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The Grizzly, September 10, 2009

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The Grizzly

The student newspaper of Ursinus College

Thursday, September 10, 2009

The Barack Obama dating game: "Czar" power

Zach Shamberg
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When Barack Obama was elected President, I did my best to stay optimistic. I rallied other conservatives around his ideas and told them that we would be alright. Maybe it was time for "change". Maybe all I needed was a little "hope". But in the back of my mind, I knew we were in trouble. Lately, that fear has been confirmed. Details regarding President Obama's special advisors, or "czars", have surfaced on talk shows, news reports, and radio broadcasts across the nation. They include, but are not limited to: Marxism, Communism, Socialism, and beliefs so radical that they would make Hugo



photo courtesy of Google images

Chavez blush. In fact, Hugo Chavez recently told Fidel Castro that they both better be careful, or they'll soon find themselves to the right of Obama.

This is something that has kept me awake at night, and it has convinced me that I'm all alone at a school so afraid of conservative opinions that it will shun anyone speaking out against an administration that is destroying America. What do you believe our country stands for?

When you voted for Barack Obama last November, did you vote for this parade of "czars" to be whispering in the

President's ear during daily briefings and morning meetings? Do these men and women match even one of your most radical, leftist beliefs? I have a feeling that these advisors know exactly what our country is and what we stand for, and they want to destroy it as efficiently as possible. They want to control every single right that you have. They want to destroy the freedoms that this country has fought so hard to protect. Some of these "czars" are *self-proclaimed* Marxists, Socialists, and Communists. They've done nothing to hide who they are or what they believe. Do you, students and faculty of Ursinus College, believe in Marxism or Communism? And if so, can you give me an example of a country where it's flourished in the past? Here's the real question: why would an intelligent President surround

himself with people like this? And why hasn't America called him out on it? Just take a close look at the people he has surrounded himself within the White House. It makes me wonder how exactly Barack Obama chose his advisors in the first place...

"Obama" is continued on page 7.

Do deals at the bars mean bad news for your health?

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Recently, UC's Residence Life offered social host training to help students monitor the safety and satisfaction of on-campus partygoers; however, some student alcohol risks may extend beyond those which begin at an Ursinus party. Studies are finding that when bars—particularly those near colleges and universities—offer specials on drink prices, their customers may be more likely to consume higher quantities of alcohol than if costs were higher.

In the most recent study, featured in the journal *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research*, University of Florida researchers recognized that while previous studies indicated alcohol costs being inversely proportional to alcohol consumption and alcohol-related issues, they typically did not focus on expenses specifically in a bar setting. Turning away from a general population setting and instead observing college students' drinking behaviors, Ryan J. O'Mara, MS, et al. interviewed 804 students departing from seven different bar scenes near the university, collecting a survey and Breath Alcohol Concentration (BAC) reading from each. The information—kept anonymous and taken over a span of 4 consecutive nights—provided the cost, number, size, and type of drink(s) consumed, allowing the researchers to calculate each student's cost per unit of ethanol. They discovered a 30 percent decrease in a student's risk of leaving a bar legally intoxicated, i.e. having a BrAC of 0.08 g or higher, to be linked to a 10 cent increase in ethanol's cost per gram when purchased there. In other words, according to students' self-assessments of their alcohol expenses and intakes, higher drink prices at bars were likely to result in students' drinking less while there, and thus leaving less intoxicated.

One might argue that the study shows a basic supply-and-demand economic concept or that, being permitted into a bar, the students are likely to be at least 21 years old and thus accountable for their own actions regarding alcohol consumption. An earlier study, however, concluded that "the 'wet' alcohol environment around campuses—including lower sale prices, more promotions, and alcohol advertising at both on- and off-premise establishments—was correlated with higher binge-drinking rates on the college campuses," according to authors Meichun Kuo, et al. Thus, while drinks—like many

"Great deals" is continue on page 3.

Escape Velocity is rising to new heights: 2009 Preview

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Escape Velocity, the student-run dance company of Ursinus is proud to present its 9th season this fall. After a series of sold out concerts, the dance company is ready to embark on a new performance year. Escape Velocity is dancing to new heights with a series of exciting changes beginning this fall.

The most noticeable change is the company's executive board. Senior Roger Lee returns to the position of president/producer, working with an all-new group of officers. Juniors Brittany Gogluizza and Sara Anne Rosner join forces to oversee and distribute company e-mail, important dates and track attendance at meetings. Junior Lane Coyle is proud to work as the Events Coordinator, a new position created for this year. Lane plans a series of performances, workshops and special events for the

company. Senior Liora Kuttler serves as the Publicist, updating the company website and Facebook while writing blogs and press releases on company events. Rounding out the officers is Junior Jennifer Paulding who will serve as company Treasurer.

With a new executive board, Escape Velocity will step out with a much bolder presence on campus this year. Instead of the usual one show per semester routine, the company will now add a series of smaller shows and venues to its performance roster. Escape Velocity opened the first annual Ursinus Community Festival on September 5 with a three-minute performance. Members of the company performed an energetic hip-hop/ salsa/ jazz routine to Pit Bull's Latin-hip-hop hit "Calle Ocho." They were also seen performing in yesterday's Activities Fair.

"Escape Velocity" is continue on page 4.

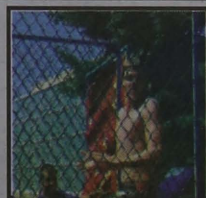
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News-in-Brief: Controversy to water crisis in the Middle East

Lisa Jobe
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Wednesday, September 2

LONDON, England – The Scottish Parliament has slammed Scottish Justice Secretary Kenny MacAskill’s decision to free Libyan Abdelbeset al Megrahi, better known as the “Lockerbie bomber,” from prison. MacAskill rejected an application to transfer al Megrahi to his native Libya to serve the rest of his sentence, instead freeing al Megrahi on grounds of compassion. Al Megrahi received a hero’s welcome in Libya, angering victims’ families and world leaders such as President Obama and British Prime Minister Gordon Brown. Previously secret Scottish documents concerning the release of al Megrahi were made public Tuesday, as the U.K. faces accusations that the release was made as part of an “oil deal” with Libya. In



Scottish Justice Secretary Kenny MacAskill. Photo courtesy of telegraph.co.uk

a handwritten letter from Libyan Abdelbeset al Megrahi to, al Megrahi begged to be allowed to see his family again; al Megrahi has cancer and is expected to live just three months longer. In the letter, al Megrahi claimed innocence in the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103, which exploded over Lockerbie, Scotland, killing 11 people in the town as well as the 259 passengers and crew members aboard the plane.

The bombing occurred on December 21, 1988; al Megrahi was convicted of the crime in 2001.

Wednesday, September 2

WUGANG, China – 1,354 children in China’s Hunan province have tested positive for abnormally high levels of lead in their blood. Over 1,000 more children in other provinces of China are sick with lead poisoning as well. The common factor is that all of these children live near industrial plants. Eight plants, including coal, manganese, and iron smelting factories have been shut down and will remain closed until they meet government safety standards. Though governments are offering free testing for children and compensation to their families, and the factories responsible are showing remorse, villagers claim they are being bullied into silence. Liu Yanqun worries about the effect the pollution may have on her unborn child. “The government hasn’t done anything to take care of pregnant women. My first child

miscarried due to external factors, and this is my second,” said Yanqun, “the government just doesn’t care.”

Thursday, September 3

ISTANBUL, Turkey – Ministers from Turkey, Syria, and Iraq met in Turkey’s capital city of Ankara on Thursday to discuss water shortages faced by the three nations and

possible solutions. The Tigris and Euphrates rivers, which run through all three countries, are at major lows this year. Iraq officials are calling the drought a “catastrophe.” Iraq and Syria want Turkey, where the start of the rivers is located, to increase the flow of river water through its complicated network of dams. But at the start of the meeting, Turkey’s Energy Minister Taner Yildiz said they could not deliver additional water to Syria and Iraq because “water is not plenty in Turkey, and therefore we cannot exceed the determined amount too much.” The water summit occurs in the midst of political tensions between Syria and Iraq; Iraq officials have demanded Syria hand over those whom Iraqi police believe to be responsible for recent bombings in Baghdad, while Syria denies that they are harboring terrorists.

Friday, September 4

CIANJUR, Indonesia – In Indonesia, the search continues for survivors buried under rubble from Wednesday’s 7.0 magnitude earthquake, which struck the Indonesian island of Java. At least 11 homes in the town of Cianjur were buried by the quake, and residents trapped there have shown no signs of life since Wednesday. Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono has since visited Cianjur and promised \$500,000 to aid in rescue efforts. He also said that the Indonesian government still had plenty of resources, and foreign aid was unnecessary at this time. The quake also shook buildings in Jakarta, Indonesia’s capital city, which also is located on Java. The quake has killed 64 people and injured at least 400.

(All stories come from CNN.com.)

Discover the unknown through the International Film Festival

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Ingrid Bergman once said that, “No art passes our conscience in the way film does, and goes directly to our feelings deep down into the dark rooms of our souls.” For 15 years, Ursinus College has been trying to explore these “rooms” that Ms. Bergman mentioned with the annual International Film Festival.

Created and compiled by Professor of French, Collette Trout, this on-campus festival provides students with the option to experience internationally acclaimed films chosen by faculty members within the foreign language department.

Although they are presented in different languages accompanied with subtitles, Professor Trout commented that most students who are initially leery of having to “work” throughout a supposed mode of entertainment, leave feeling educated and perhaps even capable of exposing themselves to more culturally diverse

And although these productions may appear extremely unknown to us at first, they express at their core the same universal themes of unrequited love, battles between good and evil, choices between power and humility, and desires of lust and greed that the entire human race shares.

For is not that the goal? Professor Trout, with the help of her administrative assistant, Ivon Kennon, did not initiate this festival to instruct that students learn several languages, but rather to encourage students on campus to look beyond the subtitles, the words, and find the meaning and cultural message behind them.

Freshman Eisamar Ellis, who attended the first film shown entitled *Blind Mountain*, reflected on the

experience saying, “You get to see a different culture through film...you also get to see a production that is inherently foreign—far from any American set of expectations and standards.”

In an increasingly isolated and often times homogeneous population, this response along with international exposure may just be the ingredients we need to concoct a perfect recipe of globally aware and connected citizens. This year’s fall semester films that are soon approaching are Eran Riklis’ *Lemon Tree* being shown on

Thursday, Sept. 24, Masaki Kobayashi’s *Hara Kiri* on Thursday, Oct. 8, Gregory Nava’s *El Norte* on Wednesday, Oct. 28, Guillaume Canet’s *Tell No One* on Thursday, Nov. 5 and Fatih Akin’s *Edge of Heaven* being shown on Thursday, Dec. 3.

If you are interested in hearing a story told in a different language, concerning a hidden culture but that unites us all, make an effort to discover the “dark rooms” of your souls. What you find, or rather see, may in fact surprise you.

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Over 300 students receive social host training by fellow students

Liz Kilmer

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Close to thirty students facilitated last week's social host training, an undertaking which had formerly, up until this year, been executed by Residence Life. According to Dean of Students Debbie Nolan, the change was made in order to, "encourage a stronger student ownership of the process," as well to provide, "peer based m e n t o r s h i p ."

The training sessions, held on the 2nd and 3rd of September, were conducted throughout various classrooms between 8 and 9 p.m. Each room was assigned three to four student facilitators, who led an interactive discussion as well as presented a PowerPoint slideshow. The presentation featured a recorded lecture from Jim Baer, Senior Vice President of Development. During the eight minute video, Baer discussed both the criminal and civil liabilities assumed as a social host, warning that it's a, "very serious responsibility that you all take upon yourselves in hosting these parties." The presentation also discussed the rules and regulations of social hosting.

However, according to Resident Director Jared Rodrigues, these were not the focus.

"We wanted to focus more on the practical side, more on the principals of what a social host does and sort of the philosophical implications," said Rodrigues. "Rather than the policies of the college."

During a session in Olin, student facilitator Gianna Paone encouraged audience members to set a good example for freshman, while student facilitator Brett Godoy presented a segment of the presentation titled "Easier said than d o n e ."

Alcohol impairment charts were handed out to the students sitting in. Students were asked for their feedback frequently throughout the sessions, which ended once the Social Host Pledge sheets were signed and c o l l e c t e d .

Approximately 340 contracts were signed over the two nights of presentations- a number similar to previous semesters. Only those who attended the session and signed the contract may social host this semester. However, a second training will occur in the spring time. In the past, this second session has secured as many as 100 additional students.

Sessions, up until this year, were held in either Musser or Bomberger auditoriums; students would conglomerate to observe a lecture, which was led by several residence directors and followed by a quiz. The

quiz was eliminated, according to Rodrigues, seeing as it's more important for social hosts to, "understand what the risks and responsibilities are," and to volunteer regardless, than it is to, "memorize the rules."

This change, as well as others implemented during the program's redesigning, was the result of student feedback. Rodrigues, along with Residence Life's graduate assistant Sheena Posey, designed the curriculum this past summer; throughout which, they gathered student input which pertained to social hosting. It was also during this time that student facilitators for the program were sought out.

"We reached out to any students who were here [on campus]," said Rodrigues.

Those who agreed were trained to deliver the presentation that Monday, August 31. According to Rodrigues, the amount of time between this and the actual training was less than ideal. Had the time frame been extended, student facilitators could have potentially "tweaked" the model.

Regardless of having had this time, though, students seemed to have all been pleased with the training.

"I think we got a lot of great feedback already," said Rodrigues. "I think we're all pleased with it." Sophomore Sarah Dougherty, who attended a Wednesday session, found the student-teaching-student method to be, "effective." According to Dougherty, it's meaningful to hear the presentation from students, seeing as, "only students are eligible to be social hosts."

Rodrigues agreed, explaining that the best way to learn the ropes on social hosting is from, "someone who's been there and done it."

Fortunately for students as such, no changes have been made regarding what's expected from



Ursinus wants to uphold the social scene on campus, but they want to make sure the students that are social hosting are responsible and educated about what to look out for in dangerous situations. During the social host training, students were encouraged to not be afraid to call campus safety, and to make sure everyone at their registered party was safe. Photo courtesy of Google images.

the social hosts. Ultimately, it is the social host's job to see that the party to which they are hosting remains under control. According to the Social Host Pledge, social hosts must ensure, "the safety and well being" of all guests, which includes, "crowd control, addressing inappropriate or unsafe behavior, refusing entrance and monitoring alcohol intake." Social hosts are expected to seek help if unable to fulfill the aforementioned tasks. Campus Safety may always intervene, and never is a social host penalized for requesting their assistance.

According to Rodrigues, colleges with similar party situations may opt to station campus safety officers at all registered parties. However, here the philosophy is that, "students are adults," said Rodrigues. He adds that party control functions best when handled amongst students.

Unlike with many schools, the party space at Ursinus consists primarily of residence halls; a reality which administration hopes to maintain. "We want to be as supportive as possible of having a residential campus," said Rodrigues. "We want to support students partying on campus because we think that's safer."

"Great deals" continues from page 1

consumer-bought items—may be enticing in greater numbers when offered at lower prices, other problems that the resulting intoxication can cause remain with the student once he or she returns to campus.

The studies' findings may not be far from home for Ursinus students. Does the Trappe's "silver coin night" sound familiar? Conveniently located on the local tavern's website, a "Specials" menu features an array of happy hours and discounts on drinks or drinks purchased in large quantities, e.g. pitchers. The page also offers cover charge-free entrance fees for all nights except Fridays or Saturdays. Thus, despite Thursday's popularity as a drinking night for college students and the Trappe's random dispersal of local band performances throughout the week, students can see the bands free of charge on the same night that several drinks are significantly discounted—another

potential motivator for drinks to be consumed in higher n u m b e r s .

Senior Kira Oldham-Curtis, 22, agrees that O'Mara, et al.'s conclusions make sense. "It really is a rip off to get a drink at the bar," she says.

Also citing that discounted drinks and their advertisements have been linked to college students' alcohol consumptions, Harvard School of Public Health researchers Elissa R. Weitzman, et al. note that, "Features of local alcohol economics, in addition to characteristics of drinkers, may influence drinking behavior among college students." In other words, while reduced drink prices may tempt students to purchase more of them, the student's drinking characteristics regardless of expenditures continue to play a role. Nonetheless, O'Mara et al. view their findings as a suggestion that regulating drink discounting by on-premise drinking establishments, such as bars near colleges or universities, may be a beneficial tactic in reducing the intoxication levels of the students who leave them.

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.

Features

Purple Door 2009

Emily Arndt

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Purple Door, although officially labeled a "Christian Music-Festival" or a "Celebration of Faith", is more than just Gospel and praise music. Consisting of three stages, the festival offers a variety of genres, featuring in the past bands such as Relient K, Paramore, Switchfoot, Mute Math and the Supertones. One of the stages, in fact, is dedicated solely to the heavy metal style.

This year was my first experience first-hand with the festival. Having had a sister attend a few years previous didn't really prepare me for what I would experience. In fact, my day at Purple Door (I was unable to attend the Friday session) is probably best viewed as a cautionary tale for festival attendees. I lost my phone, was barefoot for over two hours and was blessed with a case of what a helpful EMT labeled "Stage 2 Dehydration." Despite all that, I also managed to catch some really great music:

Farewell Flight: As a local, Harrisburg-based band with a comparatively small following, Farewell Flight was unfortunately graced with a 10:45 AM start. Despite this, and a short set, played an impressive set mostly featuring songs from their recent album *Sound. Color. Motion.* as well as an as-of-yet unreleased song off of their forthcoming 2009 release.

Becoming the Archetype: This was my only real foray into the Metal Stage area. The Georgia-based Death Metal band was a bit intense for my liking but had a strong and enthusiastic crowd encouraged by a passionate performance from lead vocalist Jason Wisdom. At times, however, the group's followers resembled a synchronized cult, hand motions in perfect timing.

Seabird: Perhaps only known vaguely as providing background music for various TV shows, Seabird provided a mediocre set. What stands out the most about them is their heavily Christian inspired and less than complex lyrics which the band states are drawn from real life experiences. Their 2008 release *Til We See The Shore* was much more enjoyable than the live performance.

Bradley Hathaway: This was by far the most pleasant surprise of the day for me. Hathaway is a spoken-word poet and folk singer who, despite being without a band and using a borrowed guitar, managed to present a completely captivating performance. One of his more popular poems, entitled "Manly Man", was easily recited back to him by the crowd which overflowed on his performance at tiny Gallery Stage. Even more entertainment came when Hathaway finished his set by accompanying a 20-something man's proposal to his girlfriend. (Her answer: Always and Forever, the title of the final song).

mewithoutYou: To be completely honest, mewithoutYou was my main reason for attending Purple Door. The band managed to incorporate songs from *Catch For Us the Foxes* (2004); *Brother, Sister* (2006) and the radically different *It's All Crazy! It's All False! It's All a Dream! It's Alright* (2009) into their flawless set. The newer songs (bashed on the internet by older fans for their mellow sound) received a less enthusiastic reception than the older, but the overall fan reaction was astounding. Rave dancing and the like was common, and the band was all but begged for an encore. (They were unfortunately unable to extend their set due to set-up demands from Anberlin.) Plus, I was lucky enough to also meet lead vocalist Aaron Weiss afterwards.

"Escape Velocity" continued from page 1.

Upcoming events for Escape Velocity include a campus-wide hip-hop class taught by a surprise member of *Phresh Select* Hip-Hop Crew. This Philadelphia-based dance crew was a part of the top 10 finalists on season 2 of MTV's *Randy Jackson presents: America's Best Dance Crew*. The first 50 students who responded to the informational e-mail secured their spots for the hour-long workshop slated for this Saturday afternoon.

Escape Velocity is also adding to its main performance schedule. Due to popular demand and limited seating in the Helfferich Dance Studio, the fall production, "Timeless", will have five showings. This means five opportunities for Ursinus to catch Escape Velocity. The show opens Thursday October 29 and closes with two afternoon performances in time for Halloween and Family Day on Saturday October 31. The company will also perform their

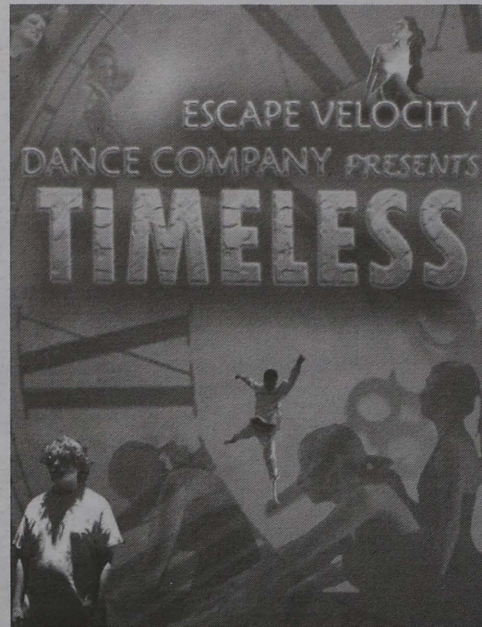


Photo courtesy of Roger Lee

first annual Holiday show on Thursday evening, December 3 in Wismer Lower Lounge. The event will kick-off that evenings' *Late Night Lower*. Look for more information on these shows and how to purchase tickets in the coming weeks.

The company also plans on bringing back the popular *Dancing with the Staff* series created by Lane Coyle. This spring, the stakes are raised as student dancers and Ursinus faculty and staff compete for fun prizes and bragging rights that come along with winning. The show premiered last spring in the Helfferich Dance Studio and saw a full-house for the one-night-only performance. This year, DVDs of the event will be made available by Escape Velocity's video editor, Senior Matt Whitman.

These are just some of the many events Escape Velocity hopes to bring to the Ursinus campus this year. In an effort to bring dance to the mainstream and make it accessible to all-students, faculty and staff, the company thrives off of campus involvement. A special thank you to all of the supporters and concert goers; you help make the company succeed and give Escape Velocity a reason to continue dancing to new heights.

Green Lane Scottish-Irish Festival this weekend

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Whether you're Irish, Scottish or someone just looking for a good time, the Green Lane Scottish-Irish Festival is the place to find yourself this weekend. September 11-13, just down Route 29 North, this festival offers people a place to sit down on an emerald blanket of grass and enjoy some great music, ranging from Traditional Celtic to more alternative selections.

Bands like Barleyjuice, the Martin Family Band, The Raining Hearts and the Hooligans are scheduled to play the weekend. For a full line up and schedule details check the website at: <http://www.glpisfestival.com/Schedule.html>.

This isn't just a music festival, it's a cultural experience that brings together communities, supporting local entertainment for 10 years now. Even if you just want to sit on a hillside and read a book, with a fiddle resonating in the back of your mind, grab your blanket and enjoy the day. You can also bring your dog along for a stroll around the lake and stop by some of the dog rescue tables from around the area, and share your love for dogs with many other friendly, and furry faces.

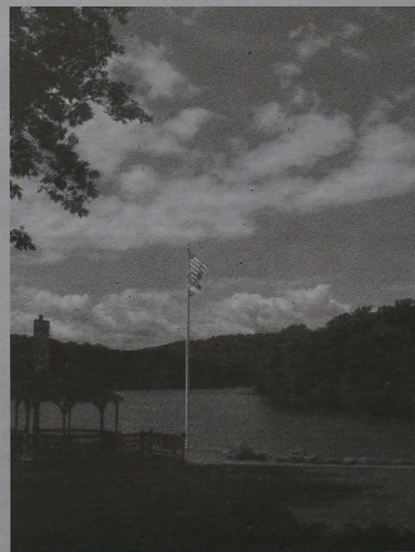


Photo courtesy of Maryanne Berthel

This is a family friendly festival so it is a dry event, but believe me the food will fill you up to the brim. Get your Fish and Chips, Turkey Legs, Colcannon, or even (for the American at heart) chicken fingers and fries. The assortment of food and merchandise vendors ranges from swords, to meat pies, to jewelry and traditional baked goods.

For all you sports lovers out there, on Saturday at 2pm they are holding a Gaelic Football tournament; a very popular Irish sporting event that gets your blood pumping just watching it.

So grab your kilts, your Celtic pride, or even your jeans and a blanket and come join in a weekend brimming with energy and laughter that you won't soon forget. Admission for the festival is \$1. In the past it has been free, but with the costs of running an event like this going up, \$1 is worth spending for an enjoyable day close to home. Last year it got rained out, and I was among the seven or so that showed up, but this year let's hope the wind always be at our backs and sun upon our faces. Hope to see you there!

If you'd like to see if you can hook up with people to carpool email me and I'll try to find more people who are going. maberthel@ursinus.edu

Freshmen Orientation gets a face lift

Eva Bramesco

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By 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, August 27th, the line of freshmen waiting to get their keys stretched all the way out of the field house and up towards the parking lot. But move in day isn't the real beginning of Freshman Orientation. Weeks before the freshmen arrive, RA's and UC Ambassadors move in and begin an-exhausting training process. They also spend countless hours planning fun activities for the new students to take part in. But this year in addition to the familiar faces of welcoming RA's and the traditional blue polos of the Ambassadors, a greatly increased number of Peer Advisors could be seen around campus assisting the freshmen with their transition.

This year every RA was teamed with a Peer Advisor and two Ambassadors. This team of four was paired with the RA's hall and worked closely with the new students during breakout sessions in response to guest speakers who spoke on the topics of diversity, sexual assault, and alcohol. These talks were very well attended and received and the breakout sessions were equally well attended, exceeding expectations.

In addition to providing essential information to freshmen, the breakout groups were "a great way to bring the RAs, Ambassadors, and Peer Mentors together and a great way for the freshmen to get to know us and their hall mates," according to Ambassador Katie Banas. Robyn Clarke who doubles as both an RA and a Peer Advisor (PA) said, "Orientation this year was a lot more interactive then it had been in years. The breakout sessions provided outlets for the freshmen to express their opinions and ask any questions that had about the information that had been presented."

It was very important to all leadership staff that the students not only be presented the crucial information

but that they were provided the opportunity to process the information and see how their peers responded to it as well. The RA's, Ambassadors, and PA's will be meeting intermittently with their halls all year to provide what Clarke calls a, "network of support." Thus far the network has been effective and fun for the freshmen.

"I often hear my residents recognize others in the group as 'their Ambassador' or 'their PA'" says Clarke.

In addition to the new opportunities the class of 2013 was able to take advantage of during orientation, they may now take advantage of the new Center for Academic Support (CAS). The center is open this year as a resource for first year students and upperclassmen alike. Located in the lower level of Myrin library, the CAS offers on-campus tutoring, peer advising, disability services, first-year student resources, and assistance for students on academic probation. Maria Beazley who directs the CAS, leads the PA's and is also the First Year Coordinator for Ursinus says, "The vision behind the creation of the Center for Academic support was to provide students with convenient access to many essential campus resources."

As usual, Ursinus is providing its students with all the tools for success, though it is still the responsibility of the individual to seek the help he or she needs.

"We encourage students to be proactive, to take responsibility for their education, and to seek help at the first sign of difficulty," says Beazley. The ultimate goal of the CAS is to equip all students with the skills they need to be successful students as well as to meet the needs of a student as an individual where the classroom alone cannot.

Any questions about the CAS or the Peer Advising program, neither of which is solely for freshmen, can be directed to Maria Beazley at mbeazley@ursinus.edu.



This past Saturday, UC hosted their first Community Festival. The festival promoted positive relationships between Ursinus students, faculty, staff, and members of the greater Collegeville community. A moon bounce, human bowling (shown above), bands, food, and carnival booths lined the walkway from Reimert to Ritter. More than 30 clubs and organizations responded and the day lasted from 12pm until 5pm. A dance performance and a student dunk tank were also featured. Ursinus sponsored the event, giving the money earned during the festival to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southeastern Pennsylvania. *Photo courtesy of Brianna Gaddy.*

Career Corner: Team up with Career Services

Career Services

career@ursinus.edu

In this challenging job market- it is essential for college students to complement their academic coursework with hands-on experience that comes from doing an internship. Doing an internship in the summer gives you a little more flexibility in terms of hours and location. Summer Internship application deadlines vary across, and even within, career fields- but surprisingly- many deadlines for summer 2010 are extremely early! Check out these early deadlines:

**Hispanic Association of Colleges & Universities
National Internship Program
(October 1, 2009)**

**Bloomberg News- Steamboat Summer Internship
(late October, 2009)**

**Boston Globe Summer Newsroom Internship
(November 1, 2009)**

**Defense Intelligence Agency
(November 15, 2009)**

**International Radio & Television Society Summer
Fellowship
(December 1, 2009)**

The first step in securing your summer internship is to determine your internship goals. What are your specific career interests? What type of organization are you interested in? Where do you want to have your internship?

Work on building a compelling resume and cover letter and practice your interviewing skills. Begin the process by searching UC CareerNet, consulting with faculty advisers, attending career and internship fairs, researching organization and industry-specific websites and utilizing your network of family and friends.

Consider accepting unpaid internships; some of the best internships may not be paid.

Don't put off your summer 2010 internship search. Visit Career Services for help.

Do you know someone or something that has to be featured?

E-mail Laurel Salvo at lasalvo@ursinus.edu to find out how you can get your voice heard!

Top ten summer movies from Indie films to sci-fi thrillers

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Focus Features ruined my summer. It's as simple as that. Since extracting the much-coveted copy of the *Entertainment Weekly* "summer preview" issue from my mailbox and reading it cover to cover, August 14 had been at the forefront of my mind. Then Focus Features took *Woodstock* from me. Literally. Originally set to be released on the above mentioned date, "Taking *Woodstock*", Ang Lee's epic ode to the summer of '69, was pushed back to August 28, the day after my freshman orientation at Ursinus was set to begin. I cailed the production company, and begged them to reconsider. I even called the college to plead my case. Needless to say, "Taking *Woodstock*" will not be making an appearance in this article. Yet, after carefully reviewing the thirty or so films I have seen over the past two months, I have come up with what I believe to be a satisfactory list of my (and hopefully some of yours) top ten movies of the summer.

10. *Orphan*: This film's tagline was "There's something wrong with Esther." What makes *Orphan* stand out among the recent crop of unmemorable horror movies is that it is completely, and wonderfully, unpredictable. When the truth about this prim and proper and oh-so-sweet eight-year old girl is finally unraveled, it will leave you reeling and also slightly nauseated long after you leave the theater. Not to mention the chilling performance by twelve-year-old Isabelle Fuhrman. That kid is going places.

9. *500 Days of Summer*: Remember that time you

went to see a romcom because the trailer provided two minutes of hilarity? Remember how the other hour and fifty-eight minutes of the movie were as bland as that gum under the seat? From beginning to end, *500 Days of Summer* is full of life, laughs, and Joseph Gordon-Levitt singing with cartoon birds at a particularly good point during his time with relationship-phobe co-worker, Summer (Zoey Deschanel). What the film is lacking in the requisite romantic reconciliation between two individuals who ultimately realize they belong together, it makes up for in originality, and an excellent soundtrack to boot.

Top Ten Movies:

10. Orphan
9. 500 Days of Summer
8. Summer Hours
7. Cheri
6. District 9
5. Everlasting Moments
4. The Hurt Locker
3. Star Trek
2. Away We Go
1. Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince

8. *Summer Hours*: Hollywood may make action movies like nobody's business, but the French are masters when it comes to depicting life. *Summer Hours* is a beautifully shot, understated film, with an ensemble cast including Juliette Binoche. The real star of this movie is the house around which the story centers. This was not the most exciting movie I saw this summer, but it touched me in a way that few others did.

7. *Cheri*: I might be biased because I'm a girl, but Rupert Friend is sexy. Some of you might know him as Mr. Wickham from the 2005 adaptation of "Pride and Prejudice"; others may recognize him as P&P star Keira Knightley's real-life beau, but few can doubt the star power of this young actor, even when he is playing a spoiled brat. Also starring Michelle Pfeiffer, *Cheri* is

adapted from a duo of salacious novels by Andy Colette, and is set in nineteenth century France. Pfeiffer plays a well-to-do but washed-up prostitute, and Friend is the boy who is fascinated by this older woman. It is a most unhealthy relationship, but then again, who doesn't love what is bad for them?

6. *District 9*: It doesn't get more original than this: a documentary-style film about aliens living in Johannesburg, serving as an allegory for apartheid-era South Africa.

5. *Everlasting Moments*: The title says it all about this Swedish import about a woman at the turn of the twentieth century, who finds refuge from her abusive husband in her newfound talent in photography.

4. *The Hurt Locker*: I tend to judge a movie by how quickly my snack disappears. This nail-biting war drama about a three-man bomb squad serving in Iraq takes the record; my box of candy was emptied within five minutes of the opening credits.

3. *Star Trek*: Contrary to what my list thus far suggests, I do not only see obscure indie movies, but I actually enjoy the traditional popcorn flick as much as the next person. Especially when it is as well made as J.J. Abrams' brilliant ode to old school space travel aboard the USS Enterprise. *Star Trek* is the sort of film that should fare well come Academy Awards season, now that there are ten slots for best picture.

2. *Away We Go*: Maya Rudolph and John Krasinski star in this charming film about a couple trying to find the perfect place to raise their baby. Honest and at times, hilarious (Maggie Gyllenhaal makes a particularly memorable cameo as a mother with some questionable new-age parenting methods), *Away We Go* is refreshing in that it focuses on a couple in honest-to-goodness love. It doesn't get more romantic than that.

1. *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*: It may have been summer vacation for muggles, but there was no better place to be this summer than back at Hogwarts.

An outreach to fellow Pagans in the UC Community

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When most people read the title of this article, preconceived ideas about what the word "pagan" means will start processing (whether based on fact or not). The truth is that the word "pagan" is too often associated with the idea of a "cult," an orgy, a horror film having to do with witches putting curses on people, sacrifice, or even with the worship of Satan. Here are the facts: paganism has nothing to do with any of these stereotypes. It is a term so broad and mysterious that people rely more on the media, film and their imagination to help them understand this religion that is based in ancient practices but has since been reborn into the modern age.

To be pagan can mean many things, and as is any religion, no single newspaper article, book or even class can teach you what it might mean to be pagan. Paganism is a word that unites many different disciplines and pantheons of worship under one common theme: the worship of a polytheistic religion. To the pagan community it represents a bridge that joins us all, despite what gods we worship, or how we conduct our ritual. But it is hard for pagans to form

that bridge when most of us are as many people say "still in the broom closet," as solitary practitioners.

I have been a pagan for a little over 7 years now, and yet just emerged from the broom closet last year. Coming out isn't easy for anyone that lives a life and has a worldview separate from what is considered to be mainstream society, but it is especially hard when you feel as if you are the only one.

Here at Ursinus, every faith has some sort of representation, except for pagans. And some people prefer to keep their faith to themselves, but I never

knew the joy of celebrating spirituality until I came out publicly as a loud and proud pagan, and I was not able to do so anywhere but with a small gathering of adults at a pagan festival I go to each year. Even here on campus I have experienced persecution, and I harbor no bad feelings about that because it is simply out of ignorance. And yet, a college campus is the perfect place to discuss differences

in spirituality, because there are people willing to learn and share beliefs in a respectful atmosphere.

The goal of this article is not to teach you what paganism is, but instead to help people realize that being pagan doesn't mean we are conducting blood sacrifices (which in fact is against the pagan rede "Love all, harm none"), and it does not mean we are cursing people left and right.

For three years now I have often thought how wonderful it would be for fellow pagans to be able to openly find one another, and have the freedom to celebrate their faith on campus. So this is an outreach to my fellow pagans on campus and an invitation to those who know nothing about paganism to smile in the face of a religious diversity.

Remember: "pagan" is not a dirty word, and should not be buried beneath the rug simply because it is misunderstood.

"The goal of this article is not to teach you what paganism is, but instead to help people realize that being pagan doesn't mean we are conducting blood sacrifices"

"Obama" is continued from page 1.



ZACH SHAMBERG

LIVING IN SHAMERICA

(The following is a transcript from a recent edition of "The Dating Game" that took place in early January 2009 at the White House, following the inauguration of President Barack Obama)

Host: Good evening, ladies and gentleman, and welcome to a very special edition of "The Dating Game"! (audience applause) We're coming to you live from the White House in chilly Washington, D.C., where our newly-sworn in President, Barack Obama, is settling in to his new surroundings. Mr.

President, how has the move-in gone so far?

Obama: Well, Chuck, let me just say this: I "hope" my wife doesn't make me "change" the furniture like she did in our last house! (audience laughter)

Host: Terrific. Well, how about we get started with this special presentation of "The Dating Game"! Now, because President Obama has already found that special someone in his life, we're instead going to help him search for a person that will not only be a loving friend and four-year companion, but also someone who will aid both the President and the citizens of the United States on the issues that matter most. That's right—today we'll be choosing President Obama's special advisors! (audience applause) Mr. President, we have gathered four of the country's brightest political minds here today so that you will choose one of them as an advisor to you for the next four years. So let's start the show! Potential #1, please introduce yourself.

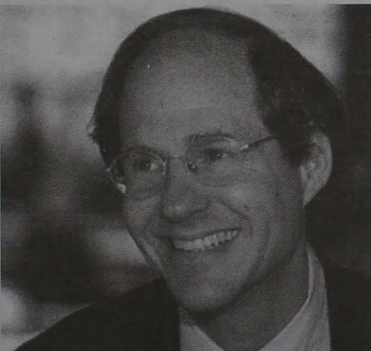
#1: Hello. My name is Van Jones and I want to advise you, President Obama, on "green jobs" and what we can do to help the environment!

Host: How about you, #2?

#2: Hi Mr. President! I'm Cass Sunstein, and I'd love to head Regulatory Affairs for your administration.

Host: And finally, #3.

#3: Good morning, everyone. My name is Mark Lloyd, and I specialize in diversity in communication. Would it be possible for your administration to create a position for me, possibly on the Federal Communication Commission?



Cass Sunstein. Photo courtesy of Google images.

Host: Alright, Mr. Obama, please ask any of these three potential advisors the questions that you have prepared.

Obama: Ok, Advisor #1, I'm the kind of person who can't stand to stay in on a Saturday night. How are you going to keep me busy if I decide to choose you?

#1: Well, let me just say that I've belonged to many organizations that would certainly provide us with some entertainment on any night of the week. For instance, I co-founded the Communist revolutionary

organization STORM, or Standing Together to Organize a Revolutionary Movement. We based our ideas on third-world Marxism and fought against worldwide "U.S. Imperialism". In our manifesto, "Reclaiming Revolution", we wrote that much of our inspiration came from revolutionaries like Mao Tse-tung and Amilcar Cabral. Heck, I even named my son after that last guy, who just happens to be a famous Marxist revolutionary. And don't forget about my role as a founder of the Apollo Alliance, a radical organization that will actually write much of the upcoming \$800 billion economic stimulus bill. The Apollo Alliance also includes board members Jeff Jones and Bill Ayers, the two founders of the Weather Underground, a radical left organization that attempted to bomb the Pentagon.

Obama: Thank you. Advisor #2...I've always loved animals. Are you an animal lover at heart like I am?

#2: Mr. President, I am so glad to hear you say that. I love animals just as much as you do. In fact, I've often compared the killing and "unjustified suffering" of animals to slavery and "the mass extermination of human beings". I've also advocated the banning of eating red meat. So no steak dinners for us on weekends! And I've even expressed my desire to allow animals to have the right to sue humans. Yes, you heard me correctly: I want animals to be able to sue human beings in the court of law.

Obama: Thank you very much. Advisor #3...diversity is really important to me as well. What does diversity mean to you, exactly?

#3: Diversity is the cornerstone of America, and I believe that it is especially important to uphold diversity in the media. I am opposed to any form of private ownership of media. I am proposing that radio companies pay 100% of their operating budget yearly, and that 100% is essentially a tax that will then be passed on to the state-controlled radio station. If a small station cannot pay that tax, they will forfeit their license and it will be sold to a minority group. Here's the best part: no one in America will ever speak out *against* diversity! If they did that, they'd be labeled as a racist, bigot, etc.! What this means, Mr. President, is that I can essentially control the airwaves and wipe out any opposition (Republicans, Conservatives) that I so choose. I want to monitor radio stations for political content and use fines to control what personalities say. And I want to return to the days of the Fairness Doctrine, which basically prevents conservative radio shows from voicing their opinions.

Obama: Advisor #3, can I ask you about some of your influences?

#3: Of course. At a recent conference for media reform, I openly spoke about my admiration for Hugo Chavez, the President of Venezuela, and his take on the media in his country. For instance, Chavez would financially strangle groups that criticized the government. But I have also talked about the fact that America opposed the Chavez "democratic" revolution. So does this mean that I want our enemies to succeed? And by enemies, I mean those who do not support and protect the principles of the inalienable rights and freedoms *previously* protected in our constitution. Karl Marx is also hero of mine, as I am

wildly anti-capitalist and pro-regulation.

Obama: Advisor #1, it sounds to me like you're a man who cares about more than just green jobs. What are your interests, and what ideas do you have for our government?

#1: Well, I've said before that I want a *new* system. I've said that we have made mistakes in the past, and there must be justice done to the people who have made those mistakes. I recently spoke about the redistribution of wealth based on race. And I'd be very excited to lead your "green jobs" team so that I can speak out against the American government system and the very fundamentals that have made our country an economic superpower.

Obama: Advisor #2, I'd much rather meet someone in person, so I've never tried online dating. What do you think about that and the internet phenomena?

#2: If I had it my way, I would know about every internet conversation you've ever had. I want to regulate all online communication in such a way that the White House will control what people can and can't say. I also want to hold bloggers accountable and, in the process, destroy the first amendment in the process.

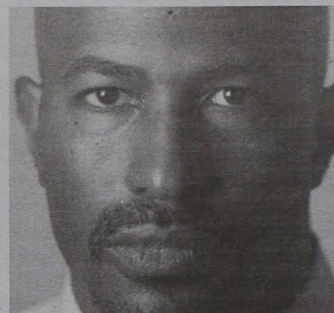
Host: Well, President Obama, it's time to make a decision. Which special advisor will it be?

Obama: Gee, I can't choose any one of you...so I'm going to take all three! Congratulations, and welcome to your new positions in the White House!

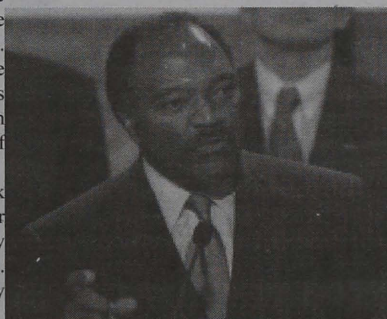
Host: See you next time on "The Dating Game"! (audience applause)

This is not about party lines. It isn't Republicans vs. Democrats, conservatives vs. liberals, either. This is about wrong vs. right. So take a look at the people who have the ear of your President: former terrorists, radical Marxists, those who support the reduction of your rights in the constitution. I'll ask you now: is this what you believe in? Is this what you voted for?

**Do you think Zach is crazy?
Do you agree with him?
We want to know! Send your letter to him by 5p.m. Friday, September 18th and you might see it printed in an upcoming issue!
All letters should be 500-700 words.
Any questions/letters should be e-mailed to
zashamberg@ursinus.edu**



Van Jones. Photo courtesy of Google images.



Mark Lloyd. Photo courtesy of Google images.

Missed opportunities but still optimistic for rest of season

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It was not exactly the best performance to have against the Messiah Falcons, but Ursinus's Field Hockey team is still working hard to defend their reputations and titles after Saturday, September 6th's game.

Ursinus scored early with a goal from Capt. Jessica Zatwarnicki, but the Bears could not find their footing during a three-minute span where fourth-ranked Messiah ended up with a 3-1 lead. Rallying in the second-half, Jennifer Bayzick scored off a corner-assist from Bridget Resetco. Messiah retaliated with another goal mid-half that set Ursinus back even more on the scoreboard (4-2). The deficit was cut down again after a goal from Alyssa Thren off an assist from Jen Hooven. Ursinus did have two more attempts at goal, but Messiah's goalkeeper saved one attempt and the other went wide. The game ended 4-3, Messiah.

When asking Coach Laura Moliken, she explained that the key to a competitive game like the one versus Messiah was which team took the best advantage of their opportunities. With a few defensive mistakes during that three-minute span in the first half, Messiah easily took and kept the lead for the rest of the game. However, the overall performance, effort and intensity Coach Moliken saw in most of the first and the second half is something that pleases her.

Captains Jessica Zatwarnicki and Katie Hunt agree, "We played hard and with attitude and intensity and dominated the game from the beginning... The game didn't go our way, however we played with a lot of heart and didn't give up."

"That effort and drive is something we can build on," Coach Moliken added. Other Ursinus strengths that were shown in this game were the team's overall consistency, ability to not just play off emotions and the ferocity of the team's defense.

Looking toward the future, the team's biggest weakness could be their schedule. There is a cluster of tough teams that will be played early in the season that

could prove to be vital and hazardous while preparing for conference and NCAA championships.

Coach Moliken is optimistic when she says, "It will be a test to keep up the intensity at practice and continue to get better as we prepare for tournament time."

There is another weary factor to consider when looking at this year's field hockey team: one-third of the squad was lost to graduating seniors. Many of those seniors were starting, experienced players with high goal-scoring averages. Again, Capt. Jessica Zatwarnicki is just as optimistic as her coach.

"After losing four great seniors last year we had a few voids to fill, but likely we have a lot of talented players that have filled the spots seamlessly... We are very lucky this year that we have a lot of players who can contribute positively and effectively," says Zatwarnicki.

Every game they are reminded they should, "Leave nothing". Adopted as the team motto for 2009, it is screamed before each game. The team's next opportunity



Alyssa Thren (above) was named the Centennial Conference player of the week for Field Hockey. Thren is a sophomore forward from Upper Perkiomen. Seven goals and one assist gave her 15 points so far this season. The team travels to Salisbury this weekend for a tournament. The next home game will be on September 22nd against TCNJ at 7p.m. Photo and information courtesy of ursinus.edu.

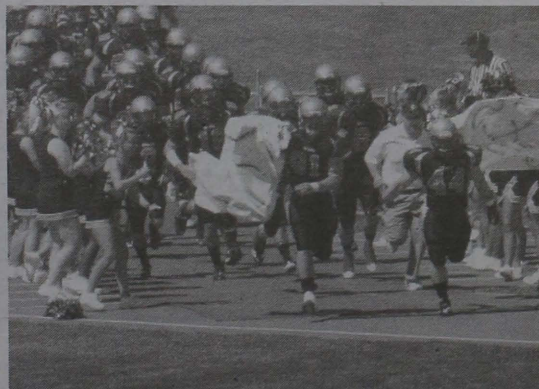
to "Leave Nothing" will be a Salisbury University Invitational Tournament on Sunday the 13th at 2p.m. and a conference home game on Tuesday, September 22nd versus TCNJ at 7p.m.

UC Football gets hit with a loss from Albright College

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As the practices got longer, the players grew more tired, but the team and its fans became increasingly more excited. The UC football team was about to start their season and were ready to incorporate their new blood to make a tremendous turnaround from their last season of underachievement. The players ran out onto the field to

photos courtesy of Rodolfo Coplin



their adrenaline rushing theme song and gathered into their huddle for their pre-game ritual. After all of the pre-game customs were complete, the game against Albright College was underway.

The Bears kicked the ball off and shutdown the return. Albright returned the ball for a mere 10 yards. The Bears special teams seemed to be sturdy. The first big play of the game came off of a penalty. Albright's quarterback attacked the Bear's freshman cornerback Chris Roundtree on a deep pass, but it resulted in offensive pass interference: pushing Albright's offense further away from scoring position.

On offense, the Bears struggled. During the first quarter, wide receiver, Al Desiderio dropped two early passes, one that resulted in an interception and a huge swing in momentum. After snagging a big first down, he was once again favored. His catch would not come before Albright scored on a long play-action touchdown pass in the beginning of the second quarter. Albright would follow that up with a long touchdown run



straight through the Bears defense. The Bears had several red zone opportunities, but failed to capitalize as they went for it on the fourth down. By halftime, the score was 21-3, in favor of the Lions.

The second half wasn't anything more than a seemingly discouraged team and a dominant opponent. The Bears lost 28-3. The glimpses of sparks came from the punt returns of freshman cornerback Roundtree and wide receiver Kahlil Pittman: two players that should see more touches this season. Both players seem to provide a needed explosiveness for the Bears. The crowd, on the other hand, never seemed passionate enough to have an effect on the game and the players didn't execute at their best. The Bears have some pieces in place but now they need to connect those pieces in order to take it to the next level. The season is far from over and we may or may not see changes with starters and substitutes, but the Ursinus Bears have what it takes to make a championship run. The question is, can they dig deep and find it within themselves?