy food with.

We give Ronzoni Bistro \$\$ out of \$\$\$\$\$. Eat at your own risk.

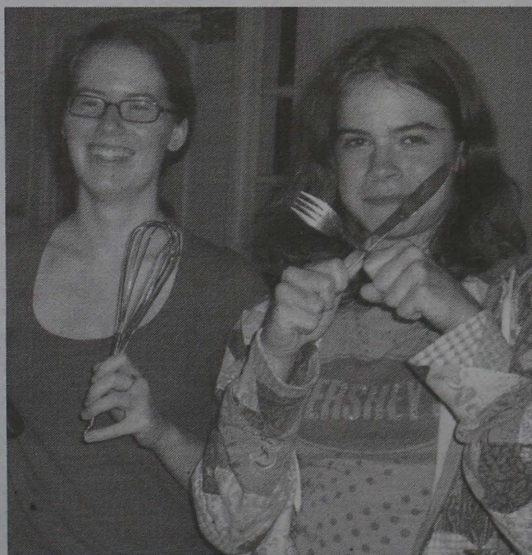


photo by Katie Callahan

Restaurant Review: Molly Maguire's Irish Restaurant and Pub

Mac Kilduff
jakilduff@ursinus.edu

From the moment I walked in the Molly Maguire's Irish Restaurant and Pub I was greeted by some of the kindest servers I've seen in recent memory. The entire restaurant was well lit and incredibly well decorated, sporting old Irish items on the walls in glass cases, and giving you a reserved feel but still letting you know you're in a pub setting. It would later be called "cute" by my friend and compared to other local "Irish pubs." I was promptly seated after being given several choices of where I could sit. While waiting for my friend to arrive I was satisfied the selections of beer ranging from Irish selections to local brews and then some. I thought about getting one of the many different types of Irish coffee they provide but I decided on a cold brew after a long day. I chose the Murphy's Irish Red, as my friend showed up, and perused the menu in search of something new and delicious.

The menu was full of traditional Irish food as well as the typical types of food you would expect at a restaurant, but more importantly, it was full of food that the Molly Maguire's cooks gave their own special touch to. The server informed us of the soup and the boxty of the day. A

boxty is a traditional Irish potato pancake according to the BBC's Web site of recipes. Being a lover of fried foods (it will be my downfall one day) and pickles, we both agreed it would be a great idea to get the fried pickles with a horseradish cream sauce. I've eaten my fair share of fried pickles (typically down south) but these pickles were perfect and unlike any I've eaten before. The pickles stayed intact, instead of falling apart like many have done to me before, as we munched on them, not sparing the horseradish cream sauce which was the perfect compliment to such fried goodness. I had also decided

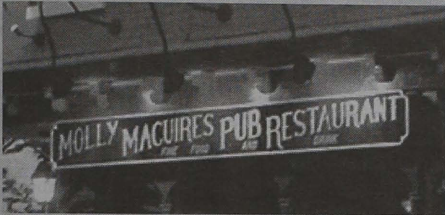


photo courtesy of google.com

to try the Scotch Egg since it was something new and I had been eyeballing it on the menu even after we decided on the fried pickles. The menu described it as a "hard cooked egg wrapped in seasoned ground pork, lightly breaded and fried" and happens to have spicy mustard with it, which the menu didn't mention. The egg came out and looked very appetizing on the plate but as I ate it I felt it was lacking in something. There was nothing that stuck out about it, it needed to be savier. The texture of it was terrific, and texture is typically an important thing to me. I tried dipping it in the mustard without the knowledge of how spicy the mustard was and was a bit surprised when my sinuses were suddenly cleared and I didn't get the normal taste of mustard on my tongue. If the mustard

were more focused on flavor and less on spice, this would have been a terrific appetizer for two.

For the entrée, my friend and I couldn't resist the description of the Kilkenny Crackling Chicken. "Frenched chicken breast marinated in Bushmill's whiskey and seared to a crispy golden brown with pan jus. Served with mashed potatoes and vegetables." Our server said it was his favorite item on the menu. Our mouths were basically watering from just the thought of it. I was afraid it would end up bland and uninteresting for a minute until this beauty of a meal was placed before me. We immediately dug in and greeted our taste buds with a savory, juicy, perfectly cooked piece of chicken. My friend, Ellen, claimed it to be one of the best meals she's had since she's been to college, excluding home cooked meals of course. I'm not normally one for mashed potatoes, but these were some of the greatest mashed potatoes I've ever had. Maybe it was the combination of the juices from the chicken and the seasoning but they were absolutely perfect.

The Kilkenny chicken was one of the more expensive items on the menu and after two appetizers, two beers, and two entrees we had racked up a \$50 dollar check. It was a bit more than I'd like to spend, but it was, for the most part, worth it. I highly suggest checking it out in the near future. Check the Web site for the specials, like Quizzo on Wednesday, and a plethora of live music acts on several days of the week. Overall I'd give Molly Maguire's it a 4 out of 5.

MTV Video Music Awards Recap

Rebecca Smyth
resmyth@ursinus.edu

On Sept. 13, 2009, the MTV Video Music Awards celebrated their 25th award show at the Radio City Music Hall in Manhattan, New York. With guests such as Alicia Keys, Amanda Bynes, Jennifer Lopez, Keri Hilson, and Shakira gracing the red carpet, the night looked promising to live up to its reputation.

In past years, the VMAs have attracted the attention of the tabloids for the usually controversial and dramatic goings-on. With live performances expected and British comedian Russell Brand hosting, the night began with a bang. Madonna opened the show with words of remorse and remembrance for Michael Jackson. Janet Jackson then sang a tribute to her brother by performing "Scream", a song that Janet and Michael originally recorded together. She also

gave the audience a sneak peek at Jackson's "This Is It" video. Beyonce, Pink, and Lady Gaga all performed onstage in between awards.

Moonmen trophies were given out to Beyonce for Video of the Year, Best Choreography, and Best Editing, while Green Day also won big, taking home three Moonmen for Best Rock Video, Best Cinematography, and Best Direction for their hit "21 Guns". Lady Gaga was also awarded three Moonmen; nabbing Best New Artist, while her smash hit "Paparazzi" won her Best Art Direction and Best Special Effects.

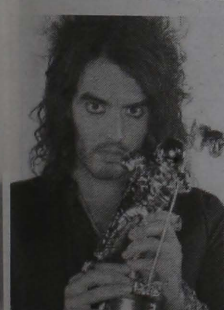


photo courtesy of MTV.com

Breakthrough Video, a new category this year, was awarded to Matt and Kim for, "Lessons Learned", and Best Video, another new category, was awarded to the Beastie Boys for, "Sabotage". Eminem took home the award for Best Hip-Hop Video for his single, "We Made You" and T.I. was awarded Best Male Video for "Live Your Life", which features Rihanna. Britney Spears' "Womanizer" won Best Pop Video.

Taylor Swift won Best Pop Video for "You Belong with Me". In the middle of Swift's acceptance speech, rapper Kanye West found his way onstage, grabbed the microphone from an unsuspecting Swift, and proceeded to announce that Beyonce, who had also been nominated for the same category, "had one of the best videos of all time". After returning the microphone to Swift, West abruptly left the stage, leaving a Swift onstage. Later in the program, as Beyonce accepted a Moonman for her "Single Ladies" music video, Beyonce asked Taylor Swift to join her onstage and, "have her moment". Swift joined Beyonce and gave the audience her acceptance speech. Later on, the awards show ended with a duet from Jay-Z and Alicia Keys, who sang "Empire State of Mind"; Lil Mama also joined them onstage for the performance.

There were mixed reviews on the VMAs. "I liked that the music was the focus of the show instead of celebrities fighting," said sophomore Kathleen Murley.

"In past years, the VMAs have definitely been more fun to watch because of all of the craziness that went on onstage," said sophomore Kerri Sullivan. Although the 2009 MTV Video Music Awards may be deemed tame in comparison to awards shows in years past, there is no doubt that the bright lights and celeb-full auditorium produced enough drama to last for the rest of 2009.

CUTS FOR A CAUSE

On November 21st, donate your hair to Locks for Love!

Tau Sigma Gamma is hosting this event in Lower Wismer from noon until 5pm.

Continue to grow your hair out now, boys too!

Shave to Save looks for guys (and girls) to shave their heads in support of cancer research, and loved ones who have passed away due to cancer. Cuts for a Cause donates wigs to children undergoing hair loss from cancer treatments

Any proceeds raised will be donated to the American Red Cross Society's Astrazeneca Hope Lodge in Philadelphia: a free place for cancer patients to stay during treatment.

For more information find Tau Sig's Cuts for a Cause page on Facebook!

“Always Sunny” premieres...finally!

Christopher Wierzbowski
chwierzbowski@ursinus.edu

Good programming has found its way back onto television. Over the summer, viewers were victims of reality shows and “Scrubs” reruns. We are witnessing a climactic resurgence of what Thursday night TV used to be. All hail the glowing box, and especially “It’s Always Sunny in Philadelphia”, because it should be considered one of the best TV comedies out there. No, it does not have the kind of heart that “Arrested Development” had, and no, its characters are not as endearing as Homer or Marge Simpson, and no, there are not constant references to events which have absolutely nothing to do with the storyline a la “Family Guy”.

But what the show does have is a brazen middle finger to societal standards, tightly packaged in characters that embody the jerkiest of your jerk friends. Alone, the central characters (or “The Gang”), which includes Mac, Charlie, Dennis, Dee, and Frank, are essentially weak; however, when they are together, they form a tight-knit community, where they maintain a lethally high level of xenophobia, contempt, and utter disregard for those who do not think as they do. Last week’s season five premiere episode was perfect. There was coarse language, the continuation of several running gags, and some quality jokes. “Always Sunny” will continuously implement those mired in political correctness as the straight man (or person, if you will).

In this episode, the audience is witness, once again, to the gang’s kryptonite: the law. Brian Unger once again reprises his role as the Attorney, in show-stopping fashion. His trumping of Charlie’s flawed logic and Frank’s monstrous horizontally-growing hair reminds the viewer that these characters are functioning in the real world. Unger’s character will hopefully recur at a higher rate.

For those who may be concerned that people have now discovered their comedy oasis, the show still retains that “down home” feel. The fact that we still catch glimpses of camera men in frames reminds the audience that though this may be a TV show, the people behind the production are still human. During scenes, people can be seen laughing and smiling at the absolutely absurd lines which fly from the mouth of Charlie.

Another lovely tidbit featured in this week’s episode was the introduction of a good chant. It has been too long since audiences have witnessed a word repeated over and over again on the television or in the movies. The chanting in the beginning and end of the episode harked back to “UHF” (“Chips, chips, chips”) and “Arrested Development” (“Speech, speech, speech”).

“Always Sunny” mills between the lines of “Curb Your Enthusiasm” and “The Whitest Kids You Know”; a balancing reality and the bizarre in the extremist sense.

To over think the comedy is to do no justice to the simplicity of it all. To question how Mac and Dennis can justify posing as the power couple Vic Vinegar and Huge Honey, “partners in real-estate and partners in life” would be the equivalent of questioning why Cosmo Kramer, Buster Bluth, or Homer Simpson exist. A good laugh at a raunchy joke frees the viewer from the ghosts of political correctness which haunt them during their day.

So, first time fan, or frequenter of Paddy’s Pub, why don’t you just pop your shirt off and take a deep breath of freedom, because sooner or later, the gang will find you and break down your door, whether you like it or not.

Freshmen parking on campus

Jonathan Barber
jobarber@ursinus.edu

Being a college freshman naturally involves getting the short end of the stick as it relates to room and class selection, meal plans, and other college privileges. Parking is no exception. At Ursinus, freshmen are not allowed to have a car on campus unless they pass through a rigorous process that involves proving that they have either a medical or employment situation which requires them to be able to leave campus with a car. A medical reason is described on the Ursinus web site as, “The student is disabled or has a chronic medical condition that requires the ready availability of a personal vehicle to facilitate proper treatment.” In order to use the employment explanation, a freshman must prove that they have an off-campus job which they must work at in order to be able to successfully pay their way through Ursinus. According to Director of Campus Safety and Assistant Dean of Students Kim Taylor, the Ursinus Campus provides 855 student parking spaces, only 60 of which are for first-year students. Approximately 50 parking permits are issued to first-year students, of which there are slightly over 500 this year.

The reality is that a freshman could need a car just as much as an upperclassman. They could have an identical family situation that a sophomore has, yet that upperclassman would have no problem obtaining a parking pass because they were born one year earlier. The parking section of Ursinus.edu writes in regards to freshmen’s parking privileges, “It would be more beneficial to invest in establishing a solid base at Ursinus, building friendships and becoming involved in campus activities, fully using the rich social and academic resources available.” What if the above-mentioned freshman has also established a more “solid base” socially at Ursinus than the sophomore in the same family situation? With the current system, the

sophomore would still obtain a parking pass without being asked any questions.

Consider that Ursinus has a large percentage of students who live in the local area. Most Ursinus students are from the Philadelphia, New Jersey, or Delaware areas. Therefore, that minority of Ursinus freshmen who do want to get off campus over the weekend are not far from home and will probably find a way to do so whether or not they have a car. It is probably more time consuming for Kim Taylor to sit down individually (as she says she currently tries to do) with each freshman who applies for a parking pass to determine if they deserve one than it would be if the college agreed to issue a parking pass to each freshmen who applied for one.

The most common objection to freshmen being able to have cars on campus, as well as one of the primary reasons cited on the Ursinus web site, is that having a car enables a student to leave campus when they don’t have class. Ursinus.edu writes about freshmen parking privileges, “While cars provide a convenience, the temptation to leave can be counterproductive at this crucial stage in the student’s college career.”

Granted, it is undesirable for freshmen students to leave campus every weekend when they could be interacting with and getting to know other members of the Ursinus community. However, it is reasonable to assume that most freshmen – if they had an on-campus parking pass – would not “abuse” the privilege by leaving the campus whenever they did not have a class. Ursinus rejects many applicants; those students who do get accepted to and become freshmen at the college should not be underrated. Ursinus freshmen are motivated, inquisitive people who seek to explore ideas and situations which are unfamiliar to them. They are attracted, not deterred, by new environments. Therefore, the presumption that giving them parking passes would provide them with a method to get off campus is not entirely accurate. The college should have more faith in its freshmen.



The above photo is of the freshmen parking lot located behind the football stadium. With the current rule in place, it may be assumed students should become familiar with upperclassmen in case they need to get off campus. Is this fair? Have an opinion? Let Zach know at zashamberg@ursinus.edu. Photo by Katie Callahan.

grizzly@ursinus.edu

Point/Counterpoint: Glenn Beck and Rush Limbaugh

Jason Mullins
jamullins@ursinus.edu

Within the realm of politics reside two pundits that misinform, pander, and use fear-laden language in a manner that makes a mockery of reasoned political debate: Glenn Beck and Rush Limbaugh. Such demagogues have the dangerous ability to inject misinformation into American mainstream politics, which hinders democratic discourse by replacing facts with alarming hyperboles and semi-truths. Yet their ratings grow. And so do their misinformed followers. Allow me to set the record straight.

Where to begin? How about with a quote from the entirely legitimate, highly regarded, fully sane and well-intentioned political commentator, Glenn Beck: "Something wicked this way comes. I pray every night for more time... an event is coming... and they will use that event to seize power" (September 2nd, 2009 edition of "The Glenn Beck Program").

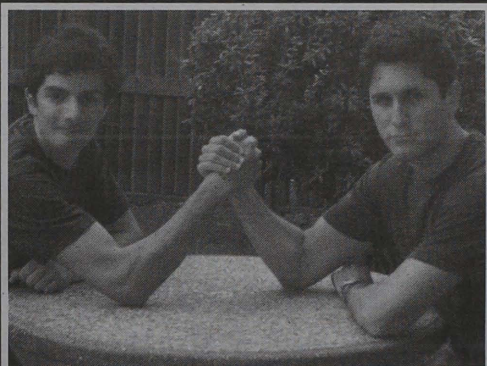
Clearly Beck means to frighten nobody, simply spread political know-how to the masses so that common Americans can recognize and stave off the dangers of leftist reform. When he uses the words terrifying, wicked, and seize in his broadcast, he intends not to scare people. Beck merely wants to divulge critically important political information in a level-headed manner with no bias whatsoever.

This is the same loon that called Obama a racist who, "has a deep-seated hatred for white people or the white culture" (July 28, 2009: Fox News' *Fox & Friends*). How can anyone find validity and legitimacy in a man who makes

such turgid, bombastic statements that serve no purpose other than to spread fear and insecurity?

When referring to the former Special Advisor for Green Jobs in the Obama administration, Van Jones, Beck continues to use non-alarming language and in no way appeals to the fears of his viewers/listeners: "Friends, Americans, Countrymen, you tell me this is just about the Republicans and you tell me this man isn't just a communist, a revolutionary in his own words. I believe this man is a danger to the republic. A real danger. Boots on the ground" (September 2nd).

"Boots on the ground"? Seriously, Beck?. Fear mongering at its finest. Van Jones did, in fact, resign after issues were raised regarding past political statements and his signing of a 9/11 conspiracy petition. But his involvement with a revolutionary, anti-war, anti-capitalist group in the 1990's, at the age of 26, was around fifteen years ago; quick, rally the militia! In the spirit of opportunity,



Jason Mullins (left) and Zach Shamberg (right). Photo by Katie Callahan

opinion, the most difficult question he was asked during the debates was which breed his family dog would be if he were to win.

How about when "objective" reporter Chris Matthews remarked, "I felt this thrill going up my leg," when asked how Obama spoke at a primary? That sounds objective and responsible, doesn't it? It's important to note that Matthews was acting as a reporter, not a biased political commentator (like Beck and Limbaugh, supposedly).

How about the fact that NBC is owned by GE (Obama supporter alert!), and they essentially run a 24 hour press conference for his administration? The journalistic excellence of American news outlets, such as ABC, CBS and NBC, have all ignored the corruption of ACORN, President Obama's alma mater of community organization. ACORN employees were recently caught on tape helping a phony pimp and prostitute file false tax reports, commit bank fraud, and help bring in thirteen El Salvadoran girls (aged 13-15) for the purpose of prostitution. Not one of the major networks reported it.

The mainstream media should act as the citizen's watchdog of the central government, not its bodyguard.

Rush Limbaugh once said that he would want to see Obama fail if that meant, "the absorption of as much of the private sector by the US government as possible". And in the same breath, Rush also asked if liberals were hoping Bush would succeed during his presidency, or if they were trying to destroy him before he was even inaugurated. He was entirely right—nothing says that everyone in America has to play by liberal rules.

The anniversary of 9/11/2001 was just two weeks ago, and our country is concerned about the fear mongering of

Beck has seized the occasion to fire at all cylinders and pander to the Cold War-era fears of communism, revolution, and fascism. Well played, sir.

Let me introduce Beck's brilliantly thought-provoking and perfectly sensible counterpart, Rush Limbaugh: "Adolf Hitler, like Barack Obama, also ruled by dictate" (August 6, 2009 broadcast of The Rush Limbaugh Show)

Let me get this straight. Obama no longer answers to the house or the senate, but simply dictates political orders like the fascist, mass-murderer, Adolf Hitler? C'mon, Rush; if such were the case, there'd be no health care *debate*. Obama would have made his fascist decree and that'd be the end of it.

Limbaugh continues to invoke the specter of fascism in a September 9, 2009 audio-transcript from his self-titled website, which headlines as, "Government-Run Health Care: Building Block for a Fascist Nation." Within that airing of The Rush Limbaugh Show, Limbaugh is quoted, "Once they experience unadulterated fascism — once health care is passed, there's a government option and private insurance is history and gone — people aren't going to put up with it. Not in this country. And unless they do something about the Second Amendment and get guns out of everybody's hands, there's going to be hell to pay."

Must I even comment? Such bellicose and timorous language speaks for itself. So, readers, I'll leave you with two questions: What do Limbaugh, Beck, and similar radical-right pundits accomplish by such statements other than to provoke the emotions, fears, and suspicions of their viewers? Do they help the Republican Party by making such outlandish claims, or do they injure its reputation?

I think that my opinion is clear.

people like Glenn Beck and Rush Limbaugh. Honestly? The United States was attacked on 9/11 by radical extremists bent on destroying our society. They managed to kill over 3,000 innocent Americans, which tells me this: we have real enemies out there that don't care about party lines or partisan politics.

And look to what is happening today in our government: The Justice Department is reopening the investigation of the CIA despite the pleas of the last seven CIA Directors.

Our President is delaying troops requested and required by General McChrystal by at least 4-6 weeks. Why? When the Obama administration is considering action against the bravest of the brave, it begs the question: who are we really fighting? And when the administration delays a necessary number of troops requested by the military, I shake my head. Didn't Obama campaign that he would do all that is necessary to capture Bin Laden and defeat the terrorists? And where is the media to call him out on this?

But if Beck or Limbaugh decides to address these controversial issues, it is written off as fear mongering.

What could possibly be more fearful than knowing you are under attack and having your protector work against your last two lines of defense? My own government is undermining the very forces sent to destroy the enemy! Glenn Beck and Rush Limbaugh support our nation and its people, as well as the sanctity of the Constitution that those in Congress, the White House and the Supreme Court are sworn to uphold. When will those on Capitol Hill live up to the responsibilities that Beck and Limbaugh have taken on? This is not about political correctness, fear mongering or ideology. It's about reporting the truth for the good of our nation. And Beck and Limbaugh do just that.

Zach Shamberg
zashamberg@ursinus.edu

I learned in my first grade geography class that there was no such thing as a "bad question". Haven't we been instructed by our teachers and parents that these so-called "bad questions" don't exist? So here's my question: Why do liberals and the mainstream media get so angry when we *question* our government and president?

Didn't they take elementary school classes like the rest of us? Because I believe it is essential to ask questions about things like Barack Obama's "Czars", ACORN, and the real men and women behind the writing of the stimulus bill. But here's the dilemma: you won't hear these questions asked on NBC, CBS, or ABC. Turn instead to Fox News and conservative radio, where pundits such as Glenn Beck and Rush Limbaugh ask the important questions the mainstream media won't.

The bigger networks have chosen to simply ignore the issues that should matter to every single American. It is (and always has been) our right to question authority, and conservative pundits do just that. In this country, we can choose to get information from whoever we want; I choose to listen to people I believe.

The real argument here isn't about what Glenn Beck and Rush Limbaugh do—it's what the rest of the media ignores. Just take a look at the ethics and responsibility of the American media today: the ethics that say it was alright for Dan Rather to allow fabricated evidence on national television to discredit President Bush's military service. Or the responsibility that was completely ignored when every major news outlet (except Fox News) failed to seriously vet Barack Obama's background and associations during his run for the presidency. In my

Ursinus Women's Gymnastics spends weekend volunteering

Gianna Paonne
gipaonne@ursinus.edu

On Friday, September 11, Ursinus' gymnastics team headed out to Woodward, PA to spend the weekend with potential college gymnasts, many of whom were much younger than their usual high school recruits!

Ursinus was one of four Pennsylvania colleges—the others being Penn State, University of Maryland, and Wilson College—to send a group of team volunteers to chaperone a high-performance clinic at Camp Woodward, which is located about half an hour outside State College. The clinic was offered to Level 9 and 10 gymnasts in U.S. Region 7 who qualified to National or Eastern Championships last spring, and it was headed by some of UC's gymnasts' current judges and former coaches. According to the Region 7 Gymnastics Web site, coaches of non-qualifying gymnasts could go to learn, too, and many local college coaches were invited to attend for recruiting purposes. A qualifier from Silvia's Gymnastics, Erin Convo, said, "The Bowling Green coach said he was really impressed with my vaults."

The college gymnasts' main duties included chaperoning the cabins in which the gymnasts were staying from Friday night until Sunday morning, a task which included waking the girls between 6 and 6:30 a.m., making sure that they arrived at breakfast and workouts on time, checking that they were back in their cabins by 10:00 p.m., supervising their safety throughout the night, and making sure that they behaved according to camp rules. Beyond their requested jobs, however, the college gymnasts had some quality discussions with some of the gymnasts—even those as young as twelve!—about college gymnastics, and they could do so in a more casual environment than

the typical recruiting trip setting. Jacki Clymer, a junior on Ursinus' team, said, "A lot of girls had questions about college gymnastics since it's completely different from club gymnastics. Besides mentioning UC's successful team, I also talked about how academically well-ranked the school is." She even found that one gymnast—a current high school junior—is extremely interested in Ursinus and plans to apply next year.

While the early waking hours, 3 ½-hour car ride, and triple-bunk-bed cabin setting may not have been the ideal way for college gymnasts to spend their weekend, the experience at Woodward offered a variety of opportunities to make it both fun and advantageous. Camp Woodward, which also has locations in California, Colorado, and Wisconsin, is an enormous sports facility that is also equipped for inline skating, skiing, snowboarding, skateboarding, BMX, mountain biking, tumbling, and cheerleading. According to Camp Woodward's main Web site, some locations also offer gigantic ropes courses, Velcro walls, volleyball, swimming, horseback riding, a recording studio, slicktrack racing, and much more. The gymnasts had the chance to check out the impressive half-pipe and grinding-rail adorned campground and, on Saturday, caught an amazing BMX demonstration that

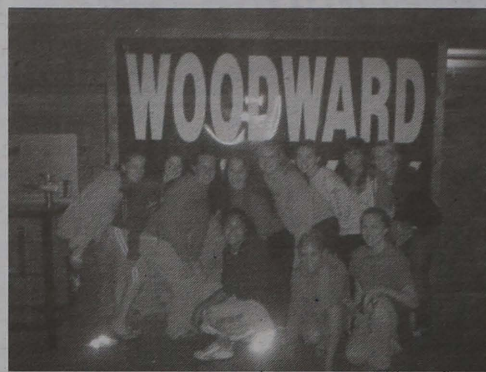


photo courtesy of Gianna Paonne

involved many of the flipping and twisting for which gymnasts are famous...but were all performed on bikes and ramps!

The gymnasts also gained some team and gymnastics related benefits. When the club gymnasts had free time or a non-workout activity that didn't require chaperone supervision, UC's team had the chance to practice some basic skills on Woodward's well-kept, top-of-the-line equipment—including

foam landing pits!—and even heard some helpful tips from the successful club coaches there. Ursinus' team, which has grown from 14 gymnasts last year to the current 21, also found the weekend to be an opportune bonding experience, especially since a large portion of the girls who went were freshman and had only been part of the team for two weeks!

The team's efforts were certainly appreciated. Collegiate judge and club coach, Carla Ceralde, helped run the clinic and said that without the college chaperones' help, "...the clinic would not have been the big success that it was!" The clinic, however, was not the first of the gymnastics team's volunteer efforts for the upperclassmen. Each year, the team helps local club gyms host State competitions and invitationals in the Floy Lewis Bakes Field House. With the support of Coach Jeff Schepers' encouragement, the team plans on continuing to become involved in gymnastics-related volunteer work.

Coach Thomas announces baseball captains for 2010 season

Abbie Cichowski
abcichowski@ursinus.edu

According to Tommy LaSorda, American professional baseball player and coach, as quoted on Thinkexist.com, "There are three types of baseball players: those who make it happen, those who watch it happen, and those who wonder what happens". Tom Clarke, a senior outfielder,

and Scott Young, a designated hitter and pitcher, are examples of those who "make it happen". Tom, a senior Business and Economics major, was recently named captain of the Ursinus College Baseball team and joins his fellow teammate, Scott, a senior ESS major, education minor, as a key representative of the team. The decision came as a result of a vote involving the entire team upon the completion of the spring season.

Coach Brian Thomas made the announcement at the team's first meeting. Coach T, who has served as the Bears' coach for 20 years, offered high praise for the two players. When describing what a good leader should exhibit, he said, "I believe a captain of any team should be an individual who has earned the respect of his or her teammates and of the coaches. The person should have a genuine passion for the sport and for placing team above self. The person should be a loyal Ursinus student who will help lead on and off the field of play. They should be beyond reproach—always knowing who they represent. They have the capability of motivating and encouraging his or her teammates. They are placed in a position of maintaining a positive influence on all and diffusing any negative vibes from

the team. They have the trust of their teammates and the trust of their coaches. Tommy Clarke and Scott Young epitomize all of the above and more."

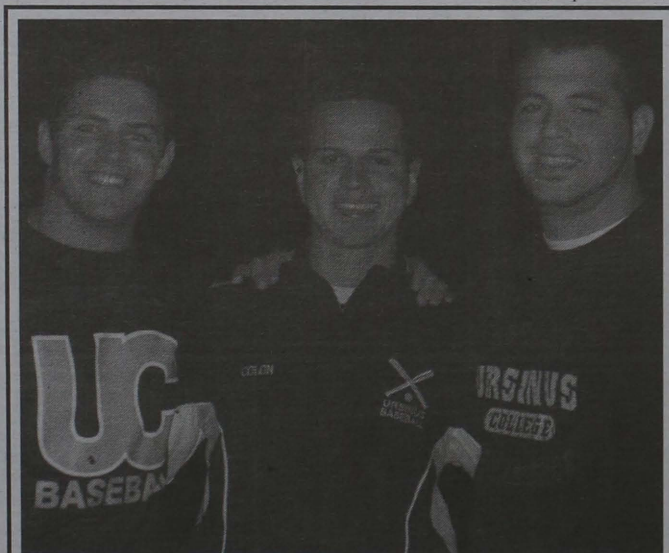
Tom, who serves in other leadership roles as a member of the UC Ambassadors and the Athletic Advisory Committee, is, "looking forward to the responsibility...the challenge" that the recent announcement brings. He spoke of the great honor he feels, as well as the increased self-awareness that surfaces when serving as a team's captain. He cites establishing rapport with teammates as a fundamental skill to which all UC athletes should adhere.

And speaking of rapport, Danny Ludwig, second baseman and Junior Exercise and Sports Science major, speaks highly of his teammate Tom: "He's one of the nicest guys I've ever met".

In a similar vein, Coach Thomas spoke of Scott Young's commitment to maintaining a strong team bond and garnering esteem from within the team, mentioning that Scott has, "earned the respect of everybody." Young expressed his desire to, "really focus on keeping a positive attitude" this upcoming year, despite a recent arm injury.

With leaders such as Scott Young and Tom Clarke in place, this is an exciting time for UC Baseball. Coach Thomas has forecasted a third available spot for leadership opportunity, bringing the number of captains up to three by mid-October. The Bears open their season at Fort Pierce in Florida over Spring Break.

Come be part of the excitement this Spring Semester. For more information regarding Bears' Baseball, please visit their webpage on the UC Website's "Athletics" tab, click on "Varsity Sports", and continue to "Baseball". Stop by a game...then sit back, relax, and, as Tommy LaSorda says, "watch it happen".



J.C. Colon (center) with Captains Tommy Clarke (left) and Scott Young (right) of the Men's Baseball team. Photo by Katie Callahan.