The Grizzly, September 5, 2000

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Freshman Clustering: Ideal Living or Mission Impossible?

Cara Nageli
Staff Writer

When room lottery and selection time came around last year, “freshman clustering” seemed to be Residence Life’s top priority. The plan seemed logical—the new, and sometimes traumatic, experience of being put into a new environment can be very stressful to an incoming freshman, and that stress could be eased by living with people who are going through the same thing. However, this plan was met by much complaining from upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allowed to upperclassmen not allow

This year, there are approximately 230 freshmen living in BPS, 58 in BWC, 65 in Remert, and 26 in campus houses. "The goal is to have the freshmen clustering together was such a priority, then why are 26 freshmen living in Main Street houses?"

Continued on Page 4
Outside News UC Should Know

World News

California Wine Country Shook by Quake

The Californian wine country was hit by an earthquake early Sunday morning. The earthquake had a magnitude of 5.2 on the Richter scale. The rumbling earth broke several gas and water mains and caused some damage to buildings in the area. Approximately twenty-seven people were injured when the quake hit around 1:30 am. Most of the injuries were a result of falling objects. The most serious of those injured was a five-year-old who is in critical condition as a result of a head injury. The trembling was felt as far south as San Francisco, nearly fifty miles away from the epicenter. Residents of the California wine country say this is the worst quake that they have ever experienced.

Local News

Philthy's Buildings Falling Down

Philadelphia's dilemma of collapsing homes worsened on Saturday when two row homes crumbled to the ground. The latest building to fall was situated in North Philadelphia in the 1600 block of North 27th Street. Building inspectors for the city are working overtime to inspect homes to ensure that their safety for residents. In the last two weeks, over 35 homes have fallen in Philadelphia. Philadelphia Mayor John Street has promised to get funding to help with this situation.

Weird News

A Stinky Situation

In Waukesha, Wisconsin Gary V. Strasburg was walking his dog when he was unexpectedly hit by a bullet. A police officer, who was aiming for a skunk, missed and hit Strasburg in the leg and ankle with the stray fire. When Strasburg called to the officer and reported that he was shot, the officer told him to wait a minute while he put the dead skunk in a bag.

Strasburg was treated at a local hospital and released. The situation is under investigation by local police officials.

Quote of the Week

"I'm hanging my legs off a boxcar, smoking a cigarette, eating some pork and beans."

---Roco Nagyat, at Trampfest 2000, a hobo boxcar convention

UC Online Generates Digital Excitement

Tammy Scherer
News Editor

Students and professors have a new innovative way to interact thanks to the implementation of the UC Online system. UC Online allows students and professors to communicate beyond the classroom. By utilizing the internet, professors will be able to post announcements, assignments and even allow students to engage in discussions over the world wide web.

Along with the ThinkLaptop Initiative, UC online is helping Ursinus move towards being more technologically oriented. The system gives students yet another method of information access and communication. It also enables the creation of a campus community on the internet.

Dr. John King, director of computer services, said that "UConline, in essence, allows the course, student-faculty interaction and student-student interactions to continue beyond the time and space bounds of the scheduled class times." He hopes that the new system will allow students to obtain valuable information needed in the academic process.

UC Online is currently being used by the faculty teaching the freshman C I E courses, along with a few other courses. Technological support is being provided for the faculty so that they can integrate this program into their classes. Along with the ability to create discussions, professors will be able to post their class syllabus, exam schedules and numerous other important announcements on the web.

In the future, King hopes to expand the system to allow it to be part of other college services. The goal for the future is to allow students to have access to the "records and registration system so that information and updates can pass between the UC online system and the 'official' administrative information systems."

UC Online will eventually be integrated for use with campus organizations. The system will allow clubs to post meeting times and create discussions among members.

New Majors

Continued from Page 1

According to Dr. Thomas Rutledge, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology will allow students to "see how the two fields, biology and chemistry, are integral and how each offers solutions to the other field."

He also noted that "students will also get wonderful preparation for graduate and professional schools and will have a breadth of experiences that will make them attractive to potential employers."

The Biochemistry and Molecular Biology department will also be expanding its staff this year by adding another biochemist, who according to Dr. Rutledge will be "housed in the biology department. Rutledge, a biochemist, currently works in the Chemistry Department. This expansion in staff will allow the department to further meet the needs of students choosing this major. The department also hopes to expand the courses offered in the near future."
Fitness House Hopes to Spark Student Interest in Athletics

Lauren Cyrsky  
Co-Editor-in-Chief

The option to design a living situation and develop a program related to common interests has recently become available to the student body.

One of two new theme houses, or Student Designed Resident Experience, is the Physical Fitness House located on Main Street.

"The whole Student Designed Resident Experience was modeled after something that we had done at Hood College where I used to work," Res Life Director Stephanie McNulty said.

The idea of grouping together like-minded students began in the 1980s with Musser Hall. "It's a place to promote the learning of other cultures," McNulty said.

Today sophomore soccer team member Jonathan Miller lives with eleven other people and teammates in Schaff Hall. Their objective: to get the student body more involved in sports activities happening on campus.

"We didn't see much (spirit) here. We felt there wasn't enough support from the students," Miller said. "It's kind of sad."

The idea of having a house with sports-minded individuals works in two ways. First, there are people willing to work towards a common goal. In order for the Fitness House to keep its place on campus it must fulfill the outlined requirements in the signed agreement, including not hosting social events.

"There are requirements for the students that live there," McNulty said. "There's a certain number of programs that they have to participate in and they all have signed an agreement as well."

Second, all of the athletes share a common routine. During the soccer team's "dry" season, the house can coordinate sleeping schedules, encourage good study habits, and look out for one another.

In hopes of getting the student body more involved, the Fitness House is looking to initiate pep rallies, focusing on supporting the growing football program and midnight madness to mark the beginning of the basketball season.

"Planning activities won't be hard, it's just getting people involved in it," Miller said.

Support UC and keep your eyes and ears open for future events on campus that will be sponsored by The Fitness House.

Fountain Near Pfahler in the Works For Next Summer

Dan Reimold  
Co-Editor-in-Chief

This fall, construction has begun outside Pfahler Hall on a water fountain set to look, in part, like a notable British landmark.

"It's going to be an aesthetic reference to a fountain in St. James Park in London," said UC President John Strassburger.

The famous English park and fountain are located across from Buckingham Palace. They are maintained by the Canadian government as a tribute to soldiers who died for their country.

The Ursinus version of the famed attraction is scheduled to be completed Aug. 10, 2000, in time for the start of classes next fall.

Students reaction is somewhat mixed on the project.

"It could open up our campus more, allow it to be more tranquil," Jeffrey Jackson said. "It's definitely something we've never had before."

"I hope they provide benches or a grass area around it," Robert Albert said. "It would be a great place for students to congregate, relax or study."

Others felt a fountain isn't worth the college's money or time.

"That shouldn't be where our money is put," Daniel Griswald said. "It's probably taking funds away from the arts, in the construction of a new studio or theater."

Sophomore Chuck Pulsfort echoed Griswald's statements.

"Just what we need, a fountain. There are so many other things this college could use," Pulsfort said. "It could be fun to swim in though at night."

"We do have to prepare ourselves for green dye on St. Patrick's Day and soap bubbles on commencement," Strassburger admitted. "But I am really thrilled about all the new things going up around campus and this is one of them."

What's Your Opinion??

Is the fountain a positive addition for the college or a waste of money?

E-mail grizzly@ursinus.edu with your comments and opinions and see your views printed in next week's Grizzly.
UC Crime Blotter
Aug. 31 - Sept. 4

No Crime Reported

In accordance with the Ursinus College faculty handbook, student comments on teaching effectiveness 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:

- Dr. Holly Gaede (Chemistry)
- Dr. Anthony Lobo (Biology)
- Dr. Linda Thiel (Mathematics)
- Dr. Eric Williamsen (Chemistry)

Your feedback is strongly encouraged and will assist the committee in its review process. The most helpful way to provide this feedback is in the form of a letter that includes specific examples to support your comments.

Letters should be sent to Dean Judith T. Levy, Office of the Dean by October 1, 2000.

Freshman Clustering

Continued from Page 1

living in clusters or at least in pairs,” Assistant Director of Residence Life, Stephanie McNulty said. “We just want to prevent a situation in which one freshman is isolated.”

However, some freshmen living in houses, even though they are paired with members of their class, still feel isolated.

“It’s always quiet here. The Quad is a mad house but we have a ten minute walk or more just to go hang out or chill,” John Karpinski, a freshman in Clamer Hall commented. “It is isolating at times.”

With the record number of freshman students this year, it was almost mission impossible to have the clustering plan work out perfectly. After spending the entire summer finding places to put every Ursinus student, residence life had no other choice but to put some freshmen in houses.

“I definitely think that we did a great job in our first year of clustering freshmen,” McNulty said. “There are a lot less freshmen living on campus houses or with upperclassmen in comparison to previous years. Ninety-percent would like to live in the quad but we just can’t fit everyone.”

There has been an improvement in the numbers. While last year there were almost 50 freshmen living with upperclassmen roommates, this year there are only 13, and 6 of those students requested to room with an upperclassman.

With the trend of more and more students accepting the offer to attend Ursinus each year, another large freshman class is anticipated next year. Once again, residence life will be doing its best to keep these freshmen clustered together.

It had been planned that, with the building of a brand new dorm in the Fall of next year, both BPS and BWC would be reserved for freshmen. Now that the finishing date of the new dorm has been pushed back to the Fall of 2002, there is a good possibility that students may able to squat their rooms in BWC for one more year. Eventually, though, BPS and BWC, with the exception of single rooms will be entirely freshman dorms.

Freshman clustering can have benefits academically as well as socially. Most freshmen are taking the same classes, for example the required CIE class, and being so close to each other allows the students to talk about the classes and study together. Residence Life, however, feels the most important advantage of clustering is that, when first starting out in college, it is easier to meet people in the same situation, who don’t know anybody else. That may make the transition from high school to college at least a little bit easier.

MEET THE WEASELS!

( just kidding )
Clockwise From Top Left: Sophomore Chris Bustos goes the way of the gun during Lazer Tag in Wismer Lower this past Thurs. Aug. 31; Former UC student Jim DiCarlo enjoys himself at Reimert this past weekend; Two UC students smile under the influence; Josh, Steve and Sebastian hang around on the railing in Reimert; A UC freshman campaigns for office in front of fellow students in Olin Hall Monday Sept. 4; All freshman candidates pose for pictures before the Sept. 7th election.

Photos by Joseph Laskas
A Bear in the Wilderness

Dan Reimold
Co-Editor-in-Chief

To Infinity and Beyond and Back Again

A moment’s pause and then another hand rose, this time on the side, near the front.

“It’s gravity. What goes up must come down.”

The boy who had answered smiled smugly to himself. The professor nodded his head in approval but continued forward.

“Why is that?” He asked, adjusting his glasses and grinning from ear to ear.

The boy’s smile was gone. No answer. For some time, it appeared the crafty professor had us beat. I decided to try my luck and waved a hand in the air as my heart rate spiked to a brand-new all-time high.

“Gravity is gravity,” I said shyly, silently laughing at the fact that it had taken me only thirteen years of formal education and a high school diploma to sit in a collegiate classroom and crudely talk about the obvious. “It has to do with physics I think, and Newton’s first law.”

“Why?”

I had to hand it to him. He certainly knew how to control a class. That one word, full of question, had single-handedly transported our discussion from the bouncy habits of a Spalding basketball to the very reasons behind laws of nature and the sciences we study.

As the other students looked around in equal parts agony and wonderment, I meekly raised my right arm once more to take a final stab at a possible solution to the perplexing puzzle.

“The ball bounces because it is meant to do so,” I said slowly, gathering my thoughts. “Because that’s the way the world works. We don’t really know exactly why, but that’s just how it is.”

The professor’s face beamed. My heart skipped a beat. “Exactly,” He said, rising from the desk, once more twirling the object of our enlightenment on his outstretched pointer finger.

“The truth is, the amount of knowledge the human brain can acquire in the span of a lifetime is finite. True knowledge is infinite. No one has ever traveled anywhere near infinity and certainly not beyond. It took only four questions to bring us to a point that we cannot satisfactorily explain something as simple as a bouncing ball.” He double-dribbled twice to let the words sink in.

“As students at this college, you will soon be forced to learn all you can about anything and everything. Yet, perhaps the most important lesson to remember is that no matter how much you think you understand, how deeply you probe, how expertly you inquire, none of us can ever hope to understand all there is to know. That does not mean we should give up the search.

On the contrary, we should strive forward, embracing our limitations and enjoying every moment. A love of learning can never be sated because the quest is endless. And, in many ways, that quest begins at square one in this room today.”

Students shifted nervously in their seats and several nodded their heads in vigorous agreement. The professor smiled brightly. The bell tower chimed eleven. The first hour of my very first class was over.

In less than sixty minutes as a collegian, I had traveled as close as possible to infinity and beyond and back again. If this was square one, I thought, I was psyched for what was next to come.

During my freshman year at Ursinus, I learned about the history of mankind, the workings of the political world, the art of the English language and the intricacies of being human.

But the most important lesson ever imparted, by the kindly, balding man with the bouncing ball, was that learning was not just a four-year stint at a liberal arts college. It was a journey of a lifetime with an end nowhere in sight.

Bear in the Wilderness is an occasional column.

Want To Be Heard???
To submit an article, advertisement, announcement or letter to the editor, please contact the staff at grizzly@ursinus.edu.
Summer in Cambridge, Paris Unforgettable

Rutherford split the atom. Other points of interest were the room where Isaac Newton resided and a fountain where the great writer Lord Byron swam in the nude.

After we explored the town in its entirety, one adventure still remained to be completed—going punting on the Cam. In order to do this, we rented a canoe type of boat called a punt. At first, the whole experience seemed like a great way to relax and enjoy the setting sun which looked like brilliant red flames spewing from the tops of the surrounding buildings. When we left the dock, I found that steering on the rear platform of the punt without falling into the water would be an accomplishment in itself.

Fortunately, I was able to learn quickly and what initially seemed to be a difficult ride on the water proved to be a success. When the time came to study, my focus was the life and times of Winston Churchill, while Jess focused on a course in Shakespeare’s writing. My professor, Dr. Eric Grove, was recognized as an expert in British Naval History and aircraft carriers.

For the true romantic, Paris is the city of dreams that becomes better with each day that one stays.

To ease the pressure of staying in a new school, as well as a new country, we were greeted on the first day with a four-course dinner that could easily have been served in a four or five-star restaurant that began with a prayer in Latin.

The duration of the course was two weeks, so with a weekend in between, we decided to travel to Paris. The easiest way to accomplish this was to travel on the Eurostar, the latest development in high-speed trains. For the true romantic, Paris is the city of dreams that becomes better with each day that one stays. The Seine is the river that divides the city into the Left and Right bank and it seemed to reflect an intense sparkle from the summer sun.

The Seine forced my eye to follow its contours beneath the ancient bridges, beyond a facade of irate gargoyles to the sight of a boat struggling upstream, covered with the few gaudy decorations that remained from Bastille Day. It was a place that Jess and I did not want to leave. We had to return to England to complete our course and the last week of our European experiences.

At the end, we received a certificate and a life-long memory of people and experiences that could only be described as unforgettable.

What is Your Study Abroad Experience???
E-mail your story to grizzly@ursinus.edu and see it in print next week.

Roving Reporter
"What do students think of the parking fee increase?"

"Why has the price of parking tripled when the condition has gotten worse?"
---Melissa Smith
Senior

"It's bad because half the people don't register and security doesn't check the cars, so what's the point?"
---Sebastian Voltarelli
Sophomore

"It's a 150% increase and the parking isn't even that great. It's ridiculous."
---Tina Falvello
Sophomore

"Of course I don't like paying more. I don't know the reason for the increase, but the raising of prices seems to be a trend."
---Phil Malachowski
Junior

"It sucks because there is not as much space, but we have to pay more when they aren't guaranteed a spot. I'm not all about it."
---Drew Petersen
Sophomore

"It's stupid. People shouldn't compare prices from other schools. We should only have to pay what is necessary. $50 is too much."
---Vicki Everlekian
Sophomore
New Professor Added in Computer Science Department

John Grebe
Staff Writer

New to the computer science department this semester is Dr. Mirela Damian. Dr. Damian is sure to enrich and expand the computer science with the addition of a third professor.

However, this year in the fall Dr. Hagelgans and in the spring Dr. Jessup will be on sabbatical, so the computer science department will not have three active professors until the fall of 2001.

Dr. Damian has an interesting background.

For starters she was born in Romania, where she earned a master's degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Portechina of Bucuahrest.

In 1994, Dr. Damian first came to the United States as a graduate student at the University of Iowa, she earned a master's degree in computer science in 1996.

It was also at the University of Iowa where she earned her Ph.D. in computer science in July of 2000.

Dr. Damian is currently conducting research in computational geometry and graph theory here at Ursinus.

On a personal note, Dr. Mirela Damian is married to Valeriu Damian. She has two children: Alexandru and Corina.

In her spare time she enjoys reading classic literature and listening to classical and symphonic music.

She also enjoys skiing at Lake Placid and hiking.

Welcome Back!!!

From,

The Ursinus College Bookstore

Hours
9am - 7pm Mon-Thurs
9am - 4pm Fri
10 - 2 Sat (during semester)

Come see all the wonderful new Ursinus stuff--our favorites are the cozy blankets!

And YES, we have laptop carriers! They'll be discounted 10 % at the register through September.

Activities Fair
Wed. September 6, 2000
11:30 am - 1:30 pm

Participating Organizations
as of Monday Sept. 4th at Noon

1. CAB
2. Best Buddies
3. Tau Sigma Gamma
4. BB Ander's Pre-Med Society
5. Women's Rugby
6. Phi Alpha Psi
7. Omega Chi
8. Escape Velocity Dance Troupe
9. Pre Legal Society
10. College Republicans
11. Alpha Phi Epsilon
12. Study Abroad
13. Hillel
14. SERV
15. International Relations Club
16. College Democrats
17. Kappa Delta Kappa
18. Beardwood Chemical Society
19. The Grizzly
20. Class of 2002
21. Alpha Sigma Nu
22. Family Day
23. Psychology Club
24. UC Blue Skies
25. The Lantern
26. UC Film Society
27. USGA

Around Campus...

The S&M Show Season Premiere!!!
Tues. Sept. 12
10:00PM
on
Channel 11

Hillel Pizza Party
September 10 @ 8:30 pm in Paisley Lounge
Grizzly Crossfire

Is Cheerleading a Sport???

Yes

When people attend a football game, they automatically believe that they are about to witness merely one athletic team in action. This naive assumption results in the public's failure to recognize cheerleading as a sport. Yes, that's right. I said a sport! Webster's Dictionary defines any sport as "an athletic activity requiring skill or physical prowess and often of a competitive nature," and though many refuse to accept it, cheerleading clearly meets these requirements.

Perhaps it is hard to distinguish the type of skill that goes into cheerleading, but this "activity" involves much more that meets the eye. Behind every simple cheer, stunt, routine, or chant lies hours of hard work and practice, encompassing the skills of both gymnastics and dance.

Strength is also an integral part of this sport. A cheerleader is an athlete who must be conditioned. The participants often engage in supplemental activities to achieve this, including weight lifting, running, and other aerobic exercise. When performing those eye-catching stunts, which are always crowd-pleasers, weakness is not an option. Carrying out these moves always brings the unfortunate aspect of danger, and the slightest mistake can cause the entire group to tumble into a terrible mess that may lead to serious injury. Therefore, it is imperative that the athletes possess precision, good techniques, and strength.

Furthermore, cheerleading competitions provide an opportunity for these athletes to engage in the type of contest that the definition of a sport stipulates. During these events, the squads compete against one another, performing the routines they have choreographed. Preparation for these events includes many hours of practice several times a week during the months prior to the competition. Much of the time is spent learning and perfecting the routine itself, and the constant repetition of the routine gives the cheerleaders the opportunity to gain the stamina they need to finish it all with smiles on their faces. These performances include aspects of cheerleading. They should display the talents of cheering, dancing, jumping, stunting, and gymnastics. The teams are judged on their performances and subsequently presented with awards and honors.

Currently, the cheerleading program at Ursinus is under the authority of the Athletic Department, and though it is unclear at this time what the exact title of the squad is, the cheerleading team has a budget in this division of the college and is required to follow the same regulations as the other athletic programs. In the past, cheerleading was designated as merely an organization, but if cheerleading is granted the title of "sport," this gesture, although long-delayed, will do a great deal for our cheerleaders. It will provide them with the honor and respect that they deserve and that is so far overdue.

No

Lauren Springer

Features Editor

Cheerleading is about as much of a sport as, lets say, channel surfing. I do not consider a group of scantily clad women, bouncing around, screaming wildly a sport. Entertaining, sure; a sport within itself, no. While cheerleading squads may appear comparable to other sports teams by their activities, such as holding cheerleading "competitions," practicing vigorously, and maintaining their own uniforms and equipment, in truth, cheerleaders are no more than extras or attractive scenery on the true athletes' stage.

The basic function of a cheerleader speaks the truth for itself; a cheerleader is to be some high-spirited youth whose goal is to enliven the spectators at some sporting event. Cheerleaders help the audience support the real athletes, who are out there giving it their all on the field or on the court. The pep squad is not who thousands of fans come to see each week, although they do help keep the attention of most of the male population. In essence, cheerleaders are nothing but superstars who have been selected out from the rest of the crowd because they are attractive and overly energetic. As for the competitions and the practicing and the uniforms and all the other "sporty" activities cheerleaders perform, it is all a vain attempt to appear athletic. While sports such as basketball and football hold competitions to show off the physical prowess and mental acuity of the team members, cheerleaders hold competitions simply to see which routine and what style uniform is more likely to get a rise from the crowd. The constantly in the background that they aren't considered a true sports team. Perhaps if pep squads got more attention than a five minute halftime performance every Saturday, people would recognize that cheerleaders possess as much, if not more, physical strength and stamina as any athlete. Maybe they would also acknowledge that cheerleading is about timing and teamwork, just like any other sport.

Unfortunately, until that day, cheerleaders will be stuck in the stereotype of over-exuberant girls who shake their pom-poms and jump around and scream wildly for the big, buff athletes on the field, never to be taken seriously by the sports world.
Campaign 2000: Eye on Education

The Democratic Education Agenda: Investing in Our Nation's Future

Geoffrey Brace
Special to the Grizzly

Education is at the very core of the Democratic agenda this election as it has been in the past and although the idea has remained, the details have changed. Under the guidance of Al Gore, the Democrats have proposed to:

- Raise standards and accountability for schools, teachers, and students.
- Invest more in our Public Schools and related programs such as Head Start and provide more access to technology.
- Reaffirm the commitment to special education and make higher education more affordable.

This may sound like a bunch of rhetoric, but there is great detail of itself in the Democratic educational agenda. For example, in raising standards and accountability the Democrats propose a $115 Billion dollar investment over the next 10 years that would enable schools to lower class size by hiring new teachers, provide for more training for the current teachers and increase technology.

This proposal would also help Head Start and pre-school programs, recognizing that these programs have a positive impact on education later on in life.

While this may shed light on the Democratic education agenda, one of the most important parts of the agenda is opposing school voucher program.

While school vouchers have been proposed as an alternative to public education, there is a myth behind School Vouchers. Vouchers are intended to increase competition, create accountability and help the less fortunate escape the cycle of educational poverty.

However, vouchers do not create competition because private schools can discriminate and create a playing field more to their advantage. Vouchers also do not create accountability because private schools that receive vouchers are not accountable to anyone except themselves. This would once again be creating an uneven field, taking away from the public school.

Finally, vouchers do not help the less fortunate. Private schools will not take in every student who wants to come into the school, they will only take the finest, leaving those who need the help the most to the public schools.

Vouchers are simply a feel good attempt to try and solve the problems in schools. In the end, vouchers will only hurt the public education system.

As Al Gore said, “Diverting tax dollars from public schools to support tuition for some children at private schools would drain the funds we need for an ambitious program of... reform that would allow us to have world-class schools in the 21st century.”

Democrats believe, and it is shown that local schools districts will only spend so much on education and if any of that money is spent on vouchers, that is money the public schools would not have.

That would ultimately leave public schools struggling and unable to be competitive with better funded private institutions.

The Lesson is in the Language: The Republican Educational Plan

Christopher Cocca
Features Editor

Funny thing about the politics of the Clinton Era: On the surface, everything sounds good, and everyone sounds the same on so many things. Call it Clinton’s First Rule of Moderation (i.e. pretend to be a liberal or a conservative then shoot to the middle after you’ve solidified a base around you and gotten yourself elected) but whatever the reason or its historical origins, it’s a compelling phenomenon.

On the surface, it seems to be popping up again this election year, as on many issues, Al Gore and George W. Bush sound strikingly similar on the surface. For the purpose of this article, let’s take a look at an issue that should really be on all our minds right now: education.

Both major party candidates talk about raising standards and holding teachers accountable and both generally agree that being able to read is good and that we’re tired of getting the tar kicked out of us in math and science every year. In short, both want to improve education, and even if they didn’t, they’d say they did anyway because they pretty much have to in order to get elected. So on the surface, we’ve got two politicians huffing and puffing the same kinds of words and images in an effort to court our vote, neither of them sounding much different than the other.

But wait, look more closely. While both candidates speak about similar issues and want similar results from America’s schools, I still feel it is a stretch to claim that both men have the same or even similar long-term goals for education or for the nation itself. The difference, I found, is in method and while that might not be earth-shattering, in the era of sound bytes and image-as-issues, the fact that both Bush and Gore are saying something different is this election’s dirty little secret.

The difference [in educational plans] I found, is in method and while in the era of sound bytes and image-as-issues, the fact that both [Bush and Gore] are saying something different is this election’s dirty little secret.

At the heart of the Bush plan is a system of national funding and accountability coupled with local control for schools and districts, all that sort of reserved powers and states’ rights nonsense from that politics class someone made you take. Bush wants to not only set standards for schools, but also to empower states and districts with the freedom they need (and on paper already have) to meet those standards in ways that can be more effectively and honestly monitored at the local level.

He even wants to extend this risky freedom scheme to parents, giving “low-income parents of students stuck in persistently failing schools the option of transferring to another public school, or using their share of federal funding to pay for another option of their choice.” Perhaps courting his old friend the teachers’ union, Gore has made no similar promise, but has graciously offered some big government solutions.

Despite what the misleading smear ads from the other side might claim, George W. Bush is a reformer with a record he can be proud of. As his website states:

Greatest Progress in the Nation: Texas is one of two states that has made the greatest recent progress in education, according to the Congressionally-mandated National Education Goals Panel.

Minority Students Rank Highest in Math: African-American 4th graders in Texas ranked 1st in the nation in math. Since 1992, African-American 4th graders in Texas have made the greatest gains in math, and Hispanic 4th graders have made the second greatest gains.

Students Score First and Second in Writing: African-American and Hispanic eighth-graders in Texas ranked 1st and 2nd in the nation in writing. Texas eighth-graders as a whole ranked 4th in the nation.

Students Improve Every Year on State Skills Test: Under Governor Bush, the number of students passing all parts of the state skills test (TAS) has increased by 51 percent. The number of both minority students and economically disadvantaged students passing all parts of the TAS increased by 89 percent.

First in Teacher Quality: Texas ranked...
Apple AI

Making
most notably the gigantic pothole lurking near the last speed bump behind the Paisley hidden speed bump near the 9th street entrance.

Types of improvements continue and that next on the agenda is the repainting of Tracey Goldthate and photographer. This newspaper's finished product stems from the collective effort of the editorial staff and everyone who has contributed thus far as a writer and/or photographer. This newspaper's finished product stems from the collective effort of a dedicated few, so thank you to these folks mentioned above, and anyone we've missed, for their dedication, patience and hard-work.

Thank You, Thank You

Two thumbs up and big thank yous are in order for Sandy Brown and Alumni Services, Dee Rhoad, Eric Ordway and Computing Services, Todd McKinney, Tracey Goldthate and Student Activities and Leadership Development, Franklin + Meredith Printing, National Laser Graphics, Dr. Lynne Edwards, the entire editorial staff and everyone who has contributed thus far as a writer and/or photographer. This newspaper's finished product stems from the collective effort of a dedicated few, so thank you to these folks mentioned above, and anyone we've missed, for their dedication, patience and hard-work.

Campus Construction An Eyesore

Thumbs Down to the overwhelming amount of construction on campus. The Field House mess is mostly hidden but the dug-up ground to the left of Wismer, the future fountain site near Pfahler and the Helfferrich renovations all contribute to making our college look like sh- enough said.

All things in the name of progress, we guess, but really, what prospective freshman would fall in love with this construction site of a campus. And better yet, where's the peaceful, quiet, aesthetically beautiful campus current UC students are paying just under $30,000 to enjoy?

Let Students Speak Up on Speaker Selections

A respectful thumbs down to the speakers who've come and are coming to visit our campus this semester. All possess impressive credentials but generate little excitement and will most likely enjoy only meager turnouts, especially from students. Why not deliver a speaker more geared toward us? If the problem is a perceived lack of student interest in the speaker selection process, send out information on how to join in on the decision-making. Maybe you think we are past caring, but we say give us a chance. We may surprise you.

Republican Educational Plan - Continued from Page 10

First in the nation in teacher quality, according to an independent evaluation by the Fordham Foundation.

While we can be impressed with the gains he's made in Texas, it's only right and fair of us to ask what he can do for the nation as a whole.

What Governor Bush brings to the table besides proven results is a policy consistent with our identity as Americans, a nation founded on the belief that freedom is the most basic and important virtue of a truly great society. In this sense freedom is not just a word we oppose to the power of foreign despots, but one we must also consciously guard at home. It's the right of parents to determine for their own children which school district and which curriculum serves them best while at the same time holding all schools to national standards of achievement. It's the chance that some schools and some teachers might have to do some serious work to remain viable in an education market that will suddenly reflect the freedom of our other markets, arenas where competition has always improved the overall product and the threat that a discerning parent might want something better for their child than what the bounds of geography and one of Washington's most powerful lobbies dictate they must silently abide by.

The heart of this and all other important issues of this election is your own answer to this simple question: As Americans, do we want to live our common national life as a life of fear or an affirmation of freedom? If you truly believe that most Americans can't achieve educational, economic, or professional success without the apparatus of big government rearing its head at every turn, then by all means, vote for Al Gore. If you believe that federal programs are the answer to everything, if you believe that a distant bureaucracy in Washington can set effective agendas for students of diverse backgrounds and far flung locales, that he and his agency can hold teachers and school districts more thoroughly accountable than parents armed with information and educational choice, then too, vote for Al Gore. But if you believe that at the heart of this election is a very serious difference between two visions of America, and the America you believe in is an America where our elected officials trust us enough to "let us make some of the most important decisions of life for ourselves, a vote for Gore becomes less logical. If you believe that parents should have a greater say in where their children can go to school than some teachers union with its own agenda (which unfortunately tends to be more about securing tenure than truly empowering our nation's youth), if you have the gall (and some of our left-leaning friends would say "the ignorance") to believe that the America of the 21st Century can be both the most free and the most fair, it has ever been, your choice is clear. If you resent the liberal ideal that big government should be a big brother watching over us "from cradle to grave," if you resent the message that progress of any kind is impossible apart from Government, then too your choice is clear. Your choice must be George W. Bush.

The Grizzly

2000

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DAN REIMOLD
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Editorial Policy

All letters and articles submitted to The Grizzly must be signed by the author. In the interest of content integrity, anonymous articles will not be published. Opinions that appear in articles are those of the authors, and not necessarily those of the student body or administration. The Grizzly reserves the right to edit any submission for grammatical, legal, and/or spatial purposes.

Submission Policy

E-mail submissions to Grizzly@ursinus.edu or drop off in submission box located on the second floor stairwell of Bomberger Hall.

Deadline is Friday by Noon.
Church on Film

**Highlander: End the Sequels!**

**2 The Grizzly**

**Jeff Church**
A & E Editor

**Highlander: Endgame**

Adrian Paul . . . Duncan MacLeod
Christopher Lambert . . . Connor MacLeod

In 1986, *Highlander* was released, starring Sean Connery and Christopher Lambert as immortals who are doomed to engage in an endless battle to sever the heads off other immortals. “In the end, there can be only one,” the first film predicted. Indeed, at the end of this original, cult favorite film, Christopher Lambert was the ONLY ONE left.

However, the first film did fairly well, so of course Hollywood producers devised a way to sap *Highlander* fans for as much as they could get—release MANY, MANY sequels. You may ask—how could there be a sequel if Connor MacLeod (Lambert) was the last immortal? Hollywood producers brought in brilliant, avant-garde screenwriters, who decided to reveal the origins of the immortals. Instead of being born in the Scottish highlands, Connor MacLeod was born on ANOTHER PLANET. Thus, the brilliant screenwriters could bring immortals from the home planet to fight pointlessly with Connor.

In the sequels that follow, as well as the TV series (starring Adrian Paul), the writers decided to simply forget about getting around the distinct lack of other immortals—baddies just kind of “appear,” the good guy wins, and he is declared—“the only one” left . . . and then they make another sequel.

Well, the history of the *Highlander* series is much more interesting than *Highlander: Endgame*, which again purports to be the LAST sequel. *Highlander: Endgame* is dull, low-budget, badly written, horribly acted, incoherent, and nearly unwatchable. The actor who plays the villain overacts so much that you can’t help but laugh. Not only is the movie itself bad, but the editing and dubbing were really slipshod. A motorcycle would careen across the middle of the shot, and then an editing mistake would place him over to one side. Please, if there are any *Highlander* fans who feel compelled to see this sequel, don’t support this industry—stop the insanity.

RATING: ½ star (out of 4 stars)

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**Pearl Jam Rocks with Meaning**

**Chuck Pulsort**
Staff Writer

They stepped out from the darkness, out of a world filled with flaky boy bands and gangster rappers, to again try to create the definition of a rock band. They are the group that brought underground roots to the mainstream, along with a passion and intensity, to start a music revolution. It has been almost 10 years since Pearl Jam’s spectacular debut album “Ten,” and the music world has never been the same. Now, Pearl Jam releases their newest album, “Binaural,” when it looks like the music world has passed them by and makes their fans and critics wonder what do they have left?

“Binaural” sounds out of place in today’s music scene because lately, it is rare to see a band make a statement about life’s injustices and prejudices. The first track “Breakerfall,” is a spectacular example of their solemn statement. In this song, the group tells a story of a girl who is frustrated and heartbroken from all of the problems she has in her life because, “its no ones concern, she can blame the world.” The band follows up this song with “Gods’ Dice,” which speaks about the uncertainty of misfortune and how it will strike by saying life is “in the cards, with your destiny, your sanity in tow.” It is through lyrics such as these, you can hear Pearl Jam picking up crusades of Bob Dylan and Bruce Springsteen to educate people about the world about how unkind life can be.

Not all of the songs on “Binaural” are classic Grunge rock. Pearl Jam experiments with new ideas and sounds especially in “Soon Forget.” The group sings about the evils of materialism while someone plays a ukulele in the background.

“Binaural” is by no means a polished album. It has songs that capture the listener, songs that are deep and mellow, and there are a few complete duds. Pearl Jam’s latest creation is not as good as their earlier albums, but in this album the band proves that they still have something left to say. Grunge rock’s last men standing might be the only tie to the era of music when rock had meaning.
Summer Concert Review: Dave Matthews Band Spectacular at the Vet

Brian Berg
Opinions Editor

After being a long time listener of the Dave Matthews Band, I finally got the opportunity to see them live for the first time this summer at Veteran's Stadium in Philadelphia.

The set-list mixed in a lot of older Dave Matthews Band songs with the newest material the band has been writing for their upcoming studio album slated for release near Christmas. Starting with a nice instrumental jam session, the band then went directly into “One Sweet World” for an opener - a great choice that really got the crowd moving.

The next song, “#41”, revealed the true skill of the Dave Matthews Band, as saxophonist LeRoi Moore, guest keyboardist Butch Taylor, and violinist Boyd Tinsley all traded improvisational solos and jammed with one another as Matthews, bassist Stephan Lessard, and drummer Carter Beauford kept the basic framework of the song together. It is this style of improvisational soloing and onstage musical experimentation that separates the Dave Matthews Band from most other acts as familiar songs change right before the listener’s eyes (and ears) and can sometimes stretch 10, 15, or even 20 minutes.

The new material was excellent, reflecting the musical maturity of the band and a continued progression in the song writing skills of Dave Matthews who writes the bulk of the band’s material. Songs like “Grey Street,” which I felt was the best of all the new material, were rhythmically upbeat but had a serious, almost melancholy tone just below the surface in their simple but powerful melodic and lyrical styles. It seemed that the band’s experimental approach to music has not been dulled by their commercial success as Dave Matthews performed with a 12-string guitar for “Bartender” rather than his usual 6-string and explored new vocal territory on all of the band’s new songs.

The highlight of the night for me was “Lie In Our Graves” where Boyd Tinsley’s incredible violin solo carried the song into the stratosphere as he fed off of the energy of the crowd and extended the song to an incredible 17 mins.

The band closed with a cover of Bob Dylan’s classic “All Along the Watchtower” which highlighted the incredible skills of bassist Stephan Lessard who played a great solo on a 5-string bass with a glass slide to start the song. Although closer in spirit to the popular Jimi Hendrix version rather than the original Dylan, it seems as if the Dave Matthews Band has really made this song one of their signature pieces and it was a great way to end a spectacular evening.

This Week at UC: Sept. 5-10

Tuesday, Sept. 5
Opening: “Watercolors by Zhe-Zhou Jiang,” Berman Museum, Upper Gallery
7:30 p.m.
College Choir, Bomberger Auditorium

Wednesday, Sept. 6
11:00 a.m. Activities Fair (Until 1 p.m.), Olin Plaza
7:30 p.m.
International Film Festival: “Brazil,” Olin Auditorium
9:00 p.m.
Literary Society, Zwingli Java Trench

Thursday, Sept. 7
10:00 a.m.
New Employee Photos (until 2 p.m.), Wismer Lower Lounge

Friday, Sept. 8
10:00 a.m.
New Employee Photos (until 2 p.m.), Wismer Lower Lounge

Sunday, Sept. 10
11:00 a.m.
Ecumenical Service, Bomberger Auditorium
4:00 p.m.
Heefner Organ Recital Series: Alan Morrison, Organ; Jeannine Morrison, piano, Bomberger Auditorium
Mass, Olin Auditorium
5:00 p.m.
Reception: Zhe-zhou Jiang, Berman Museum, Upper Gallery

The International Film Festival Begins This Year With
Terry Gilliam's

Brazil

An Orwellian Look at a Dark Future Dominated by the Corporate World
Wednesday, September 6 at 7:30
In Olin Auditorium
International Film Festival
Set to Begin at UC

Adrienne Darrell Moore
Staff Writer

The Modern Language Department in conjunction with the Ursinus Film Society presents the 2000 International Film Festival. The festival will feature eight award-winning films from six nations, starting with the British ultra-black comedy "Brazil" on Wednesday, September 6th at 7:30 pm in Olin Auditorium.

The event is a chance for the student body as well as members of the local community to expand their cultural horizons. As Chairperson Colette Trout stated, "[The purpose of the International Film Festival is to] familiarize students with films as serious cultural artifacts that can be analyzed." The festival is also a great opportunity to view what countries outside the United States have to offer with regard to filmmaking. All the films will be presented with subtitles, much to the relief of those who do not speak the film's foreign language.

Light refreshments and lively discussions in Olin 104 will immediately follow each showing.

literary society

every wednesday night at 9:00 pm in zwingli java trench (620 main street).
come out to read poetry, drink coffee, or just sit back and listen

www.Internet Site of the Week.com

This Week: thespark.com

Lauren Cysky
Co-Editor-in-Chief

If you turn a left-handed glove inside out, where does it fit? Do you often forget where you put things, like your car keys or tongue? After you're dead, would you rather be forgotten or hatefully remembered?

Ever wonder how unintelligent you are? Or how about how much wealth you'll accumulate when you're older? Ever consider taking a pregnancy test online?

Well, search no further (at least not until you're online). The Spark, an entertaining website dedicated to pure and simple humor, can figure out all those daunting questions that may have you in a state of permanent confusion.

By devoting just 15 minutes of clicking your mouse and answering some multiple choice questions, The Spark will fill you in on your personality type, how "pure" you are, and even predict your death (just for fun, of course).

Included at the end of the test is how you rank compared to others in your age group, some common answers (women prefer Albert Einstein to William Shakespeare), and just how many people are even more unintelligent than yourself.

The Spark also provides a free e-mail service. Included in the e-mail service is the option to take a "Love Test" and then be notified if others that seem compatible with you want to drop you a line anonymously.

There is also a newsletter to subscribe to that will keep you updated on all the cool stuff going on with The Spark's website.

Rating: **** out of 4

The Buzz

Behind-the-Scenes Entertainment News

Padraig Maroney
Special to the Grizzly

Eminem on the other side of law

Eminem is currently in talks with Warner Bros. to star in a thriller opposite Denzel Washington. If Eminem signs on, he would be playing a rookie cop who is partnered with Washington's vet cop.

Deftone gets toned

Deftone's lead singer Chino Moreno has announced that once the band starts touring he will also begin work on his solo album titled, "Team Sleep", and plans to finish it while out on the road. The album is tentatively set for a February release.

Monica plans to sing "love song"

Look for singer Monica to make her tv-movie debut opposite Tyrese in the upcoming MTV movie "Love Song". The movie is scheduled to premiere in December.

All-New LFO

Rich from LFO mentioned to me recently that the popular group is currently working on new songs for a fan-friendly album that they hope to have out sometime next year.

The Superhero Movie Scene

Superhero movies keep becoming the talk of the town, ever since "X-Men". The new Batman movie, a live action "Batman Beyond" will be the next one in the franchise with David Boreanaz stepping into the role. Boreanaz is the only name that hasn't been rejected and he has said that he would do the movie if he saw the script first. Russell Crowe on the other hand is more than happy to apply for the role of "Superman" in the oft-put-off movie version of "Superman Lives," and Nicolas Cage has expressed interest in both of the movies, however he has chosen to play a villain in the Batman movie.

Buffy loses one

"Buffy the Vampire Slayer" fans can say goodbye to Riley because his character will be written out of the show after only a few episodes this season, which will leave Buffy without a man for the first time since the show began.

Padraig Maroney writes this column for the Bucks County Courier Times.
Women's Soccer Invincible at Invitational

Diane Johnson
Sports Editor

The women's soccer team dominated the field on Saturday against the Warriors of Lycoming College in the Ursinus Invitational tournament.

The Bears set the pace for the game with an early goal by sophomore Jessica Troutman, assisted by sophomore Kate Mullen. UC hustled and moved the ball up the field in the first half with confidence.

The Bears took complete control of the game when senior Molly Walsh set up sophomore Courtney Barth for another goal in the second half. Ursinus fired 23 shots on goal. Junior goalie Erin Cantwell had two saves for the shutout. The Bears challenged the field in the first half at 6:45, with an assist to sophomore Mike Papenberg.

On Sunday, Sept. 3, the Bears tied the Crusaders from Susquehanna. Ursinus had 25 shots on goal to Susquehanna's 15. However, after battling it out in double OT, the game was decided on penalty kicks and the Bears came out on the losing end.

"I think we have tremendous potential and a lot of heart to go far in the conference."
--Senior co-captain Molly Walsh

Men Win Opener, Drop Heartbreaker

Diane Johnson
Sports Editor

The UC Men's soccer team hosted Lycoming College, Susquehanna University and Beaver College in the Ursinus Invitational this past weekend.

On Saturday, Sept. 2, the Bears defeated the Lycoming Warriors one-to-nothing in the first round of the tournament. Junior forward Scott Hussey scored in the first half at 6:45, with an assist from sophomore Mike Papenberg.

"The team's off to a strong start," said Hussey. "We expect a really great season this year and I feel confident in our team's success."

The Bears held 15 shots on goal, the Warriors 18. The Bears held the Warriors in the second half to capture the victory.

Sophomore goalie B.J. Callaghan had 15 saves. Sophomore back Jim Kappler had a strong save in the last four minutes of the second half.

Junior Dave Porter said, "The team played really well for our first tournament."

On Sunday, Sept. 3, the Bears tied the Crusaders from Susquehanna. Ursinus had 25 shots on goal to Susquehanna's 15. However, after battling it out in double OT, the game was decided on penalty kicks and the Bears came out on the losing end.

UC's goalie Tim McDonald had 15 saves and was named co-MVP of the tournament. Poust, and sophomores Kappler and B.J. Callaghan were named to the all-tourney team.

"We are all excited about the prospect of the season. I think we have tremendous potential and a lot of heart to go far in the conference."

--Senior co-captain Molly Walsh

MEN'S SOCCER
Preseason Coaches Poll

1. Johns Hopkins (5) 71
2. Gettysburg (3) 52
3. Muhlenberg (2) 50
4. Haverford 43
5. Franklin & Marshall (1) 34
6. Washington (1) 29
7. Dickinson 27
8. Western Maryland 27
9. Ursinus 25
10. Swarthmore 20

WOMEN'S SOCCER
Preseason Coaches Poll

1. Johns Hopkins (5) 90
2. Gettysburg (3) 77
3. Muhlenberg (4) 70
4. Haverford 67
5. Franklin & Marshall (1) 60
6. Washington (1) 56
7. Ursinus 50
8. Dickinson 32
9. Swarthmore 20
10. Bryn Mawr 11

VOLLEYBALL
Preseason Coaches Poll

1. Franklin & Marshall (4) 91
2. Western Maryland (5) 90
3. Gettysburg (2) 88
4. Johns Hopkins 76
5. Haverford 71
6. Muhlenberg 54
7. Ursinus 48
8. Dickinson 36
9. Bryn Mawr 28
10. Swarthmore 19
11. Washington 18
UC Athlete of the Week: Krista Bailey

Diane Johnson
Sports Editor

Accomplishments:
- named to the Centennial Conference Honor Roll last season

Favorite Class: Interpersonal Communications

What teammates say:
Senior Michelle Bucci: "Krista is a hardworker and enthusiastic both on and off the field. She is very dedicated and has a great positive attitude. She’s a talented athlete and I enjoy playing soccer with her. Krista’s the type of athlete everyone wishes they had on their team."

Sophomore Jen Tate: "She's a great inspiration for the team. Krista is always working hard and it shows. She has a lot of heart."

Best College Sports Moment:
"I don’t have just one but I enjoy having fun with my team."

A few years from now:
"I want to attend law school after graduating from UC."

Ten Years from now:
"I hope to become a sports agent and have a family of my own."

Uphill Battle Ahead For Cross Country Squad

Lauren Cyrsky
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Things are looking up for the men’s and women’s cross-country teams.

This past Saturday’s scrimmage against Swarthmore and Franklin and Marshall showed who the leaders of the packs are and where everyone else on the team falls in.

Junior transfer student Brian Pendergast led the men on their three-mile trek through Hunsberger Woods, home of UC’s hilly cross-country course.

Pendergast finished first overall, with freshman Drew Foy finishing relatively close behind.

The girls’ team was led by freshman Katie Dougherty, who finished the women’s two-mile loop in 14:55.

Juniors Jamie Johnston, Bridget Baines, and sophomore Ali Bierly came in fourth, sixth, and ninth respectively.

Going into the meet the men and women expressed concern since they had only attended four days of official practice prior to the scrimmage.

In the midst of new coaching, the Bears have responded well to coach Neil Schafer’s implementations.

“We felt more competitive than we expected.”
--Junior Mariana Morris

“We felt more competitive than we expected,” junior Mariana Morris said. The end result proved that the team will have to raise its expectations for the rest of the fall season.

To Get Info on how to join XC,
e-mail Lauren Cyrsky.

The finishing hill of the cross country course in Hunsberger Woods is steep and tiring for the UC squad and their opponents.

Photo by Danica Godri
Volleyball Team Digs Out a Win in Virginia

Diane Johnson
Sports Editor

The volleyball team traveled to Newport News, Virginia on Sept. 3 to take on Christopher Newport University and Chowan University. The Bears came out strong but Christopher Newport dominated the match 3-1.

Senior captain Nikki DiMascio said, "Being our first time playing together as a team with incoming players, I think that we played very well. I feel that by our second match each one of us felt comfortable with one another. By the way we played this weekend, the outlook of our season looks very rewarding."

DiMascio led the Bears with 13 kills and 24 digs, while freshman Marie DiFelicianonio added ten kills and 18 digs.

The Bears regrouped and defeated Chowan University 3-1 in the second match. Junior Katie Shearer recorded seven kills and five blocks. DiFelicianonio added nine kills and 18 digs.

"We have to stay focused on our goals in order to be a competitive force in the conference."

--Senior Captain Nikki DiMascio

Football Ranked Second in Conference Preseason Poll

Diane Johnson
Sports Editor

The Ursinus football team is geared up and ready for action this weekend. The Bears were ranked second in the Conference Preseason poll behind Western Maryland. The Bears have 16 starters back for the 2000 season.

Among them are Senior co-captain Mike Kochler was named to the first team and is a preseason All-American honoree. He was named All-Centennial Conference in 1999. Junior Dave Bossio and Kochler led the offensive line last season.

Senior co-captain Kevin Wilson also added five sacks and 49 tackles last season.

The Bears begin regular season play this Saturday at home against Lebanon Valley College. The Bears had a 25-7 victory over Lebanon Valley last season and finished their 1999 conference season 10-2.

Centennial Conference Preseason Football Poll

1. Western Maryland
2. Ursinus
3. Muhlenberg
4. Johns Hopkins
5. Dickinson
6. Franklin & Marshall
7. Gettysburg
8. Swarthmore
Meningitis: What UC Students Need to Know

Megan Beck
Health + Fitness Editor

Without an ounce of knowledge of what meningococcal meningitis is, the connotation of the words alone can conjure uneasiness into the human mind, especially that of a college student. It’s a disease that attacks the brain and spinal cord that can cause serious brain damage, hearing loss, or learning disability, and in extreme cases fatality. The bacterium that stimulates meningitis is spread through actions that disperse oral secretions, like coughing and kissing. However, in prolonged or close contact with a carrier of the disease, for instance day care centers, military bases, and dormitories, it has an even higher degree of susceptibility. This direct contact is defined as shared items like cigarettes or drinking glasses.

So, if this bacterium is highly contagious with drastic effects, why is the vaccine for it eighty bucks a pop? And if most college campuses recommend the vaccine, shouldn’t it be a standard shot covered by HMO’s? Also, after one pays the extravagant amount for the vaccine, does it prevent all the strains of meningitis or only some, and then how long does the vaccine last? College students, collectively speaking, are a frugal group when it comes to things outside their designated basic needs. Is a vaccine, not covered by health insurance, for a disease they may or may not be at risk for, worth their own expense?

Well, before one can make that judgment call, he or she needs to know the facts about meningococcal meningitis. As defined by the McKinley Health Center, Meningitis is an infection of the fluid of a person’s spinal cord and that fluid that surrounds the brain. It is responsible for approximately three hundred deaths annually in the United States, by statistics from 1999. The symptoms for meningitis are high fever, stiff neck, and headache and can develop anywhere from several hours to one or two days. Other more severe symptoms include nausea, fever, vomiting, confusion, and sleepiness.

The web page for the American College Health Association (www.acha.org) signifies the most frequently asked questions concerning meningitis, among those “Who is at risk?” Students who abide in a confined environment on a college campus may have an increased possibility for meningococcal meningitis. Their data indicates specified “social behaviors, for instance exposure to smoking, excessive alcohol consumption, and bar patronage”, as other activities that additionally increase the risk of getting the disease. Because of the close-knit community that is upheld on college campuses, the disease is easier to contract from a carrier.

Of course, meningitis in a nutshell is nice reading material on the surface level without any real evidence of it actually occurring. In April of 1998, a college baseball player from Georgia Southwestern University died from the virulent form of meningitis. Prior to this, the student Evan Bozof had his arms and legs amputated because the disease disrupted the blood circulation causing gangrene in his appendages. Later the infection spread through his entire body, causing massive and the fatal organ failures in his kidneys, lungs, adrenal gland and his liver. Fortunately for others, most of the students at GSU were on spring break when he became ill and no other cases were reported.

More recent cases of meningococcal meningitis have occurred at high schools, including Abington Senior High School in Abington, PA and at area colleges such as Drexel University and the University of Delaware where a student was diagnosed just last week.

With this background information about the seriousness of meningitis, and the impact that it could have upon college students, one would think that a vaccine would be standard for incoming students. It is strongly recommended, however not mandatory and this could be because the vaccine, generally speaking, is not covered by health insurance companies. The vaccine has not been determined as compulsory for those living in a communal environment.

"The symptoms for meningitis are high fever, stiff neck, and headache and can develop anywhere from several hours to one or two days. More severe symptoms include nausea, fever, vomiting, confusion, and sleepiness."

by government agencies like the Center for Disease Control, and therefore most HMO’s do not cover it.

Therefore, that explains the steep cost for the vaccination. Paul Walek PA-C, a member of the Brookside Family Practice that runs the Wellness Center on campus, put meningitis into a cost point of view. “The vaccinations do protect the most common strains of the disease, serogroups A, C, Y, and W-135. [Strain C is the form most prevalent in the college age group.] If you are looking at this in a monetary way, typically speaking, a stay in a hospital room for an extended period, and the time spent away from school and other activities one enjoys is of a much higher price than a simple shot.”

Mr. Walek strongly recommends the vaccination for incoming Ursinus freshman, as well as upperclassmen that haven’t received the shot. He also stated that because more and more family practices are pushing the vaccine for the 17-24 age bracket, a good 20-30% of the freshmen class has already been vaccinated, a bigger percentage as compared to last year. The Wellness Center uses a service called “Vaccs” that distributes the vaccine on campus once a year and if a student misses this opportunity, Wellness can administer the shot any time throughout the year.

Clearly, the vaccine for meningococcal meningitis is worth a college student’s money. The serogroup, or strain, C meningococcal disease can be fatal as much as 20% of the time. The risk of not being vaccinated for time spent on a college campus is too high. Also, because of the increased number of outbreaks, more health insurance policies are covering the vaccination. It is up to the student to call their family doctor, pharmacist or HMO to find out whether or not they are covered. Meningitis is a serious disease that can have drastic effects including death. So before putting up money for a beer run on a Friday night, think about how one night of fun can equal a whole lifetime of fun nights if one saved up that money and got the recommended shot.
Tips to Stay Happy, Healthy at School

Lauren Cyrsky
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Ahh, the infamous "Freshmen 15." Most people (including myself) can tell of the ten, 15, and sometimes 20 pounds that somehow amounted after months of college life. Here are some tips to staying healthy and active despite a busy college schedule:

1. **Do it fast!** Whether you're cleaning your room or walking to class, pick up the pace to increase the amount of calories you burn and increase your heart rate. If you're breathing hard and your heart rate is up, then you're exercising.

2. **Take the stairs!** Walking up two flights of stairs with a bag on your back isn't going to kill you, so skip the elevator. It may not seem like much, but two flights to class once a day, three days a week adds up.

3. **Have fun!** So you're not an athlete. A lot of people don't enjoy just physical benefits from being on a team; there is a lot of socializing. You won't even realize you're exercising. And you'll meet a lot of new people to encourage a healthy lifestyle.

4. **Drop and do 20!** Situps, pushups, jumping jacks, squats, lunges - whatever you want. It's better than just sitting and watching TV. If you do enough of them fast enough you may even break a sweat.

5. **Walk!** If you're bored and a little stressed, stop downing all that coffee and take a breather. Walking will help release calming endorphins and allow for better concentration. Walks have also been known for being good at clearing the mind.

Feeling motivated? Run!

E-mail Health, Fitness Tips to grizzly@ursinus.edu

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UC Sophomore Reflects on Horrors of "Freshman Fifteen"

Emily Baltz
Special to the Grizzly

When I came to college this fall as a freshman I promised myself that I would not gain the dreaded "freshman fifteen." It is now two weeks shy of the end of my freshman year and I have gained at least five pounds. It's not fifteen, but it is still more than I wanted to gain. I'm not alone in my grief - a lot of freshman and upperclassman also complain about the weight they put on while in college.

It's so hard to avoid gaining weight considering the options we are given in Wismer. The food is fattening and unhealthy. There are almost no options given if you want to eat a healthy, well-balanced meal.

Wismer's major downfall is that it simply does not give healthy options to the students. Fellow Ursinus students agree; the general consensus is that the food is not good. Suggestions range from low fat yogurt, low fat lunchmeats and low fat cheese. More steamed vegetables and not so much fried food would also help. Just a few small changes could improve the quality of the food in Wismer.

I hope that more attention will be spent on this matter. The majority of the college community would like to see some improvements in the food. It would not take any more money and just a little more effort.

Exercise is also an integral part of maintaining a healthy weight and body image. Ursinus' campus is full of sports teams to join and clubs to occupy any free time. Remember as the years go by, your metabolism slows down. Your best bet to maintaining a healthy lifestyle is to stay active. And now is the perfect time to start.

Do you have a health or fitness-related story to share, advice to offer or questions to ask???
E-mail grizzly@ursinus.edu and see your name in print!
Rough Start for Bears' Field Hockey

The Ursinus field hockey team was on the move this weekend as they opened their season against Temple on Saturday, Sept. 2.

The Bears geared up and worked hard in the postseason last spring, anticipating the 2000 season.

"We have better knowledge of the game and know where we need to cut and pass the ball. We’ve come a long way since last season," Senior captain Heidi Rhodes said.

However, the Bears suffered a 5-1 loss against Temple in their season-opener.

Ursinus had only eight shots to Temple’s 20 on goal. Temple executed and put in four goals in the first half.

Sophomore goalie Nicole Monastesti had 12 saves. Junior forward Julie Lowell put the bears on the scoreboard in the second half.

On Sunday, Sept. 3 the Bears traveled to West Long Branch, NJ and suffered a 4-2 defeat at the hands of the Monmouth University Hawks. Monmouth scored the first goal early in the first half.

But Ursinus soon answered back when senior Katy Briner passed the ball to sophomore Krista Marino, who finished and tied it up at one goal apiece.

The Bears had 12 shots on goal to Monmouth’s 11. UC had 15 corners to Monmouth’s five. Monastesti had five saves for the day.

In the second half the Bears tried to battle back with another goal from Marino at 24:03. But Monmouth scored two more to steal the victory, 4-2.

"Despite starting the season off with two losses, it showed what we need to concentrate on and just how far we’ve come in one year. We will only improve and become more consistent as the season progresses.

The Bears next game is this Wed against LaSalle University at 3:30.

All Female Students Interested in Joining the Women’s Golf team, plan to attend a meeting on Wed Sept. 6th at 6:15 pm in the lobby of Helfferich Gymnasium

Senior Field Hockey captain Susie Russo takes a free hit and drives the ball up the field. The Bears will take on LaSalle Wed. at 3:30 in an important Division 1 match-up.

This Week in Sports

**FOOTBALL**
- Sat., 9/9
- LEBANON VALLEY
  - 1 p.m.

**FIELD HOCKEY**
- Wed., 9/6
- LASALLE
  - 3:30 p.m.
- Sat., 9/9
  - at Lafayette
  - 12 p.m.

**MEN’S SOCCER**
- Wed. 9/6
  - at Wesley
  - 4 p.m.
- Sat. 9/9
  - SCROANTON
  - 1 p.m.

**WOMEN’S SOCCER**
- Sun., 9/9-9/10
  - Pepsi Classic*
  - TBA

**WOMEN’S VOLLEYBALL**
- Wed., 9/6 WASHINGTON 7 p.m.
- Tues., 9/12 at Neumann 7 p.m.

**CROSS COUNTRY**
- TBA