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The Grizzly, September 16, 2010

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The Grizzly

The student newspaper of Ursinus College

Collegeville, Pennsylvania

Thursday, September 16, 2010

Vol 35, Iss 3

Activities Fair brings light to organizations

By Rosie Clark
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The Activities Fair last Wednesday, Sept. 8, offered just a taste of what campus life has to offer for new and returning students alike.

For Ursinus students, the start of another school year means fresh opportunities to get involved, to be active, and to try new things on campus. Ursinus boasts nearly one hundred organizations and clubs that provide political voice, creative outlets, community, and, most importantly, countless ways to make the most out of your college experience. From French culture to Ninjutsu, there is a club or organization for every passion and interest.

If trivia is your game, ask the president, Helen Seiracki, about the Ursinus College Quiz Club's annual intra-school and student-faculty competitions. Love awesomely bad movies? Talk to officers Josh Tanenbaum

and Chris Michael about the Riff Club, a group that meets every weekend to share a good laugh over bad acting in the style of Mystery Science Theater 3000. And for those of you hoping for a fun evening without the morning hangover, attend one of the Campus Activities Board's Monday night meetings in the Wismer Lower Lounge and meet the organization that has been "Doing Stuff Since 1869."

CAB, led by President Elizabeth Burns, sponsors free nonalcoholic events on and off campus, like the recent foam par-



Robert Whitehead introduces a passing student to the Ursinus Gay Straight Alliance at the Activities Fair. Photo courtesy of Rosie Clark

ty and the always popular Casino Night, to be held this semester just before final exams.

Ursinus' numerous organizations for the arts offer excit-

ing opportunities for creativity. Anyone with an appreciation for

"School Clubs" is continued to News, page 3.

Computer Science students begin exciting new projects

By Christine Dobisch
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The digital world has established a firm grasp on the members of our generation. It is very rare to find an instance where the internet has not penetrated some area of our lives. However, many of us overlook the source for this phenomenon—the ingenuity of computer scientists.

Dr. April Kontostathis, an 8-year veteran of the Computer Science department at Ursinus, is inspiring her Object Oriented Design and Systems Development (CS-375) class to embark on a variety of innovative projects for the fall semester. After serving in the work force for 13 years, Kontostathis returned to the world of academia to earn her doctorate. This change in career paths eventually led her to Ursinus, where

she now specializes in information retrieval and data mining.

According to Kontostathis, basic information retrieval entails finding, "a little nugget of information in this huge corpus of potential interesting stuff." In its most basic sense, information retrieval is comparable to the widely-known Google search. In some way, Ursinus students participate in some form of information retrieval with every click of a mouse.

Among the current projects in the mentioned class is one in which students will join forces with the Environmental Studies department to create a web page that features data gathered from a campus weather station. The station, located on top of Myrin

"Computer Science" is continued to News, page 3.

UC United Society of Leaders emerges on campus

By Katie Callahan
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New regulations on campus involvement brought mixed feelings from the student-body this past Thursday evening, Sept. 9th. Senior Bridget Resetco announced at the USGA meeting that UC United Society of Leaders would be mandatory for all AFAC funded club/organizational presidents.

The society, which was formally known as UC United in the start-up of its debut in fall 2009, is led by senior (unelected) facilitators Tony Ubertaccio, Davis Howley, Kyle Shelton, and Resetco. The four students hope to bring together leaders of the campus to strengthen communication between members of the Ursinus community and create inter-group collaboration. The group follows the mis-

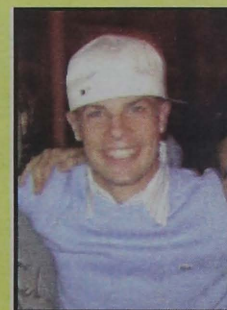
sion statement, "To build, focus, and unite student leadership through education, civil engagement, and inter-group collaboration by providing a forum for leadership discourse and community development," and was started after a grant from the Teagle Foundation found that students felt communication was lacking between groups on campus.

The society was built around the presidents of clubs/organizations on the notion that someone thought of that person as a leader.

"The idea is not to make people do what they don't want to do but to convince them that it is in their best interest to be there," says Resetco in regards to the mandatory meetings. The meetings will be

"Leaders" is continued to Features, page 5.

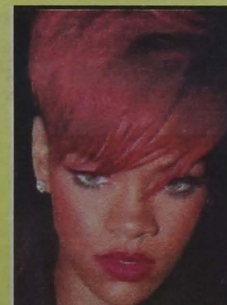
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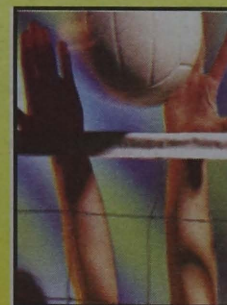
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International News with Lisa: Mudslide in Guatemala kills dozens

By Lisa Jobe
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Nearly 100 Guatemalans missing after mudslide

Sunday, Sept. 5
GUATEMALA CITY, GUATEMALA – At least 28 people are dead in Guatemala after torrential rains caused multiple mudslides. Many of the deaths occurred as a result of accidents along the same highway. The first highway slide occurred on Saturday; 12 people

were killed when a bus was partially buried in mud. President Alvaro Colom declared a national emergency and called for the closure of the highway. However, another slide occurred on the same highway a few hours later.

Officials reported that some of the people who came to rescue those caught in their vehicles became caught in the mudslide themselves. A Civil Defense official told reporters that 60 people were missing, while a regional fire chief told reporters that 150 individuals were missing after the mudslides. (*Associated Press, hosted by Google*)

Australia elects first female prime minister

Tuesday, Sept. 7
AUSTRALIA – Julia Gillard became Australia's first elected female prime minister after independent lawmakers broke the parliamentary deadlock. Gillard, the leader of the center-left

Labor Party, now has the votes to form a government, after the August 21 election did not produce a clear winner, resulting in the first hung parliament since Australia's 1940 federal election.

Gillard ran against conservative Tony Abbott. Independent parliament members Tony Windsor and Rob Oakeshott both cast their votes with Gillard, giving her the 76 votes needed for a parliamentary majority.

The candidates campaigned on issues such as immigration policy, Australia's aging labor force, and balancing urban and rural interests. (*CNN.com, with additional information from Wikipedia*)

Suicide bomb kills 16 in Russia

Friday, Sept. 10
NORTH OSSETIA, RUSSIA – A suicide bomber detonated a car full of explosives in Russia's North Ossetia republic on Thursday morning, killing 16 people and injuring at least

100. The bomb exploded in a market in the republic's capital of Vladikavkaz at 11:30, when the market was most busy.

According to an interior ministry spokesman, the body of the bomber was found inside the car. No one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack, but Thursday evening the chief of Russia's Federal Security Service said that three suspects had been detained.

There has been conflict among the region's many nationalities for years. According to experts, attacks have increased in numbers recently. (*Los Angeles Times*)

France continues to deport Roma immigrants

Friday, Sept. 10
FRANCE – France will not stop deporting Roma individuals, despite mounting European Union pressure to change their policy. On a visit to Romania, the French Immigration Minis-

ter said that France would help Roma integration within Romania. In return, Romanian Foreign Minister Teodor Baconschi said that Romania would draw up integration plans and send additional police to Paris to help fight crime committed by Romanians.

The Roma, or Gypsy, are an ethnic group widely dispersed across Europe. Since Bulgaria and Romania joined the EU, many Roma have come to France in search of a better life. However, French President Nicolas Sarkozy has claimed that the Roma people resort to crime, prostitution, and the exploitation of children.

European Members of Parliament called for France to immediately suspend its deportations. Their resolution says that the mass expulsions of Roma amounts to "discrimination on the basis of race and ethnicity." However, Besson says that France will not comply with the resolution (*BBC News Online*)

Brandon Kamin launches into MC role for ABC's show "Eaglemania"

By Artemis Pagan Callagan
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"You grow up doing dance, theater, radio and sports, and it's hard to make them click," says UC's own Brandon Kamin, but he has managed to do just that.

A 21-year-old senior media and communications major, with dance and theater minors, Brandon "The Kid" premiered as the lead MC of ABC's new show "Eaglemania" this Saturday, Sept. 11.

The show airs every Saturday night at midnight, competing with Saturday Night Live, with reruns Fridays at 1 a.m.

How this all came together deals with connections, hard work, and professionalism.

As Kamin shared, "My mom told me, 'Brandon, it really is what and who you know – but dammit it's how you perform!'"

Kamin started working for 610 WIP Sports Talk Radio when he was 14-years-old, and all the midnight coffee runs he was sent on paid off.

When he started his radio show in high school, which he later brought to Ursinus' WVOU, he started asking people from WIP to come in as guests, and from there, along with his ties from the theater and dance world, he would ask for references.

Professionalism was important from the start. "I like to have guests call in first so they can hear my voice," Kamin says. He takes these calls as a chance to show his guests that he is personable and will not ask the same old questions.

When Tony Luke, the host of "Eaglemania", was first invited onto the show, he was surprised at Kamin's knowledge of his musical and theatrical career. Tony Luke came back a couple more times, and even performed in Relay for Life last year. Kamin made quite the strong impression, and was offered an audition with ABC.

As an MC in a live audience show at the Trocadero Theatre in Philadelphia, Kamin opens the show on camera, entertains the audience with the band during breaks, and does segments at the Eagles' games and around the city.

He says he's very thankful to Domenick Scudera for getting him involved in workshops with Tongue 'N Groove, an improvisational group that visited Ursinus last year. Now that he will be dancing and joking on live TV, a bit of improv training will go a long way.

Back at Ursinus, Kamin is still doing his radio show – but he's making it bigger. Since big college-based radio shows are not very common, he says he has

personally designated his show "the Nation's #1 ranked college TV/radio program," and plans to make it so.

His program can now be

heard either via audio stream at wvou.ursinus.edu, or in a video

"Brandon Kamin" is continued to News, page 3.

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Brandon Kamin poses with the team that makes his weekly radio show possible.

Photo courtesy of Brandon Kamin.

“Computer Science” is continued from front page.

Library, collects information such as the local temperature, rainfall, and humidity. This data not only provides the means necessary to create an up-to-date weather forecast, but can be used to compare weather trends in previous years. If the project is successful, the website will be available to the Ursinus community by the end of the semester.

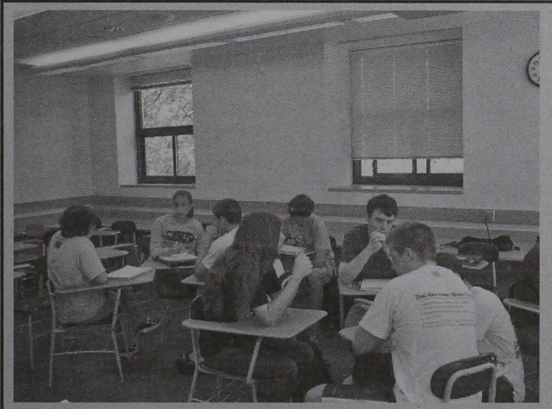
“A lot of the projects are student-driven,” said Kontostathis, “Often, a student will come to me who expresses interest in a particular area.” The students contributing to the weather monitoring project include Amos Almy, Jennifer Bayzick, Brad Bazow, and Magdalena Parks.

“The way the class works is that they’ll put us in a real-life situation, like we’ll sit down with a client and they’ll tell us exactly what kind of project they want,” added sophomore Ben Kelly. “It’s what we would be doing if we were to go into business.”

Indeed, many of the projects in this class provide solutions to real-life problems, such as cyber bullying. Members of the department are in the process of using data mining techniques, such as scanning the internet and chat logs, to crack down on online predation.

Another project in the works is a music-related venture with Professor Holly Gaines. Gaines asked the class to convert a music diagram she created into an electronic format. According to Ben Kelly, “The diagram consists of a tree, where the trunk is a specific genre of music, the roots being what contributed to this genre, and the branches of the tree being what the genre has contributed towards.” This project will allow music students to access this information in a much quicker and simpler manner.

Although the endeavors in the Computer Science department are far too often out of earshot for many Ursinus students, their projects this semester will undoubtedly expose the connections between student use and student innovation.



Students in Dr. Kontostathis' System Development class brainstorm their newest projects. Photo by Dr. Kontostathis

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:

- Joel Bish, Psychology
- Rebecca Jaroff, English
- Greg Scanton, MCS
- Matthew Shoaf, Art
- Louise Woodstock, MCS

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 8, 2010.

“School Clubs” is continued from front page.

the fine arts can ask President Jacqui Bowen about Berman Buddies, an organization whose mission is to, “bridge the gap between students and art at Ursinus by creating awareness and appreciation of art in our everyday lives.”

Student dancers, from the classically trained to those just looking to bust a move, can look into Escape Velocity, the entirely student run dance company headed by President Brittany Gogluizza. Escape Velocity's first performance of the year, entitled “Luminosity,” will run from Oct. 28th-30th in the Helfferich dance studio.

For the poets, writers, and visual artists among us, Ursinus College's literary magazine, *The Lantern*, is accepting submissions for its annual publication until Oct. 30th. As editor Abby Raymond will tell you, “*The Lantern* helps to create a community of artists on campus,” a community that breathes creative energy into campus life.

Ursinus College, which was recently commemorated on the 2009 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, offers students countless community service and outreach opportunities. Best Buddies, led by President Kaitlyn Cherry, connects students to individuals

with mental disabilities, creating one-to-one friendships and great learning experiences.

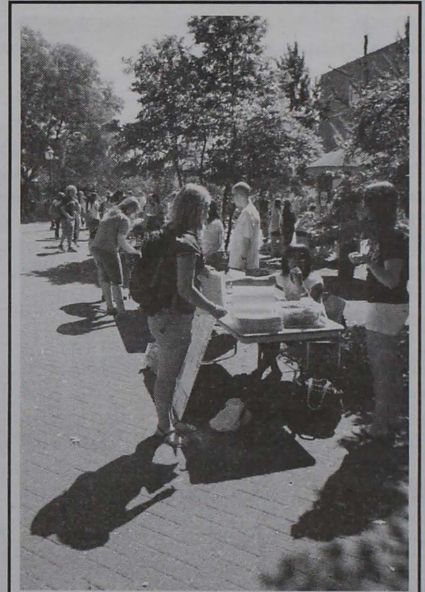
Anyone with a green thumb can take a walk over to the organic garden, a student project turned community program that gives the disadvantaged access to fresh, chemical-free produce. Environmental Studies major Julia Bull says the garden has been life-changing. “There is nothing like planting a seed and watching it grow into a beautiful ripe tomato,” she said, “or pulling a fresh carrot out of the ground.”

Ursinus' political action organizations offer students a voice in today's most contentious issues. The campus chapter for STAND, Students Taking Action Now, works to raise awareness of genocide as well as global humanitarian efforts. This year, the organization as led by Lindsay Hogan will focus on the crisis occurring in the Congo.

Ursinus College's Gay Straight Alliance “provides a family community” for LGBTQA students. President

Robert Whitehead calls the GSA “an open, fun-loving group that just wants to promote the message of equality at Ursinus College.” With the countless awareness groups taking a stand on campus, students of all backgrounds, lifestyles, and convictions are sure to have their voices heard.

This fall semester, dare to try new things and become more involved in UC student life. One is sure to discover new friends and new insights into one's self and the world around him/her. With student life at Ursinus, the possibilities are endless!



Interested students browse the numerous clubs represented at the Activities Fair last Wednesday. Photo by Brianna Gaddy

“Brandon Kamin” is continued from page 2.

version through Ustream at www.brandonkamin.com – which has the added fun of a viewer count and a chat room. Brandon's Ursinus-based show will air Friday nights 7-10pm.

The radio show's *raison d'être* is to give people an artistic look at Philly, stay up to date on sports, and to give students abroad a feeling of connection to campus. As a result, his wide reaching programming is bringing in sponsors from all over.

There is no money exchange for these sponsors. Kamin receives gift cards from different companies in exchange for his crediting them. He gives the cards away during different segments of his show, for instance the 50th caller or to the caller with the best joke.

Although the show is named after him, Kamin credits “his in-

credible team” for the program's fluidity. His show is a well-greased engine, with six other students as, “partners in crime,” and the occasional visits from the “Beeratoes”, a group of six singing football players. The show is like a little fraternity, he tells us, with Kristen Gallagher, or Miss

KG, as their new voice of reason. A television concept is already in Kamin's post-graduation plans which is currently being filed to be patented with his New York City lawyers. Kamin says, “It involves traveling to different schools... and if I told you anything else I'd have to kill you.”



Brandon Kamin poses with Villanova linebacker Terence Thomas, and Amanda from Club Risque, during the premier of his Brandon Nightly talk show in the blackbox theater last spring. Kamin has been working with radio stations since age 14 and plans on looking into launching a television show involving college campuses post-graduation. Photo courtesy of Brandon Kamin

Calorie counting hits Zack's

By Elizabeth Burns
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At the beginning of this semester, calorie counts were posted on the new menus in Zack's in order to follow the trend of offering nutritional information at national food establishments, explained Ron Wood, the General Manager of Ursinus College Dining Services.

Currently, the calorie counts are only available on Sandella's Flatbread Café and Subconnection's menus; however, Sodexo, Ursinus' dining services provider, supplies the menus and is responsible for adding the calorie counts to the boards.

Wood commented, "[Calorie counts are] obviously something that people would like access to and I think that our company realizes that and is trying to provide it in an easy to use format, meaning on the menu boards."

Even so, there are mixed reviews among the student body as to whether the calorie counts will even affect the student's mealtime decisions.

Junior Nick Grajewski stated, "I go strictly for deliciousness and calories really have no effect on my decision. Especially if I'm living an active lifestyle and not like being overbearing with what I eat, then it doesn't matter what I eat just as long as I monitor the portions."

Junior Alina Tinjala also believes that the counts will not affect what she eats because of her lifestyle, "I feel like I don't have many choices [in Zack's], I'm a pescatarian—I don't eat chicken or beef or pork."

And yet, Chelsey Nehila, an admittedly health conscious junior, feels the opposite, "You know, even though I like the

chicken, broccoli and cheddar bowl, its 850 calories. That just turns me away from it. I no longer want to eat it."

Despite the wide range of personal reactions, most agree that the calorie counts were a good addition to the menu for those who are calorie conscious.

Clearly, the calorie counts will affect each student differently. So far, dining services has not seen any change in student's ordering habits that would suggest the calorie counts have had an impact. Although, Marianne DiEgidio, Retail Director for Zack's stated, "We have kiosk ordering here. No one really looks up at the menu boards." Therefore, the unchanged ordering at Zack's may not only result from the student's mealtime decisions, but also their lack of realization that the calorie counts are easily available to them.

Even so, it is not surprising that eating habits vary throughout campus. According to "Avoid the Freshmen 15," by Diana Rodriguez, from *EverydayHealth.com*, making nutritionally sound choices is more difficult for college students because of their lifestyle. Not only are students stressing, getting inadequate sleep and eating at irregular times, but the variety of foods available, both healthy and unhealthy, pose an issue.

Students often choose to eat foods they like

instead of foods they need or they will eat larger portion sizes then necessary, as explained in "Healthy Dining Hall Habits" by *Teen Health from Nemours*.

Even a person's friends can affect their nutritional habits. "Since I live with a bunch of dudes who order just out all the time, no offense to them, but I just eat more than I should," explained Grajewski.

But in the end, each person must choose their eating habits for themselves. According to Wood, Zack's and Wismer Dining Hall can be equally healthy, "It's based on the individual's choices...We try to provide a lot of different choices for a lot of different tastes out there."

Both Wood and DiEgidio believe calorie counts will eventually be posted in Wismer Dining Hall as well. But for the time being, students can go to the Dining Services website and check the entire nutritional break down of the menu in Wismer for that day.

If any additional nutritional information is needed in either Zack's or Wismer, Dining Services would be happy to provide it upon request.



Photo courtesy of google.com

Theater preview

By Kevin Tallon
ketallon@ursinus.edu

On the playbill for this semester are two shows that are sure to please the audiences. First up, Professor Beverly Redman is directing *The Merchant of Venice* by William Shakespeare in November. As all Ursinus students may be aware *The Merchant of Venice* is one of the books that freshmen read for CIE.

Professor Roger Florka will be playing, Shylock, the only male casted role. The other roles will strictly be played by women. There is also an experimental side to the show: the setting has been changed to present day New York City, and the majority of the cast will be kids from the Hamptons. Professor Redman stated, "I love the willingness to play, and the fearlessness that those who auditioned have already shown."

The Merchant of Venice will be open to the general public, but it will also serve the campus as a CIE event. Show dates for *The Merchant of Venice* are Nov. 17th-20th at 7:30 p.m. in the Lenfest Theater.

The second show being put on by the Ursinus Theater Company is *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* by Dale Wasserman based on the novel by Ken Kesey. This show is being directed by Profes-

sor Domenic Scudera. Scudera said one of the reasons he picked this show was to balance the large female cast that would be in *The Merchant of Venice*, being that the majority of the roles are male. He believes that this show is very dynamic because it is presented differently than the movie that many are more familiar with. He believes that the cast will be presented with a rewarding challenge

of developing and crafting the complex characters that make this show work.

Scudera believes that the audiences will respond well to the show, mostly because of the character dynamic. This show also promises some intricate set work that will allow the audience to feel as if they are not just watching the show, but that they are really a part of the production.

Along with some unique lighting techniques, the show is sure to be amplified in excitement.

This year marks the 35th anniversary of the film adaptation of the novel that starred Jack Nicholson.

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest will be in the Black Box Theater of the Kaleidoscope from Oct. 6th-9th at 7:30 p.m.

Make sure to reserve your tickets early by calling the Box Office as seats fill quickly for UC theater productions.

The Merchant of Venice:

Nov. 17th-20th
7:30 p.m.
Lenfest Theater

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest:

Oct. 6th-9th
7:30 p.m.
Black Box Theater

Word on the Street

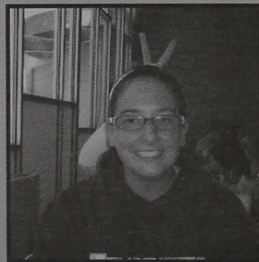
with Katie Haldeman
kahaldeman@ursinus.edu

"What celebrity do you want to see on campus?"



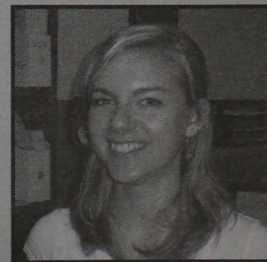
Sarah Ryan
Poughkeepsie, NY
Sophomore; Undeclared

"Will Farrell or Zach Galifianakis!"



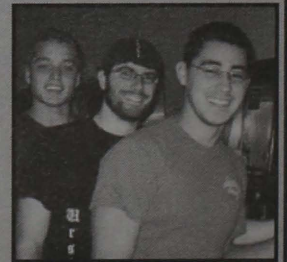
Amanda McBride
Drexel Hill, PA
Junior; English

"Ke\$ha!"



Elizabeth Burns
PA
Junior;

"The cast of Glee!"



Dave Wagner (English), Jake Frey (Business & Econ), and Phil Quick (Biology)
Sophomores

"Taylor Swift!"

Meet up with two new professors on campus

By Joshua Walsh
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Anyone who has ever taken part in the Ursinus community and had the opportunity to ask how a given student or faculty member came to work here would probably agree on one thing, there are more pathways leading to and from Ursinus than there are cracks in the deserts of Arizona. On that note, Meet the Professors will cover two new professors: Dr. Julia Koeppel, PhD at University of California San Diego with undergraduate studies at Hope College, and Dr. Eric Gaus, PhD of University of Oregon with undergraduate studies at Boston University.

Dr. Julia Koeppel always

knew she wanted to teach, but she wasn't always sure about exactly *what*. Koeppel says, "it took me a little longer to figure out who and what. In college I decided that I liked research too, so I decided that college teaching would be best for me." So, Koeppel went ahead and received her degree in chemistry and biochemistry at Hope College before getting her doctorate at UC San Diego and doing postdoctoral research at Oxford University.

But Koeppel is more than just a biochemist and scholar. Among her many hobbies are reading and baking.

"I read a lot of books - mostly fiction and mysteries," she says. Koeppel is very generous with her confectionary talents,

"my colleagues at San Diego and in Oxford were treated to a lot of cookies, cakes and pies." Also, she not only belly dances but has performed in a show.

Her journey to Ursinus only seemed natural, "I attended a liberal arts college similar to Ursinus, and I found that to be very rewarding as a student. I liked having access to my professors and being in smaller classes. I try to provide students the same attention I received as a student," she said.

One of her future dreams is to travel, "I want to see Central America and Australia. I would like to make it to all the continents - I'm well on my way, but I haven't quite made it yet!"

Dr. Eric Gaus brings his

own skills and journey to the table. His journey to Ursinus was a little cloudier than Dr. Koeppel's. He was not as certain about his teaching prospects as she was, saying that, "when I started college I wanted nothing more than to be in college as a student for a living." So how and why would someone like Gaus end up teaching at Ursinus? He wanted to live and work in a college, one like he himself had attended, and, "the closest thing to that is becoming a faculty member."

Gaus shared a story that taught him a lesson that he hopes to instill in students at Ursinus, "When I went to BU one of the first courses I ever took was very similar to CIE here at Ursinus. The first dis-

ussion class I had, the professor walked in with a trench coat on, one of those old school rain hats and a goofy smile on his face. He threw his hat on the table in the front of the class and didn't say a word. He just walked over to the garbage can, looked in, picked up a Snapple bottle from inside, swished around what was left, then opened it and took a sip. It was such a mind opening experience. When I teach I hope that I reach a few students in the same way that professor reached me."

Each student, faculty, staff, and member of the Ursinus community brings a lifetime of experiences to it, including Drs. Eric Gaus and Julia Koeppel.

Blend Cafe hosts open mic night for students and community

By Lisa Jobe
lijobe@ursinus.edu

Students. A young couple. A mother and baby. Churchgoers. No wonder it's called Blend Café.

Blend Café's owner and, currently, its only employee, offered me a free coffee (journalism is hard work) and told me a little about his dream of opening up a community coffee shop, and how that dream became a reality.

27-year-old Ryan DeFrain used to work as a youth pastor in a church that incorporated a small café style set-up into its youth group meetings.

"I realized I liked serving the coffee, making the drinks, hanging out with the kids in that environment more than actually working in the church," he explained. He decided on Colleg-

eville as the location for his own coffee shop, partly in the hopes of attracting Ursinus students.

Ursinus students receive a ten percent discount on any drink with their student ID, and there is a Facebook page for Blend Café, where special events and offers are posted.

DeFrain mentioned he is impressed with Ursinus so far, especially its high academic standards.

"I messed around most of high school. This would've never been on my list of schools," he laughed.

A host of Ursinus students came out to Blend Café Friday night for the café's weekly open mic night. Junior Liz Palovick and sophomore Tim Jordan performed covers of popular songs for the crowd.

"I had a fantastic time," said Palovick, praising Blend's atmosphere as, "chill and welcoming." She added, "I like to go there and study, and was happy to see how inviting they were for amateur artists like myself to come and jam at open mic."

She and Jordan plan to return next Friday to play again. DeFrain hopes to get more Ursinus students, as well as other members of the Collegeville community, involved in open mic nights.

For now, Blend Café is a quiet place, but DeFrain has big plans for its future. Even its name reflects those plans.

"My original idea for a coffee shop was to eventually do numerous coffee shops and the whole point of Blend was to take a coffee shop and another type of business, like a

bookstore or a music store, and incorporate them, or blend them," he explained. In the future, he hopes to expand Blend Café to numerous locations, "But we're not getting ahead of ourselves," he added.

For the time being, DeFrain hopes to shape Blend into what members of the Collegeville community - including Ursinus students - want to see.

DeFrain's coffees are organic, locally grown blends, and he hopes to bring in more soy-based products for vegetarian and vegan students. He is open to hosting art events, game nights, or any other ideas students have for events they would like to see. Blend is both an alternative to the library, and a destination for students on the weekends.

However, Blend Café is

not just geared toward students; in fact, its slogan is "a Community Coffeehouse".

"Ultimately the goal is that it's a place, you know, for people to gather," DeFrain said, "Build relationships, talk, enjoy life, whatever. Kinda like a bar without the alcohol. I believe a coffee shop should be at the center of what a town is."

Many would say that Blend Café is well on the way to being the sort of place where a town gathers.

Furthermore, many college students, still searching for their place in the world, might say that Blend Café is a success story the average person can enjoy.

"You don't have to be a rocket scientist to follow your dreams," DeFrain said.

that call themselves leaders and they don't really do anything."

In addition to McKinney, Athletic Director and Head Field Hockey Coach Laura Moliken, Campus Safety Director and Assistant Dean of Students Kim Taylor, and Assistant Dean for Civic Engagement and visiting professor Christian Rice all teamed up to help create more dialogue on campus between students last fall into the current year.

Although the group focuses on presidents, members of the Greek community, Athletic teams, Ambassadors, and Residence Life are all encouraged to join. Others in the Ursinus community are invited to submit applications for consideration which

will be advertised at a later date.

"We're trying to improve the community," said McKinney.

"There's so much potential to bring people together," Resetco says.

Lucy McNamara, assistant to McKinney, said Ursinus needs a better way to develop leadership on campus, and this is it.

"It's not about the structure of the organization, it's about the fundamentals," says McNamara, "We have to get people together and then fix what's wrong."

"I believe UC has the potential to develop the best leaders in the world, to support leaders that are already here, and to establish new ones," says Resetco.

Other students, like Karli

Scott, agree that the idea of the program is worthwhile to the community but do not agree that the meetings should be mandatory.

According to Resetco, if a member of the society has an unexcused absence from a meeting they are given a warning. After that, it is possible they could lose their title as president.

Murmurs through the Ursinus community also feared that the society was in conjunction with AFAC funding, but in fact it is a completely separate matter that is being handled by the USGA.

McKinney mentioned that if students want to find time to take part it is possible.

"I don't buy the excuse, 'I'm too busy.'"

A point that McKinney, McNamara, and Resetco all shared was if members of the community have the ability to effect change, they should.

Oct. 5th marks the first official meeting of the organization where all presidents of AFAC funded clubs/organizations will be in attendance along with Dean Nolan, Interim President John Corson, and others. At the meeting, if members of the society hold a majority vote, they can remove the mandatory aspect of the meetings. However, because this is such a large move for leadership on campus, facilitators and advisors alike hope the students see the benefits of keeping the meeting mandatory.

"Leaders" is
continued from front page

divided into two sections, forums and workshops. The forum will be for students to sit down and discuss different topics on leadership and workshops will focus on putting leadership theories into action.

Todd McKinney, an advisor to the organization as well as Associate Dean of Students and Director of Leadership Development and Student Activities, believes the campus is separated into, "Little islands... no one is talking to each other," and continued, "there are too many people on campus

Point: Music video is as controversial as it is important

By Sara Sherr
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Eminem and Rihanna's new music video to their song, "Love the Way You Lie," premiered on MTV on Thursday, Aug. 5th, and has been stirring up controversy ever since. Perhaps that's what the Eminem and Rihanna duet intended all along. The video is a rendition of what can happen when a relationship takes a turn for the worse and a couple uses violence to solve their problems.

Domesticviolence.org defines domestic violence as, "Behaviors used by one person in a relationship to control the other," which is certain-

ly what is depicted in this highly controversial music video, which brings to light the horror of being trapped in an abusive relationship.

Directed by Joseph Kahn, the video stars actress Megan Fox and *Lost* star Dominic Monaghan as the deeply troubled couple. While the message is troubling, the video is important, and Rihanna says that making the video was something that, "needed to be done (thehollywoodgossip.com)."

Whether it did indeed need to be done or not, it was done, and it is grabbing the country's attention. The song is number one on iTunes and the video is number one in America. People are clearly intrigued, including many of my fellow Ursinus students.

"The whole time I was wondering why she was staying with a guy who was like that," Senior Alex Shivers says, "but so many people do."

"It's definitely thought-

provoking," Ursinus sophomore Madeline McEvily says, "I've watched it multiple times and I'm still interested."

"It's so good," Junior Kristy George says, "it was so real and intense."

The video was filmed in order to spread awareness about the terrible occurrences in some relationships. Domestic violence is something that Thehollywoodgossip.com quotes Rihanna as saying, "[I] and Eminem have both experienced... on different sides... [Eminem] broke down the cycle of domestic violence, and it's something that people don't have a lot of insight on."

Longislandpress.com reports that, "Critics have mixed views about the message that the video is sending, but are agreeing on one thing." This common ground is expressed by Stephanie Nilva, executive director of sexual assault and trauma resource center Day One, for as she told MTV news, "the most important thing that the video is doing is raising the topic of dating violence among young people."

Personally, I find it is very necessary to be raising this topic, to be encouraging conversation about it. The Nation-

al Coalition against Domestic Violence (NCADV) reports that one in four women will experience domestic violence in her lifetime, and of this 25%, females who are between 20 to 24 years of age are at the greatest risk.

It just so happens that the people who are most likely to be victims of domestic violence are also the people who will most likely be watching the music video. They'll be thinking about it, talking about it, and maybe it'll help them recognize symptoms. It'll definitely keep this subject from being ignored.

"I don't think it was wrong at all of Rihanna to want to sing a song about what happened to her," Sophomore Abigail Rude says, "People go to therapists to talk about what happened to them, Rihanna is singing about it."

Part of the song is Eminem acknowledging and admitting the faults of the song's persona, the abusive boyfriend. At no point does Eminem state or

imply that this persona thinks what he's doing is right, and even says, "Who's that dude? I don't even know his name. I laid hands on her; I'll never stoop so

low again." This admittance could help listeners acknowledge that, perhaps if someone is abusing them, it's wrong.

Eminem's lyrics also act as a warning: "You don't get another chance, now you get to watch her leave out the window, guess that's why they call it

window pane." Hopefully abusive partners out there will take that as a warning that they really won't get another chance.

The best part about the music video, according to PerceHilton.com is that Megan Fox donated her appearance fee to the Sojourn House, a shelter for abused women. If nothing else, the video was productive in that an undisclosed amount was donated to Sojourn, which, "provides battered women and their children a safe space to regroup, rebuild, and reestablish their self-esteem and lives."

"...one in four women will experience domestic violence in her lifetime, and of this 25%, females who are between 20 to 24 years of age are at the greatest risk..."



Sara Sherr believes the message of domestic abuse is something that people should be aware of.
Photo by Carly Siegler

Counterpoint: New Eminem song is catchy, but unsettling

By Chris Capone
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I have been an Eminem fan ever since the "Slim Shady LP," so I am not very used to criticizing his work. Yet, even with my undeniable bias, I find it hard to be in love with his new song, "Love the Way You Lie."

I think it is very well done with its instrumentation and vocals, but it is difficult to look past some of the harsh lyrics. It's a song about an abusive relationship, something Eminem has rapped about many a time during the span of his controversial career.

I do understand if you like the song overall, because it is very catchy, but when you look deep-

er into what is really being said, you might reconsider whether it's something you can agree with.

The chorus begins with a female voice (Rihanna, who has her own history with abuse) who sings, "Just gonna stand there and hear me cry, that's alright because I love the way you lie." It's a great lyrical line, but it introduces us to the bigger problem that the song presents and the message it sends.

The girl in the music video, portrayed by Megan Fox, still has feelings for a guy who has used force on her multiple times. This is a situation that a lot of people have either experienced first-hand or through someone they know. For this reason, the song is also very relatable be-

cause so many people come into contact with dysfunctional relationships at one time or another.

Despite these moments of clarity, there are times when Eminem says things that most people would not agree with. So, what we end up with is a song that is relevant at times, with a catchy chorus, but with a few curious lines that send out a negative message. For example, the song ends in saying, "If she ever tries to f***ing leave again I'mma tie her to the bed and set the house on fire." It's a line that gets easily overlooked because of Eminem's speedy delivery, and also because it leads right into the chorus. Believe me, I am not one of those Anti-Eminem protesters who feels like he should be banned or not listened to. I love most of his work. It is just certain lines that make you reconsider how you feel about the entire song.

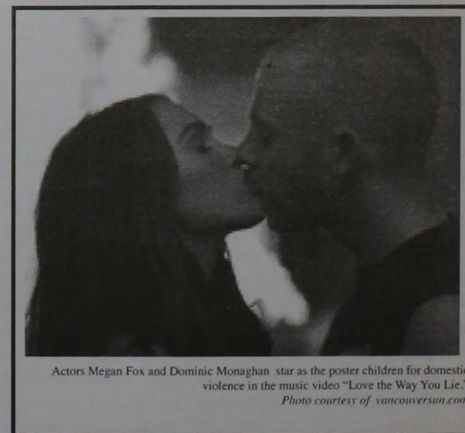
Most rational people who listen to the song are not going to go ahead and do any of the things

Eminem talks about so cavalierly, but what about the small group of people who aren't as logical or levelheaded? What if someone who really hates their significant other as much as the male in, "Love the Way You Lie" listens to the song and can relate completely to what is being said in its literal sense? Will that justify what they are doing? If someone who is the

victim of an abusive relationship listens, are they going to relate to the female chorus and think that it is OK to be lied to and mistreated?

Like I said, not everyone can understand the weight

behind the argument against this song because they're probably too removed from the situation that it presents. However, while there may be freedom of speech in this country, it is important for Eminem and other artists to realize the impact of their words and subject matter.

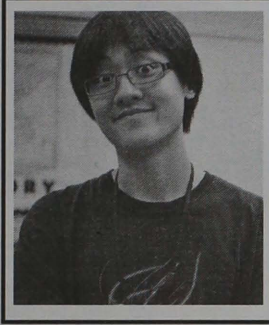


Actors Megan Fox and Dominic Monaghan star as the poster children for domestic violence in the music video "Love the Way You Lie."
Photo courtesy of vancouver_sun.com

"...I do understand if you like the song overall, because it is very catchy, but when you look deeper into what is really being said, you might reconsider whether it's something you can agree with..."

Primaries are more overrated than they are important

By KyuChul Shin
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Not too long ago, primary elections were custom-made for the political junkie. Nobody, absolutely nobody, except the diehards would ever care to follow them. That does not seem to be the case anymore. Recently, the media has kept

a close watch on Nikki Haley's struggle, and eventual triumph, as the Republican gubernatorial candidate for South Carolina, as well as the high-profile defeat of incumbent Senator Arlen Specter (D-PA). The shockwaves created by these events echoed not only throughout the political world, but throughout mainstream America as well, raising the question: How important are the primaries?

While the media is telling us that the primaries are now an important part of the American electoral system, as opposed to being a simple nuisance leading up to election day, we need to ask ourselves if it is really worth the average American's time to become invested in primaries.

Though they can be interesting to watch, the fact of the matter is that no one wins anything in a primary. The primary is in essence

just a qualification match. We all cheered on and watched the United States soccer team during the World Cup, but how many of us can say that we watched a World Cup qualification match between the United States and Honduras?

While Presidential primaries are always fascinating as they play out, these gubernatorial, Senate, and House primaries simply do not have the same intensity as John McCain's surge from nowhere to capture the 2008 Republican presidential nomination or Democrat Howard Dean's high-profile fall in 2004. Non-presidential primaries simply do not have the same intriguing storylines that the presidential primaries have, and to be honest, it usually seems that the candidates of the same party feel and look almost exactly the same.

Besides, the incumbent has

such a huge advantage in any election that it does not seem worth anyone's time to watch how something so predictable is going to play out. The advantage is even larger when the incumbent is up for his or her second term in office. This "sophomore surge" seems to ensure that an incumbent will score a victory. Watching a primary with an incumbent involved is about as suspenseful as a 41-0 football game in the fourth quarter.

Americans want primaries that are worthy of primetime: titanic clashes between two, or three, bitter rivals who will do anything to win the nomination. No one wants to see one candidate winning 78% of the vote. That is just boring.

Besides, are these candidates really going to make a difference in the long run? Say a politician

running for the Senate, House, or Governor's House somehow manages to pull off a victory. A single member of the 435 member House of Representatives or the 100 member Senate just does not have the power to make a large difference by his or herself, particularly if he or she is a freshman politician. Instead of watching one small fish in a sea of politicians, it is more important to look at the bigger picture.

So let's stop wasting our time on watching these primaries unfold and flip to a different channel for some real news. No matter how we look at it, primaries do not deliver any sort of tangible outcome and do not decide anything. As long as they do not play a role in choosing the actual politician who will take his or her seat in office, my attention and hopefully yours, will be on something else.

The unpredictable turmoils of the unreliable Ursinus WiFi

By James Shelton
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By the time I am writing this, the wireless connection seems to be up and running around campus, but I'm sure that everyone around here has noticed that the wireless connection has been spotty (to put it mildly) these past two weeks. I am also sure that I am not the only one that this has been a huge inconvenience for. When the internet was out, I could not check my e-mails or log onto Blackboard to check for assignments. I had to use the Ethernet cable to go online. Sometimes, I had to use my friends' computers.

I remember when the wireless network was first being set up all around campus. I lived in

New Hall my freshman year, right as the wireless connection was first being expanded to provide service for the whole campus. I remember the connection in New Hall was limited or nonexistent probably through the first half of the year. The wireless connection began working consistently by my second semester here, but I used my Ethernet cable constantly while I lived in New Hall, because I didn't know when the connection was going to work and when it wasn't.

The first week-and-a-half of this year has been like déjà vu to my freshman year. I didn't know when the wireless was going to work and most of the time, it was simply not connected. The first day I arrived on campus, the wireless was not connected. Then

the next day, it was connected and I thought the problem had been fixed. The next thing I know, the internet is out again and it's out longer than I thought it would be.

As I am writing this, the wireless has been connected for a few days and I have wireless in my room, but I can't help feeling a little anxious. I'm still not sure how long this wireless is planning to stick around. I guess I'll have to go through a few more weeks before I feel confident that the wireless is here to stay.

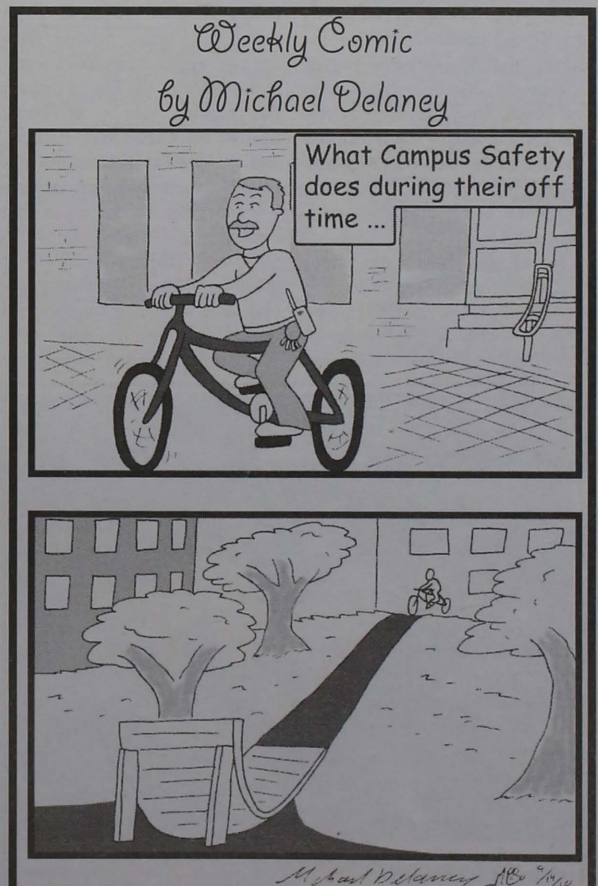
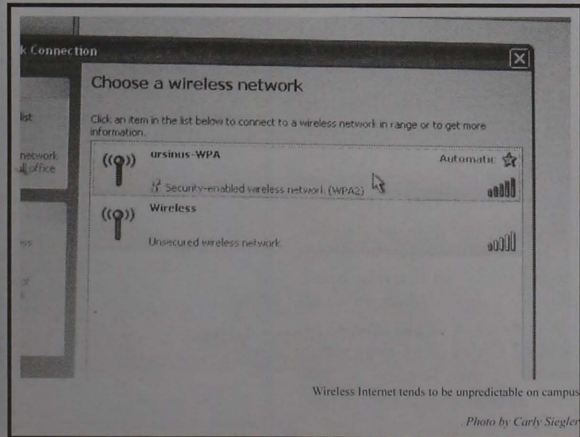
During the summer I have a wireless connection at my house and once I got my laptop connected to that wireless network, the internet continued to work, and work well. I got used to my internet connection at home, and many days I would spend hours relaxing on my couch, surfing the internet, and watching videos online.

Whenever I return to campus, I'm not sure how the wireless is going to work. I feel like there have been problems with the wireless network for my entire time here at Ursinus. I thought the bugs with the wireless network would have been worked out during my freshman year, but I am now a junior and there seem to be the same old problems every time I return to campus to start a new year.

I am curious about why it is so difficult to keep the wireless

running at a prestigious college like Ursinus, while the wireless network at my house functions with no issue. Right now the

internet is working well. I hope that the issues we had last week around campus have filled our quota for the year.



Ursinus Women's Volleyball heads into promising season

By Kaitlyn Ott
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After sweeping Immaculata and Widener this past week, the Ursinus Women's Volleyball team holds a winning home record. The Bears defeated each team in just three games to win the matches.

Their record stands at four wins and two losses. Head Coach Diana Clavin has six years of experience as a collegiate coach, five of them as head coach for the Bears. She is extremely happy with the team this year on and off the court.

"It's nice to see everyone get along," says Calvin, "they have a lot of fun on and off the court. It's great to see them gelling this year."

Assistant Coach Melissa George joins the team again for her second year.

Nine women make up the volleyball team this season, with seven returning players, a rookie sophomore, and one fresh-

man. Senior captains MaryKate Wilmoth and Gabby Galleo, along with junior captain Liz Roth help to motivate their team.

"I like to try to stay positive and make sure everyone comes in the middle after each play," says Roth, "I think the best way to keep everyone's heads up is by everyone being together and communicating with each other, so each person knows that the whole team is there for them."

Similarly, Wilmoth adds, "I try to lead by example. I try to stay positive and communicate throughout the whole match. I like to get really excited when we have a good play, hoping my excitement will pump up the rest of the team."

Although the roster has changed only slightly, the team is seeing a difference in play on the court.

"People are playing different positions than what they are used to," says Calvin, "for ex-

ample [Galleo] is playing the libero position rather than outside, and we're getting more out of other people than we have in the past. We are a lot more balanced in our stats, which is nice."

Regarding the most recent games versus Immaculata and Widener, everyone was pleased with the outcomes. Galleo and Wilmoth agreed the match against Immaculata was, "a good first home game win."

All three captains felt that part of the game got a little slow, but the team was able to pick it up and come out with the win. Coach Clavin adds, "We expected Tuesdays win against Immaculata, but last night's game [against Widener] was a pleasant surprise."

The team could not have been happier with the outcome of the match against Widener.

"Since my freshman year, we have never even taken a game from Widener, let alone win the match in three," says

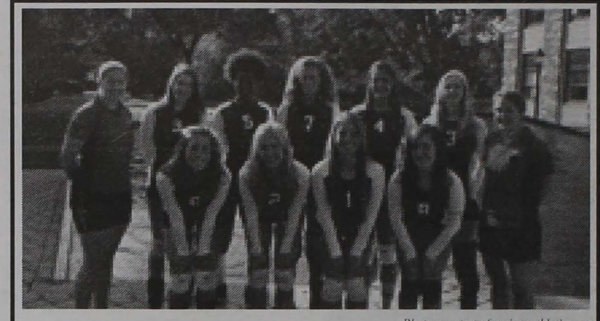


Photo courtesy of ursinusathletics.com

Wilmoth. Galleo adds, "Everyone gave everything they had, passes were great...[Roth] was all over the place giving great sets to everyone, and the front row was really swinging away; being smart with placement."

Considering the team's future, Galleo, Roth, Wilmoth, and Coach Clavin are all hoping for a great season. Roth states, "Already it's just much more positive this year, not just winning but all aspects of the team. I think if

we can keep each other together we can win a lot of games."

With already half as many wins as last year (8 and 25), Coach Clavin does not see any reason why the team cannot make play-offs, and the senior captains agree with their coach, adding, "We're predicting the best season yet. We may have a small team, but everyone plays their part really well. Everyone gives their all; we have a lot of heart. We're going to surprise a lot of teams this year."

Eagles open season with injuries, but hopeful

By Shane Eachus
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Stagnant and worrisome: two words that could be used to describe the Philadelphia Eagles pre-season efforts. Of course, off-season storylines were plenty for the Eagles, as 2010 marked the end of the Donovan McNabb era in Philadelphia. McNabb out, Kevin Kolb in, and with this, the Eagles looked to move their offense in a new direction.

This direction would be one of a more traditional West Coast style: short, quick completions and offensive efficiency.

Despite this supposed adjustment, through the course of 3 preseason contests, the Eagles hardly looked efficient, with their first team offense failing to register a touchdown.

On Sunday, the Eagles opened the regular season at home against the Green Bay Packers, and the preseason struggles appeared to continue and perhaps worsen. The Eagles fell to the Packers by a final score of 27-20, as the Birds scored 17 of the team's 20 points in the second half, with their number two quarterback leading the way.

In the first half, the Eagles were

able to net just 49 total yards from scrimmage, while Kolb did not do much in the way of efficiency, going 5 of 10 for 24 yards. As horrifying as those numbers may seem, there were more horrific sights for Eagles fans during that first half, as the team lost Pro Bowl fullback Leonard Weaver for the season on a nauseating leg injury that team officials have described as a torn knee ligament. The cornerstone of the Philadelphia offensive line, Jamaal Jackson, was also lost for the season to a torn biceps tendon.

Just when fans felt things could not get any worse, they did. Middle Linebacker Stewart Bradley and Kolb suffered concussions, and were visibly woozy. Both players returned to the field after their respective head rattlings in the second quarter, however neither returned after the half.

So, the debut of the Kolb era ended at halftime and in steps Michael Vick. Vick took substantial snaps at quarterback for the first time in a meaningful NFL contest since December of 2006, and he certainly did not disappoint.

Vick was the game's leading rusher, carrying 11 times for 103 yards, including a scintillating 31 yard scamper to the Packer 2 yard line, which set up the team's first touchdown, a 12 yard run by LeSean McCoy.

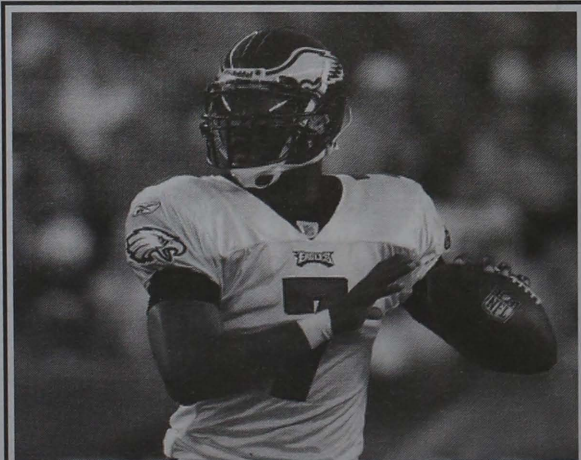
Vick also opened things up

in the passing game, as he completed 16 of 24 passes for 175 yards and a touchdown, which was thrown to second year wide receiver Jeremy Maclin at the start of the fourth quarter.

Defensively, the Eagles looked strong early and throughout much of the contest as they held the high powered Packer offense to just under 300 total yards. Swarming tackles and a great deal of pressure on Packers Quarterback Aaron Rodgers, highlighted the first half.

Overall, the team notched three sacks, two of which came from Juqua Parker, and two interceptions, one apiece for Joselio Hanson and rookie Safety Nate Allen. However, the defense staggered in the third quarter allowing 14 points, before buckling down in the fourth quarter, by which time it was too late. The Vick-led Eagles of the second half made a run at a comeback victory in front of a sold out crowd at Lincoln Financial Field, however Andy Reid's team was unable to pull out the win.

Now the Birds must head back to the proverbial drawing board, and the trainer's room, in an attempt to clean things up and get healthy before their next game, which is this Sunday at 1:00 p.m. against the Detroit Lions.



Michael Vick was the big player of the Eagles game vs. The Green Bay Packers
Photo courtesy of fmcnet.com

Upcoming Games:

Friday,
Sept. 17, 2010:

FHockey vs Haverford
4:00 p.m.

Neumann Tournament:

Volleyball vs. Penn State
1 p.m. Altoona
vs. Chestnut
4:30 p.m. Hill

Saturday,
Sept. 18, 2010:

m/w XC @ Cedar Crest
10:00-11:00 a.m.

Football vs. Juniata
1:00 p.m.

MSoccer vs. Gettysburg
3:30 p.m.