Cornota Hawkins
Staff Writer

Each spring the Ursinus College Housing Committee meets to discuss and determine a handful of issues concerning room lottery and selection. The current rumor is that the elimination of squatting rights may not be far away.

According to Stephanie McNulty, head of Residence Life, ending squatting rights is something that will be discussed at the Housing Committee meeting, held at the end of October this year. The Housing Committee is comprised of residence life staff and students. Junior Heather Potts, a returning member of the Housing Committee, feels that the elimination of squatting rights is a bad idea. “It’s one of the positives of Ursinus when an upperclassmen finds a room that they like and they are able to maintain it for the duration of their education here.” For many Ursinus students, this is a privilege that is taken for granted.

“I don’t see why they want to get rid of it,” junior Erin Fitzgerald, a Reimert resident said. “I think that being able to stay in your room makes you feel comfortable, and that fosters a better student. What’s so bad

Continued on Page 2
**Outside News UC Should Know**

**Local News**

**CVS to Build on Site of Historical Landmark**

The CVS chain of pharmacies, looking to build a new drugstore in Trappe, is faced with the trouble of meeting the borough’s tough zoning laws. Designed to maintain the quaint atmosphere of the town, the ordinance, which was established in 1996, limits the size of commercial buildings on Main Street.

Another problem with the proposed plan is that CVS wants to build on the site of the historic home of Frederick Muhlenberg. Muhlenberg was the first person to sign the Bill of Rights and the first speaker of the United States House of Representatives.

Members of the Trappe Historical Society are trying to halt the process but are having trouble raising sufficient funds to properly restore the historic building.

**World News**

**TWA Flight Forced to Abort**

TWA flight 003 had to abort take-off when the cockpit’s windshield suddenly blew out while traveling down the runway. The flight was scheduled to fly from New York to St. Louis.

While none of the 233 passengers and crew were injured, the plane did experience some damage. The aircraft skidded across the runway when the pilot braked, triggering several of the plane’s tires to blow out. This is the second time within a week, in which a plane had to abort take-off at a NYC airport.

**Weird News**

**Man arrested for having lizards in his pants**

Don Astorga, a 31-year-old man from Las Vegas, Nevada, was convicted of smuggling lizards into the United States in his underwear.

He was arrested last June after police officers noticed some unusual bulges in his lower abdomen and groin area during a search for drugs. What they found were several tubular socks filled with lizards—nine dead, three alive—all native to South East Asia. Astorga was found guilty of the offense of being in violation of the Endangered Species Act.

**Quote of the Week**

"They have a saying in Ohio: Why buy the cow if you know the milk is sour."

--- Tom Arnold, in Entertainment Weekly, on ex-wife’s Roseanne’s nude photo spread in Gear magazine

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**Students May Lose Squatting Rights**

Continued from Page 1

about it?” This is the question many students are asking.

McNulty feels that squatting, “allows the continuation of the same problems.” McNulty also added that within the Centennial Conference, Ursinus is one of a dying breed.

Schools such as Haverford, Gettysburg, and Swarthmore were surprised to learn that Ursinus employs the practice of squatting rooms at all.

Another problem with the practice of squatting is the fact that Ursinus has 98.5% occupancy.

Although the occupancy rate has remained the same for the past several years, the number of beds obtained and filled by the college has increased. Residence Life has been forced to bring back triples in BWC.

"Ursinus is one of a dying breed. Schools such as Haverford, Gettysburg, and Swarthmore were surprised to learn that Ursinus employs the practice of squatting rooms at all."

Students with cars on campus were forced to pay an increased permit fee this year. The money generated from this increase was put into the general college fund. While the money will not directly improve parking, McKinney noted that improving the parking lots has been given priority. He also said that in the coming years, Ursinus will need to do something about providing more parking with the addition of the new dormitory. The school hopes to eventually make the campus more pedestrian oriented.

While some students are still hoping that the college expands the available parking now, doing so is not as easy as it may seem. UC must comply with the Collegeville Green Space Ordinance which dictates that there must be a certain amount of trees, grass and shrubbery.

For now, McKinney suggests that students have a "communal responsibility" when it comes to parking. If students feel unsafe walking across campus, the safety escort service is available.
Freshmen Class Elects Student Body Politic

Ryan McLeod
Staff Writer

After a week filled with speeches, emails and many posters, the freshmen class elected their class officers this past Thursday, Sept. 6.

Fifteen candidates vied for five positions in the governing body of the class of 2004.

At the end, freshmen Nathan Uber, Leslie Carter, Melanie Bryant, Julie Micklos, and Katie Higgens will lead the class through its first year at Ursinus.

The officers are responsible for holding two social events, completing a community service project, and carrying out one fundraising event each year.

USGA sets rules for the candidates to follow in their campaigns, with the intent of creating a fair election, with equal opportunity given to all candidates.

Nevertheless, mirroring the turmoil seen in national politics, campus campaigning began with the stain of controversy. On Monday, several candidates, including Uber, sent unsolicited email messages to the entire freshmen class, a violation of the rules set by USGA.

Monday evening, just before the campaign speeches, student-body president senior Andy Haines made it clear that no further email messages would be permitted. However, USGA neither gave those candidates, making this electronic medium an effective way to campaign, be it legally or not. As one scorned presidential-hopeful protested, "it's just not fair."

Monday evening, each of the 15 candidates delivered brief speeches outlining his or her qualifications and goals for the upcoming year. This year was the first that such speeches were given.

Haines believes this is a "step in the right direction," and allows the freshmen to "put names and faces together."

UC Student Organizations Come Alive at Activities Fair

Krista Baily
Staff Writer

Students walking to lunch on Wednesday Sept. 6th were greeted by something other than crazed squirrels and an ever growing line for Wismer. Olin Plaza was the site of the annual Activities Fair. Approximately 35 clubs and organizations came out during the Common Hour event held in Olin Plaza to let students learn about their club and ways to get involved.

The Activities Fair was organized by USGA Vice-President Heather Potts who commented that, "the Activities Fair is a great opportunity for freshmen to learn about the wide variety of clubs UC has to offer. It is a good way for them to get involved on campus right away."

USGA President Andy Haines agreed with this, saying, "the weather really cooperated and it was a great day to be outside. I'm really impressed with the number of students who came out to socialize and learn about new clubs."

The Class of 2002 set up a table and even gave away free Rita's Water Ice. Despite the bees, many members of the junior class stopped by to learn about activities planned for the year. Class social chair Casey Aivazian said, "the junior class is trying to spread the word about possible activities and see how much interest is out there."

The mixture of gorgeous weather and a great showing by clubs and organizations provided students with an opportunity to see faces they may have not seen since last semester.
U.S. News Ranks UC High

The candidates expressed a variety of styles. Some touted previous experience. "People need to know what you used to do so they'll know what leadership abilities you have," freshman Melanie Bryant said. Others disagreed. "I don't believe you should vote for what people have done in the past, but what they'll do in the future," freshman Nishant Keerikatte said. Some came with high aspirations. Freshman Dave Reinersmann looked at the office as "the first step" towards his goal to become President of the United States.

Still, there was one group that took a truly unique approach to the election, campaigning on a single platform as a united party. This group; Keerikatte, Trevor Mohr, Adam Molinueux, and Dean Edwards, believed that as a team, they could "work quicker and more effectively.

While each of the elected officers is different in many ways, there are certain qualities found in all of them. All held leadership positions in high school, all are clearly motivated individuals, all are effective public speakers, and all are eager and willing to take on the responsibilities incumbent upon their offices.

The Ursinus College Bookstore

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.

Freshmen Elections Held

Continued From Page 3

Freshmen React: New Laptop Receives Praise, Criticism

"The laptops are slow and crash a lot," freshman Adam Molinueux said. Other freshmen complained that the laptops come with poor quality speakers, making it necessary to buy external speakers. Several students have also had to buy a standard mouse for their laptops because they found the built-in one on the keyboard awkward to use.

Most common complaint among freshmen and upperclassmen is that the dormitory network is very slow and unreliable. Some suspected reasons for the slow networks is its high bandwidth usage. Another suspected reason for the slow speed is the increased number of users on the network because every member of the freshman class has his or her own computer.

The Ursinus College Bookstore

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

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This Week in Pictures... Sept. 5 - Sept. 11

Clockwise From Top Left: Students show interest in the Hillel table during the Activities Fair; Students are attracted by the TV at a Fair table; UC Senior Mark Rodkey doesn't seem fazed by parking fee; UC Democrats VP Geoffrey Brace knows a good photo-op when he sees one. Sophomore constituent Bradford Joyce shakes his hand; A toss to the end zone is thwarted from becoming a TD and falls incomplete.

Photos by Bradford Joyce, Joseph Laskas, Audrey Molineux
The small white signs dot the winding, rural stretch of Pennsylvania Route 29 that runs from Collegeville to Allentown through Montgomery, Berks and Lehigh Counties. They are found in yards, storefronts, and billboards, with modified versions adorning the license plates and bumpers of many an area vehicle. Their message is simple and clear, the words STOP PANDA emblazoned in bold black capital letters, words that have become a rallying cry for area residents and made our own corner of small town America an unexpected hotbed of political activism.

Exactly what is it that has united people from the rural end of this strip of road with empathizing advocates some 40 miles away (an hour in distance along Route 29) in the suburban and urban towns and cities of the greater Lehigh Valley and beyond? The issue at the heart of what is becoming an increasingly bitter confrontation between Panda Energy International, a Dallas-based power company, and the residents of places like East Greenville, Red Hill, and most notably the tiny village of Palm, PA, is Panda’s plan to build a 1,000 megawatt natural gas fueled generating facility in this, the rural heart of pastoral Upper Perkiomen Valley. The site of the proposed project includes land in Berks County’s Hereford Township and Upper Hanover Township of Montgomery County, and will draw water resources from the Lehigh Valley’s most important water source, the Lehigh River. Questions from residents of all the area’s towns are as numerous as they are varied. The worry in smaller towns has as much to do with preserving the rural beauty of their home as it does with very serious environmental concerns, while in areas like Allentown and Emmaus, where the proposed plant will draw its water resources from and where the plant’s treated waste will be dumped back into the Lehigh, water shortages and contamination are of serious concern. Others in the area simply resent big, out of state businesses like Panda setting up shop in an area where many residents have lived their whole lives, growing up, raising families, and getting along very well without the kinds of energy production Panda claims they need.

An issue of key contention is the location of the proposed project, which would see the creation of a sprawling four stack facility consume the green areas surrounding Palm and abutting the beautiful and historic Palm Schwenkfelder Church. Growing concern prompted church members and community residents to form the Partners for Community Preservation, an activist group which describes itself as “a grassroots organization initiated by members of Palm Schwenkfelder Church and residents of surrounding communities in an effort to maintain the integrity of the Upper Perkiomen Valley. Our goals are to increase public awareness of proposed development in environmentally sensitive areas and the consequences thereof, to promote wise land management policies, and protect the quality of life and scenic vistas insulating the Upper Perkiomen Valley from the frenetic pace of surrounding urban areas. By preserving our small town treasures, rural character, and open spaces we safeguard a great natural resource that cannot be replaced” (Partners for Community Preservation Homepage, http://www.penweb.org/palm.html).

While anti-Panda residents (and there are many, very many of them) claim that the creation of a power facility in Palm would ruin the charm and more importantly the environment of the surrounding area, Panda has defended its position in letters to the Allentown Morning Call, (the leading newspaper of the Lehigh Valley with a distribution that includes the Upper Perkiomen Valley), arguing that it has every right to build on the land, zoned as it is for future commercial use, and that the predicted energy needs of the area require the building of such a facility. The claim has also been made that the Panda’s plan to build a power plant built far away from all homes and residential areas, effectively requiring them to be built in natural areas yet unspoiled by the creeping sprawl of city, town, and suburb. The implication is that area residents care more about preserving the beauty of their towns (which are already zoned for further commercial development) than they do about truly protecting the environmental as a whole.

In response, residents have pointed out what they feel to be the corporate lies of a company dedicated to their project, citing Panda’s claim that Palm, Pa, was like the sanitary equivalent of a third world country and that Panda would equip the town (which is in reality quite clean) with proper sewage facilities. The residents and leaders of Palm and their neighbors seem to be saying “thanks, but no thanks,” to the energy giant, as Lower Milford Township supervisors passed a resolution in February opposing the plant and in June, Upper Hanover’s zoning officer followed suit. With each passing day and each new impasse reached between members of the community and Panda executives, the battle lines become increasingly clear. Though the simple white and black yard signs are red are the most common, more politically charged messages are beginning to pop up along the usually quiet Route 29, a signal that this latest clash between corporate America and middle America has galvanized the area and all sides are painfully aware of the stakes.

The future of the plant remains in question, but each week this series will take an in depth look at the way area residents from across the political and pro/anti Panda spectrum feel about the situation. Look for stories about the future of Palm Schwenkfelder Church, the nature of the Upper Perkiomen Valley’s new found activist spirit, as well as the views of those, perhaps even more “radical” given the local climate, who support the Panda project.

This is the first part of an ongoing series exploring the local citizens’ fight against the construction of a new plant.

Want To Be Heard???

To sound off any subject, react to articles, issues and state your opinions, submit a letter to the editor at grizzly@ursinus.edu.
Roving Reporter #1

"How diverse is our campus?"

"I think it's diverse, but it's still 'cliquey.' Just because we're diverse doesn't mean we spread out and meet other people."

--- Kate Juliano
Freshman

"I don't think our campus is as diverse as it could be."

--- Salita Kaistha
Freshman

"Our campus is diverse only because admissions carefully selects minorities, not necessarily because the school appeals to minorities."

--- Travis Allred
Sophomore

"Our campus is diverse, however people tend to segregate themselves."

--- Sebastian Voltarelli
Sophomore

Roving Reporter #2

"Are UC students upset at the possibility of losing squatting rights?"

"I think it is unfair. I hate it. I don't want to be kicked out of the suite I like."

--- Laura Hamilton
Sophomore

"Revoking squatting rights will make it impossible for Greek organizations to function on campus. I think it will make most students very unhappy."

--- Zack Ballard
Junior

"I think it stinks because it's taking away from tradition."

--- Tim D'Andrea
Sophomore

"Room selection based on seniority, advanced credit is reasonable. There is no purpose to eliminate squatting."

--- Steve Jarjisian
Sophomore

"With no other purpose than to further eradicate Greeks on campus, the decision to eliminate students' choice to squat will result in an uproar."

--- Ben Laidig
Sophomore

"I think taking away squatting privileges is ridiculous."

--- Dianaleigh Dabkowski
Sophomore
Advice on Long-Distance Romance

I’m a freshman and my girlfriend is a senior in high school. I’m worried that our relationship will fall apart now that I’m away at school. What can I do to hold us together?

Worried About Long Distance

Dear Worried,

Starting college is tough. You need to remember that college is your new home. You’ve got so many things to worry about: making new friends, studying for classes and adjusting to life away from home. You are going to meet new people and experience so many new things that your ideas and views of the world are probably going to change.

All this and more can put a strain on your relationship with your girlfriend, since she probably won’t understand what you’re going through. But if your relationship is really strong, and you both care enough for each other, a long-distance romance is possible, if not ideal.

When you’re at school, sometimes nothing feels better than a letter from home or a late-night phone call. Remember, it really is a small world, and with technology, communicating has never been easier.

Snail mail, phone calls, e-mail, instant messaging, etc. can all help you keep in touch with that special someone back home.

Long distance relationships are hard, but they really can work if you put the effort in.

Good luck!

Comments sought for tenure review

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 Williamson (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.
In the "Ad" Campaign, Uber 'Rocks the Vote!'

Contest Chooses High Flyer in Election Race

Dan Reimold
Co-Editor-in-Chief

The elections for freshmen class office positions this past week produced a barrage of eye-catching, creative campaign flyers and slogans.

While the winners at the polls were selected by fellow members of the class of 2004 last Thursday, Sept. 7, we at The Grizzly took a look at which candidate displayed the best self-advertisements, choosing among three standouts a winner in our first annual, "Ad, I'd and Superego Contest".

Drum roll please...

2nd runner-up—Trevor Mohr

Blending a sarcastic view of the past and present into an effective, visually stimulating sign, freshman VP candidate Trevor Mohr gave his constituents a look at the man who made summer reading a living hell: Galileo Galilei. Why is the famed astronomer holding a wine bottle and looking ready to kick back and get unbelievably drunk?

We can only assume it's because he has just received yet another letter from his chaste, overbearing daughter.

Somewhere, Dava Sobel is planning a sequel.

Runner-up—Julie Micklos

Knowledge of pop culture is always a plus in any campaign and freshman Julie Micklos proves she is an abnormally large movie buff.

With a still shot from "Angus", complete with new, Micklos-scripted dialogue adorning her flyer, the class secretarial candidate is betting fellow freshmen have a soft spot for early 90s teen flicks.

Her slogan, by far the most unique among candidates, sums her position up perfectly, stating in bold black letters, "Normalcy is overrated."

We agree.

And the winner is...

Nathan Uber

Freshman presidential candidate Nathan Uber-mensch knows what the people want. Running a campaign fueled by green dough and silicon (see Spears, above right), Uber shook up the field with his witty repertoire of music (see Spears, above right), movies (one poster donned a "Dazed 'n' Confused" smiley-face) and money, money, money (Uber-power is now accepted at Zack's).

Uber wins The Grizzly's 1st annual "Ad, I'd and Superego Contest" most of all for his gung-ho, self-confident, egotistical, if not exactly tactful, campaign style, using celebrities and American currency as aids in his fight to the top.

In lesser news, Uber was elected class president.

If the race was close, he may just have won, not by a landslide, but by a shot of Britney's cleavage (see Spears, above)

"This is the story of a guy named Lucky..."

Dan Reimold was dazed and confused when he wrote this.
Letters to the Editor

Forget the Fountain!

Is a nice pretty fountain a good idea? ("Fountain Near Pfahler in the Works For Next Fall" V. 25 1.2) Ha. Why waste the money? I am paying a ton of money to go here, and in just our bathroom alone there are no paper towels or soap, and the toilet paper is so thin it rips when you get even near touching it! Yeah, let’s spend a whole bunch of money on a fountain in front of a building that hardly anyone ever gets back to. Who needs good toiletries anyway?

—Melissa Tucker

Food for Thought

When a student informs us that there are almost no healthy, well balanced options for a meal ("UC Freshman Recalls Horrors of Freshman Fifteen" V. 25 1.2), we respond with the question: Did you walk around the dining hall before you selected your meal items?

Every day at your student restaurant, we have an island salad bar, directly in the center of the dining area. On this salad bar are two choices of lettuce, 19 totally vegetable toppings, 1 protein topping, and 1-2 lowfat meat toppings for your salad. Most of these choices are packed full of vitamins and minerals, like baby spinach leaves, broccoli florets, carrots, etc., all of which are loaded with iron, vitamins, and minerals. Some of the items actually take more calories to digest than they add to your system, like cabbage. In addition, we offer three totally fat free dressings at all times, two low fat dressings, and 2-3 health salads like 3-bean salad, coleslaw, potato salad with oil instead of mayonnaise, etc.

In checking this week’s menus, we counted over 80 items which are low-fat or fat-free. Ninety-five percent of our vegetables are steamed, and the ones that are not steamed are usually sautéed in low-fat vegetable oil. We have a delicious vegetarian feature daily at both lunch and dinner, which includes such items as Vegetarian Foccacia, Pasta with Ratatouille, Asian Noodle Toss, Vegetable Cous-Cous, Wheatberry Pilaf, and the list goes on.

Every day at lunch and dinner, we have "The Green Scene" which is a self or chef-attended stir-fry station with six or more freshly prepared vegetarian entrees, eight or more vegetable items to create your own dish, and over ten sauce choices, all of which are fat free or low fat.

We encourage you to explore further and see what we have to offer. We welcome any suggestions and recommendations, and will be implementing a student dining committee in the near future. Anyone wishing to be a part of this committee, please let us know.

Tom Strode
Asst. Director of Dining Services

We Knew It Had a Purpose

"You know what the fountain is going to be used for: people are going to puke in it and people are going to piss in it."

—Erin Seitz, '03

Thanks for Raising Awareness

I’m so glad to see an interesting and educational article about meningitis. ("Meningitis: What UC Students Need to Know" V.25 2.1) You mentioned that a student was infected at Drexel University. Michael was a friend of mine; we grew up together and our mothers went to nursing school together. My sophomore year here he was a freshman at Drexel. He went home to New Jersey to work one weekend and didn’t feel well on Sunday. Monday night he was taken to the hospital and on Tuesday evening, my 19-year-old friend passed away.

On behalf of his parents, who have been fighting for almost four years to get HMO’s to cover the vaccine, I thank you. They want every college student to receive the vaccine because even if it saves one student like Michael, an $80 vaccine will be priceless.

Ellen J. Mueller
Assistant Director of Annual Giving
Ursinus College

Cutting Education Short...

It is a weekday afternoon on the campus of Ursinus College and somewhere in Olin a frustrated professor is screaming to be heard.

The reason this educator, and many others, are being forced to raise their voices to gain their class’ attention has nothing to do with obnoxious students, cranky ceilings or noise from a nearby hallway.

The real racket that has students straining their ears and professors up in arms is completely out in the open, just beyond the classroom window. It is the monstrous, zamboni-like lawnmower contraptions cutting grass and classes short with a din so deafening it can be heard approaching from over a quarter-mile away.

Many a class in Olin, Bomberger and Pfahler, among others, has fallen prey to the forced silence these manned machines command as they slowly motor by, supposedly unaware, just outside.

As students at a liberal arts college, we appreciate the visual beauty of our campus and the effort it takes to keep everything nice, neat and cut back.

But, as tuition rates skyrocket, our first priority must be to understand the very teachers we are paying to hear speak.

We respect that classes run throughout the day and that the one time none are held, the Common Hour, lunch takes precedence over landscaping. In a 9-to-5 workday, conflicts with individual classes is inevitable. This conflict, however, seems to be growing (pun intended) and our education is the only substantial thing being cut short.

Life is life. The sky is blue, the grass is green and after a time, it must be cut. We are not angry at the effort to do just that, just at the bad timing, the deafening volume and the high frequency. The college is for learning first, and the general upkeep of campus grounds is interfering with that main priority.

---D.R.

Apathy Lay Dying...

Apathetic. Lazy. Uncaring. Unmotivated. Slackers. The days of the UC college kid stereotype may fast be coming to an end.

The recent rash of students inspired to begin brand new clubs, organizations and activities at UC is inspiring and welcome on a campus known historically for its general apathy toward involvement outside of class.

Scuba Diving, Snowboarding, Debate Club and Write for Life are just four of the ten (count ‘em ten!) student-initiated activities at this very moment attempting to draw up constitutions, generate interest and plan opening meetings and events.

No small feat, but when students are aware their hard work will pay off in high membership, memorable events and making a positive difference, it all seems worth it.

The Activities Fair was another positive event, held this past week, cementing student interest in existing UC organizations. Apart from tradition and freshmen recruitment, its purpose serves as a reminder that Ursinus offers a bigger and better collegiate experience once becoming involved outside the classroom.

If a higher level of participation and passion in student groups is a trend, we hope it continues.

---D.R.
Freshman Orientation: a time to meet new friends, settle into a new home, relax, have fun and read an entire book over the weekend? Since when did the pressures of having to finish an entire book within the span of one weekend become fun?

This year's freshmen class received this assignment only one day after reaching campus and most hadn't even finished the assigned summer reading, creating a heated controversy among the class of 2004 and their Orientation leaders.

UC Senior Karen Rudloff, one of this year's Orientation Interns, spent the entire summer preparing four days of activities for incoming students with the reasoning that if freshmen are occupied, they will not become homesick.

While it is nice to set aside two hours to meet professors and go over summer reading, read or unread, questions have arisen as to why new UC students must be assigned homework as part of their orientation experience. "I don't see why it is necessary," said Rudloff. "Orientation is meant to be four days spent with your classmates, participating in non-stressful activities. Being forced to sit in a classroom the day after they got here for two hours, doing essays and intense discussions is too much for a new student going through a transition."

Sophomore Edwin Chacko, an Orientation Assistant and president of the class of 2003 commented, "whether it's during Orientation or the first official day of classes, they have to get their first class over with some time."

But if you know you have a book to read and orientation events to go to, what takes priority? For new freshmen not wanting to fall behind, the choice is obvious.

After the assignment was given, participation at orientation activities dwindled. What do the freshmen have to say about this?

"I liked having the opportunity of meeting one of my professors and getting it out of the way," an anonymous member of the class of 2004 said. "But, a majority of my classmates felt sick to their stomachs the night before and day of."

Who wouldn't when the task at hand includes reading a 360-page, dense book over the lazy, hazy days of summer? That was even before they got to classes.

The question remains, what happened afterwards?

"The reading assignment definitely put a damper on the weekend," a freshman noted. "When you wanted to go out and meet people, you had to sit in your room and read. When you did attend one of the orientation programs, you couldn't help but have in the back of your mind nagging feelings regarding when you would find time to get the reading done."

Now, don't get me wrong, I find it highly necessary and helpful to assign summer reading. When I came in as a freshman, I too had to read a book and I enjoyed doing so. Yet now, being an Orientation Assistant myself, I saw how it affected the freshmen; some were actually paralyzed with fear. We, as O.A.'s, work extremely hard to make sure that the new class is enjoying itself and feeling comfortable in its new surroundings. But, when freshmen don't show up for events because they have too much reading, that bothers me and us, as a group.

From what I hear, CIE is a wonderful addition to the Ursinus curriculum, but is it really necessary to overload a scared new student the first weekend they are here?

Freshman Orientation: a time to introduce freshmen to the Ursinus College lifestyle and whether one likes it or not, this includes classes and homework. Now I am not implying that we are all bookworms and should spend 24 hours at the library. But the real reason we are here is to get a degree in a field of interest and to do this, we actually have to go to classes and do homework.

The CIE classes that are held during freshman orientation are like smelling salts, resurrecting the freshmen back to an academic life after a summer of graduation parties and outrageous senior weeks. It is an essential part of the orientation program because it is an introduction to what classes are like, before they actually begin and if nothing else, it gives freshmen a chance to quibble amongst themselves about how they didn't do their summer reading yet.

Now freshmen, you had three months to read the designated book. What difference does it make if you review it during orientation or a measly three days later when classes officially begin? Either way, if you waited to the last minute, you would have been swamped with reading. As you know from participating in freshman orientation, it is filled with action packed days and if you didn't do the few hours a day in the summer to read or to reflect on one meager book and having discussions during orientation isn't as horrible as you make it sound considering that you, as freshmen, have to start somewhere. College isn't easy and the pampering that you may have gotten in high school is no longer in the picture. So toughen up and welcome to college life here at UC. It doesn't get any easier, so stop your complaining.
Campaign 2000: The Presidential Debates

The Debate on the Debates: Political Rhetoric or Real Issue?

Brian Berg
Opinions Editor

To debate or not to debate: this has been the question dominating headlines since both George Bush and Al Gore kicked their campaigns into high-gear over Labor Day weekend. Al Gore launched a pre-emptive strike about a week before beginning his 27-hour, five-city Labor Day mini-marathon by accepting three debates proposed by the Commission on Presidential Debates.

The commission, a nonprofit, nonpartisan group, has sponsored all general election debates since 1988 and follows a set, 90-minute format with coverage on the major national television networks.

After Gore's announcement, Bush held a press conference rejecting the proposed debate plan and laid out his own. Bush proposed having one 90-minute commission debate covered by all major networks and two less formal 60-minute debates covered by a single network.

Bush's proposed debate on NBC's Meet the Press and an Oct. 3 debate on CNN's Larry King Live and added an exclamation point to his debate plan by showing a July 16 clip from Meet the Press, where Gore said, "I've accepted, for two or three months now, your [NBC's] invitation to debate on this program. Have you gotten a 'yes' from Governor Bush yet?" and a March 14 clip from Larry King Live where Gore said, "I accept, I accept."

Although Bush's video clips were certainly embarrassing for Gore, the Republicans have been bearing the brunt of the negative press and have really been put on the offensive by the entire issue. Eager to settle the issue and shift focus back to the campaign, Bush is trying to negotiate with Gore and according to the Washington Post, is ready to accept three commission debates if Gore will agree to change the format to more informal "town-hall" style.

The current controversy raises the question, "Does it matter?"

Is this debate on debates simply partisan politicking carried too far, or is there really a lot at stake for the two candidates?

The answer is that there is a lot at stake and the debate on debates could possibly hold the key to the entire election. According to the latest polls, the race is still a statistical dead-heat and in a media-driven campaign, where image is everything, a good performance in a nationally televised debate could break the tie and secure the White House for either candidate.

Bush's strength is not his formality. He looks much better in a relaxed atmosphere and when put side-by-side with Gore in an informal setting, will probably come off as much more authentic.

While the Gore camp is focused on maintaining their convention "bounce" in the polls, the Bush camp is focused on regaining momentum and positioning themselves to take the lead late in the race, when Gore will have time to mount a comeback. These two different political strategies underscore the debate on debates: Gore is looking for immediate headlines that make Bush look foolish for not debating, while Bush is looking to secure a debate format that will capitalize on his strengths, highlight Gore's weaknesses and position him for political gains closer to election day.

Thus, the debate on debates encompasses much more than simple partisan politics, it could well indeed hold the key to the White House for either candidate and is proving to be a crucial element in determining the long and short term political strategies for both Bush and Gore.

In Search of Greener Pastures, Left Abandons Nader

Brian Berg
Opinions Editor

In this era of corporate cash and special interests, Ralph Nader comes as a breath of fresh air. Although Bush and Gore may hold center stage, Nader has been trying to fight his way in from the wings since he was nominated as a Presidential candidate by the progressive Green Party of America.

Nader's message is simple: crack down on corporate greed and get the money out of politics. After a half-hearted Presidential bid in 1996, Nader has thrown all his energy into this year's race. He has already raised over $2 million dollars and is hoping to reach the $5 million mark, has already visited all 50 states and is expecting to be on the ballot in at least 45.

As his website (www.votenader.com) describes it, "the Nader 2000 campaign will take on the ballot-shielded two-party duopoly of Tweedledum and Tweedledee and give voice not only to regular voters, but to the half of all eligible voters who do not vote because they do not believe their vote means anything." But, while this sounds noble, will that voice be heard?

A few years ago, Nader was a respected and even feared person virtually creating the field of public-interest law and forcing the passage of consumer protections that have saved countless lives.

Now candidate Nader can't even get into the Presidential debates.

Faced with a two percent rating in the latest CNN/Time poll, Nader's campaign is not running to win as much as it is trying to gain a spot on the political map.

If Nader could solidify support from the left, he might have a chance to possibly break into double digits in the polls and finally solidify a legitimate third party alternative to our current two-party system.

However, the very left-wing constituency that should be helping Nader is now walking away from him. The problem is that Nader's message is almost exclusively targeted on corporate excess and many on the fragmented left-wing feel that Nader is soft on many of their core social issues such as civil rights, animal rights, and gay rights.

Nader's legalistic "change from within" method also does not have wide appeal for radicals that want to bring the system down.

Nader's advisor Ross Mirkarimi commented to the Washington Post that working for change is "not as sexy as shutting something down."

Overall, if Nader hopes to have an impact, he must be let into the Presidential debates.

But in the age of image, three is too much of a crowd and Nader's anti-corporate message would probably be too much for Bush and Gore to handle live.

Unfortunately, Nader will most likely wind up watching the Presidential debates on television just like the rest of us.
**Church on Film**

**The Way of the Gun**

Jeff Church
A & E Editor

The Way of the Gun

James Caan ... Joe Sarno
Benicio del Toro ... Longbaugh
Ryan Phillippe ... Parker
Taye Diggs ... Jeffers

Jeff Church

Christopher McQuarrie has a wonderful ability to create austere characters without any sense of morality in a chaotic and random world. McQuarrie produced the brilliant play for Suspects, for his own ends and then killing them.inghis family or using a group of thieves & Church

Christopher McQuarrie

In The Usual Suspects, we follow a group of thieves who are morally reprehensible. However, they do have an underlying code of conduct—they choose to steal without killing. Kaiser Soze seems like a ghost throughout the film—legends and hazy stories are told about the brutality and amorality of Soze, but he never seems to show up anywhere. The amorality lurks just below the surface of the film—at some points it peaks out, only to return back to the seemingly ordered police station.

On the other hand, McQuarrie pushes the amorality to the surface at the very beginning of The Way of the Gun, so McQuarrie takes the next step—the world does not even have a seeming order anymore. Although I did enjoy his technique of the "lurking" dread in his The Usual Suspects more than the all-too-forward Way of the Gun, The Way of the Gun did offer glimpses of transcendence over the chaotic world.

Questions of God, immortality, and the value of human existence spark in the otherwise grey, amoral eyes of Parker and Longbaugh.

McQuarrie also offers innovative glimpses above your average action film—a car chase slows down in tight alleys, the shooters using a moving car as a shield. Del Toro and Phillippe played their anti-hero characters with stoic precision. James Caan infuses the film with wisdom from another era of gangster films.

Unfortunately, McQuarrie only offers glimpses of innovation—there are so many scenes where the characters hide behind obstacles and try to shoot at each other. The plot has so many twists and turns that you might leave the theatre dizzy.

**Rating:** (out of 4 stars) ***

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**This Week at UC: Sept. 12-17**

**Tuesday, Sept. 12**
12:30 p.m. Career Services Senior Orientation & Registration Pfahler 207
4:00 Career Services Senior Orientation & Registration Pfahler 207
7:30 College Choir Bomberger Auditorium

**Wednesday, Sept. 13**
12:30 p.m. Career Services Senior Orientation & Registration Pfahler 207
4:00 Career Services Senior Orientation & Registration Pfahler 207
5:30 Spanish Table Faculty and Staff Dining Room

**Thursday, Sept. 14**
12:30 p.m. Career Services Senior Orientation & Registration Pfahler 207
3:45 Faculty Salon: Parker J. Palmer Berman Museum, Upper Gallery
4:00 Career Services Senior Orientation & Registration Pfahler 207

**Friday, Sept. 15**
Red & Gold Day
Philadelphia: Art, history exhibit by sculptor Cornelia Parker.
Institute of Contemporary Art, 118 S. 36th St

**Sunday, Sept. 17**
11:00 a.m. Ecumenical Service Bomberger Auditorium
4:00 p.m. Mass Bomberger Auditorium

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**The Tao of Steve**

Donal Logue ... Dex
Greer Goodman ... Syd

Directed by Jennipher Goodman

What a smart and witty screenplay! Although this movie does belong to the tired genre of romantic comedy, The Tao of Steve is so funny, incisive, and intelligent that you forget it belongs to the same category as You’ve Got Mail.

The Tao of Steve follows a few weeks in the life of Dex, an intelligent but unmotivated overweight philosopher / kindergarden teacher. The film begins with the ten year reunion of Dex’s college class. We find that Dex once used to be a “skinny and arrogant prick” who was extremely popular with the ladies. He idolized the “Steve”s”—the American archetype of coolness—Steve Austin, Steve McQueen. As a result, he fused Eastern philosophy with the “Steve”s” demeanor (too cool for this world) to form a philosophy for picking up women.

Any movie that uses Kierkegaard’s relationship to Don Giovanni to underscore the main character’s life has to be a great film.

It is really refreshing to see a film about average-looking people (with average-looking actors). Dex follows a philosophy to act as if he is the good-looking Steve McQueen, but he gradually realizes that he must act as he really is. The Tao of Steve is the philosophy of Hollywood beauties, not the philosophy of the everyday.

**Rating:** (out of 4 stars) ***1/2
**Literary Society**

Every Wednesday Night at 9:00pm,
Zwingli Java Trench, 620 Main Street.
Come out to read poetry, drink coffee, or just listen.

**Organizational Meeting for UC's Literary Magazine, The Lantern, will be on TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 at 4:30pm in the WRITING CENTER (3rd floor Olin). Anyone interested who cannot attend the meeting should email Jeff Church at jechurch.**

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**The Buzz**

**Padraig Maroney**

*Special to the Grizzly*

**Hole has found their Oasis**

Hole is looking to go back to the studio sometime next month to start work on their next album. Currently, the band is putting together the list of songs to place on the album. One track being considered was written by Courtney Love and Liam Gallagher of Oasis. As of now, there is no official replacement for Melissa Aur Def Maur.

**Real World sign-ups**

The Real World is currently in the process of casting both its tenth and eleventh seasons.

The first season will be returning to New York City, where the show originated, but no location for the eleventh has been given. Casting info can be found at bunim-murray.com.

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**Behind-the-Scenes Entertainment News**

**Surviving Hollywood Squares**

For those of you who still can’t get enough of “Survivor”, “Hollywood Squares” will be having Richard Hatch, Sue Hawk, Jenna Lewis, and Gervase Peterson appear on the show for a special “Survivor” themed week from September 25th to the 29th.

The week will also include original comic skits with show regulars Caroline Rhea, Whoopi, Bruce Vilanch, and Gilbert Gottfried.

**Jar Jar Binks Isn’t In It**

The original “Star Wars” trilogy will be returning to video November 21st as a box set. The added bonus this time will be the 10 minute look at the upcoming “Episode 2”, which will be released next summer.

**Spiderman movie has villians**

John Malkovich is in talks to star as Green Goblin along with Phillip Seymour Hoffman (Magnolia, Talented Mr. Ripley) as Dr. Octopus in the live action film based on the “Spiderman” comic book...In other comicbook movie news, Dimension Films is trying to get Johnny Depp to agree to star in a movie based on the Ghost Rider series.

Padraig Maroney writes this column for the Bucks County Courier Times.

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**www.Internet Site of the Week.com**

This Week: thebolt.com

**Lauren Cyrsky**

Co-Editor-in-Chief

If you like to check your horoscope, go shopping online, play games, feel like entering a few contests and filling out a couple of surveys all at one cool website, then Bolt.com is the one for you. I've been receiving sporadic e-mails from them since I signed up to be on their e-mailing list at the Vans Warped Tour this past summer. The site's loaded with interesting stuff to read, places to voice your opinions to the rest of the bolt community, and other random points of interest.

Topics for discussion that are posted by other members range from activism and cars to poetry and writing. Through the "tagbooks" that Bolt has set up for more than 7,000 of its members, you can respond to questions ("What's the best finishing move in the WWF?") that are posted daily and share an opinion with fellow members.

Other people are always online, so if there's a game you need an opponent for, then search no further. You can "zap" friends - it's similar to sending an instant message - and get them to join in on your fun.

If you're a music buff, there's a section devoted solely to the discussion of whether MP3s are comparable to CDs and who's better: The Beastie Boys or Rage Against the Machine?

For everyone who loves to peruse those shops that aren't always found at a mall near you, there are links to Blades Board and Skate Shop, Ecko, Diesel, Fresh Jive, and Kappa - among others.

So, whether you're a girl or guy who likes to check out the coolest trends in music and clothes or an intellectual who enjoys debating the many issues presented in the world today, you'll enjoy bolt.com.
An Interview With Ryan Phillippe

Padraic Maroney
Special to the Grizzly

September 12, 2000

This month as Ryan Phillippe turn 26 and things seem to only be getting better for him both professionally, as his latest movie, "Way Of the Gun", comes out and personally, with his wife and daughter.

Ryan Phillippe grew up a loner in high school in Delaware. One of the only school activities he was involved in was the soccer team. Though he says, "Now I come home and hear about this really interesting social life I wasn’t aware of and all these girls I dated".

At age 17, Phillippe got an agent in Philadelphia and ended up landing a role on the soap opera "One Life To Live", where he played the first gay teenager on daytime television.

After “One Life To Live”, he ventured into movies and hasn’t gone back. Despite making his debut in “White Squall”, it wasn’t until 1997’s “I Know What You Did Last Summer” that he came into the spotlight. He modestly says that, though he expected the movie to be successful, he didn’t expect the personal affects that were directed towards him because he wasn’t the main character.

Last year, Phillippe had an equally successful film with “Cruel Intentions” which he co-starred in with then girlfriend Reese Witherspoon. Shortly before the movie came out it was announced that the couple was expecting a baby and would be married.

A unique trait that many of Phillippe’s characters have is that many do not survive the duration of the film to see the end credits. He says that that is no coincidence. He likes to take his characters to a stopping point because often you have characters that are started but not finished, which leaves the audience wondering what happens after the movie.

Having a baby has made him rethink his roles, unless they are responsibly carried out, as well as his priorities. “Work is not the focus, just the way you make your money,” he said sitting in the lobby of the hotel.

His new movie, “Way of the Gun”, opened on September 8th. Some of his younger fans may be disappointed because “Way of The Gun” is a much darker film than most of his other movies. But even if some of his younger fans do tend to shy away from this movie, he hopes that maybe it will bring out new fans — mainly men. “A lot of guys hate me and with this they might like me a little bit more because it’s like the tough guy. I read things about guys saying they hate Ryan Phillippe.”

After “Way of the Gun”, Phillippe has another movie that will be out early next year with Tim Robbins called “Anti-Trust”, which he promises to be very “popcorny entertainment”. In the future he plans to start producing different projects and may direct once he gets older.

Phillippe talked about his different views on Hollywood and politics, which shows that he has a serious side to him. But when the topic of music came up he says that he listens to hip-hop, jazz, and punk. When the topic of boy bands came up, he simply said, “What do you think” and left it at that. But he joked about the resemblance he and ‘NSync member Justin Timberlake share, “I say that he is my son”.

This Week in Entertainment

Movies Opening this Friday, Sept. 15

Bait, starring Jamie Fox
Duets, starring Gwyneth Paltrow

Movies Released to Video this Tuesday, Sept. 12

Mission to Mars
East is East

Music Releases this Tuesday, Sept. 12

Christina Aguilera, Mi Reflejo
Barenaked Ladies, Maroon
Boys II Men, Nathan Michael Shawn Wanya
Al Green, Take Me to the River

"Heads."
"Heads."
"Heads."

Will the Coin Ever Land Tails?
UC Film Society Presents

Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead

Written and Directed by Tom Stoppard
Starring Gary Oldman and Tim Roth as Rosencrantz and Guildenstern (even Claudius can't tell them apart). Also look for Richard Dreyfuss as the head of the players.

Tuesday, September 12, 7:30pm, Olin Auditorium
Concert Review: My Summer of 'N Sync

Megan Restine
Opinions Editor

The curtain dropped on Sat. July 22 at Foxboro Stadium in Massachusetts, and five figures were slowly lowered from the ceiling. As the melody of Pinocchio’s “I've Got No Strings” filled the air, the performers portrayed the roles of puppets suspended by strings. Upon reaching the stage, the members of 'N Sync symbolically break free from their restraints and erupt into the title track of their latest album, “No Strings Attached.”

The young, vibrant members of 'N Sync, certainly know how to make an N’trance! Presenting 'N Sync with much more than a warm welcome, thousands of enthusiastic fans, young and old alike, rose to their feet, screaming and singing along.

Justin Timberlake, JC Chasez, Lance Bass, Joey Fatone, and Chris Kirkpatrick immediately commanded the attention of every member of the audience for the next two hours. Performing hits from the group’s first album, including “Tearin’ Up My Heart” and “I Want You Back,” along with selections from their latest album, everyone was satisfied with the all-inclusive play list.

Intricate dance numbers, such as “It's Gonna Be Me” and “Space Cowboy,” clearly showcased their outstanding dancing abilities. The members of 'N Sync hit every choreographed step with amazing energy and enthusiasm. Taking a break from the action, the group interjected a few slower numbers, such as “I Thought She Knew” and “This I Promise You.” These beautiful ballads captured the hearts of every young lady in the audience with their heartfelt emotion and delightful harmonies.

The night was filled with dazzling and elaborate special effects. Along with the cable-suspension, the members of 'N Sync enrolled the use of lasers, treadmills, and pyrotechnics. They also enrolled the use of several moving sections of the stage, including one large section that actually lifted off of the stage and brought the group members fifty feet out into the audience.

The quality of 'N Sync’s live vocal performance ranked above and beyond that of their recorded albums. Since all of the music had to be revised in order for it to be played by a live band, each song harbored a fresh, new sound. Complimented by several a capella selections, including “I Thought She Knew” and “I Drive Myself Crazy,” the band had never sounded better.

A night filled with energy, talent, and raw emotion made for an unforgettable evening. Each number was performed with enthusiasm, which displayed the group’s sincere love of the music. 'N Sync’s remarkable presentation, extraordinary vocal performance, and complex special effects combined to create an evening enjoyed by all in attendance.

Finding a very poetic method of ending the show, the five members of 'N Sync finished with an encore performance of “Bye Bye Bye!”

Wyclef Makes Eclectic New Album

Chuck Pulsort
Staff Writer

Wyclef Jean returns to the music scene with his second solo album, The Eclectic: 2 Sides II a Book. This album is a great blend of pleasingly straightforward but musically adventurous sound and Wyclef picks up from his last record, The Carnival. In The Eclectic, he creates a huge tent where musical talents such as Whitney Huston, Mary, J. Blige, Kenny Rogers, and Pink Floyd can co-exist. Wyclef mixes up-beat hip-hop, freestyle rap session, and tender sounding duets, you cannot find such a wide range of music like this anywhere else.

Wyclef starts the CD by sending a nasty statement to his ex-group in “Where Fugee At.” On top of the soft horns and pounding drums, he sends a harsh statement to his old trio with stinging lines like “How quick y'all forget, I'm the reason y'all MC, but y'all flip like Pharisees and charge me with blasphemy.” This is not the only song where Wyclef makes an aggressive attack on someone. In “However You Want It,” he assaults his ex-protégé, Canibus, when he says, “I heard he’s lethal, and I’m too rusty to battle him. Me being rusty is like Biggie not being born again.”

Even though Wyclef’s song is just a musical onslaught against Canibus, “However You Want It” is clearly better than any of Canibus’ current efforts, which shows who is the master, and who is the apprentice.

In “Runaway,” the listener starts to understand Wyclef’s spectacular musical talent. In this song, he mixes hip-hop with the unique sound from Earth, Wind, and Fire to create a distinct music sensation. This song is not his only adventure in the unknown. Another burst of creativity, he is like a mad-scientist when he blends country with hip-hop in a kicking beat in “The Gambler” with Pharoahe Monch. Wyclef knows he has a sweet rhythm because in the song he says, “Put this song full blast, I’m about to break all formats.”

In “It Doesn’t Matter,” Wyclef raps with Melky Sedeck and WWF’s The Rock to create a song that will be on the radio and music video circuit real soon. In this song, he tells all rappers who are only about making money and news stories that it just doesn’t matter. Ironically, even though he’s telling everyone that music is more that just the money, he has wrestling’s poster boy rapping along side with him, who wears a different five hundred dollar Armani shirt on every episode of WWF’s Smackdown.

Despite the vicious attacks on his old group and Canibus, Wyclef created another work of art in The Eclectic: 2 Sides II a Story. You can see his superior musical talents not just when he blends his sound with other genres of music, but also how he orchestrates different instruments into his rap hits. This is definitely an album that is sure to sell out in every store and be on all of the Top Ten lists.

Rating: (out of 4 stars) ***

Want a CD Reviewed?
To submit suggestions for future album reviews, e-mail Chuck Pulsort at grizzlymusic@hotmail.com.
Rugby Looks to Have Tons of Fun in Fifth Season

Kate Gallagher
Staff Writer

The Women’s Rugby team is ready for another exciting season. Captains Karen Rudloff and Heather Lang are looking forward to the start of the new season lead the team.

The women’s rugby team was started here at Ursinus four years ago by Aly Yeager. It is one of many club teams that we have to offer at UC. The women’s rugby team is beginning to thrive once again due to the interest of incoming students who want to try an alternative sport offered here at school.

The team is coached by Dr. Celucci, a physics professor who volunteers his time to help the team improve. No prior experience is needed to become a member of the team because the coach and older skilled players are willing to work with new players to make the team the best it can be for the upcoming season.

The team has a lot of returning players who are coming off of a fun season last year. There were many exciting moments and the one highlight that is remembered was the tie against Kutztown when the team played their hearts out.

This season, practices are held between 4:30 and 6pm on Paisley Beach Monday thru Friday.

The season starts Sept. 30, when they take on Gettysburg and continues until Nov. 11 when they will play with a mission to better last season’s record against Kutztown.

When asked about the expectations for the upcoming season, Heather Lang said, “Our goals for the year are to play hard, perhaps win a few games, but most of all, to have fun!”

---Senior Brandy Kline

“Our goals for the year are to play hard, perhaps win a few games, but most of all, to have fun!”

---Senior Brandy Kline

Die-Hard Eagles Fans Take Heed: One Rout Doesn't Mean Birds Will Be Super Come January

John Mohl
Staff Writer

I must give Philadelphia Eagles fans credit: they sure do know how to plan ahead.

Already die-hard Eagle fans, you know, the ones who bought this year’s season tickets before the team even officially released them, are prepared! They have booked their flight to Tampa Bay, they’ve bought their tickets to the super bowl, they’ve purchased every imaginable piece of Eagles clothing that now dons every square inch of their body, and by now they have built their Andy Reid shrines, where they worship the now deified coach 63 times a day (61 for the not so devout). I dare say that Mayor Street himself has announced that the city of Philadelphia has dropped the cheesesteak as the official food symbol in favor of the pickle (supermarkets simply cannot keep up with the sudden pickle juice demand).

What has caused this sudden craze? One measly football game.

The Eagles beat a Dallas Cowboy team that is simply not the team it was years ago, a team depleted of its star players through trades, injuries, and retirements, a team with a new, inexperienced head coach. Let’s face it, it was a team that could have lost to any Pop Warner football team in the nation.

Don’t get me wrong. I could not begin to explain how glad I was to see the Eagles give the Cowboys the beating they so richly deserved, but the chip on my shoulder lies with the fans. While watching the 11 o’clock news, I was amused to see fans all throughout the area screaming and yelling about how the Eagles are going to win the Super Bowl.

As the great Yogi Berra once said, “It’s deja vu all over again.”

How true it is! It is typical for Eagles fans to talk about the Super Bowl after one measly game. I have seen this throughout the last decade, through the eras of Buddy Ryan, Richie Kotite, Ray Rhodes, and now Andy Reid.

The Eagles may win the first one, two, three, or (as they did one year) four games. It is when this occurs that the fans experience a mass hallucination of the Vince Lombardi Trophy being hoisted in the air by the Eagles quarterback (whichever one it may have been at the time; there have been about 827 in the past ten years).

Unless you are not a follower of the Eagles or have been living in a cave, you know that these fans can accurately predict their team’s fate as good as meteorologists can predict the weather.

The last (and only) time they were actually correct was in 1980, when the Eagles lost 27-10.

The Eagles head coach announced that he was finished with football because of burnout (and we all “knew” then that Dick Vermeil was never to make an impact on football again). The last time that the Eagles won the whole thing was in 1960; they didn’t even call it a Super Bowl then, it was simply the National Championship. The Eagles beat the Green Bay Packers 17-13, giving the first and only championship loss for (ironically) Vince Lombardi.

But in 1960, people weren’t as fanatic about it: they didn’t go to games half-naked, they didn’t paint themselves green, and they certainly didn’t wear foam pickles on their head.

There is no need to fear, this craze will end: they will lose eventually.

It will be then that the fans will scuffle their super-bowl tickets for three times what they’re worth a week before the game, the mass flights to Tampa will be canceled, they will demand that they receive money to wear those ugly green Eagles jackets, and a lynch mob will be formed demanding pitiful coach Andy Reid’s resignation.

Yes, it will be then that everything returns to normal: Philadelphia will be the good ol’ City of Brotherly Love.

If not, heck, then perhaps I should eat more pickles... they would apparently be working miracles.
Nicole DiMascio, '01
Volleyball

Highlight This Past Week: Nikki led the Bears with nine kills to beat Washington 3-0. She also contributed 13 kills and 24 defensive digs against Chowan.

Athletic Accomplishments:
- Co-captain
- Honor roll
- All-Centennial Conference Honorable Mention
- MVP in '98
- Led team in digs last season

Teammates Say:
Senior Jodi Smith: "Nikki leads by example on and off the court. She always has something encouraging to say. Nikki's a very dependable player because you know she's always going to be there."

Activities/Experiences at UC:
- Played Basketball for the Bears from '97 to '98

Favorite class at Ursinus:
Mass Media with Dr. Edwards

After Ursinus, I see myself...
"graduating, getting a job and then just taking it one year at a time, no real plans."

Scott Hussey, '02
Soccer

Highlight This Past Week: Scott led the Bears past Lycoming College, scoring the only goal of the game in the first round of the Ursinus Invitational. He also scored the first goal against Wesley last Wednesday.

Athletic Accomplishments:
- NJ All State High School Selection
- NJ All County High School Selection
- NJ All Section High School Selection
- NJ Olympic Development Program

Teammates Say:
Junior Kevin Pouset says: "Scott reads the game well and is going to be a big scorer for us this season. He is deceptively quick, with a powerful shot. He's always up for games and loves to win."

Junior Chris Got says: "He always works hard on the field, and has something positive to say to get everyone up for game time."

Activities/Experiences at UC:
Delta Phi Sigma Fraternity

Favorite class at Ursinus:
Philosophy 101 and 102 with Prof. Gildea

After Ursinus I see myself...
"graduating and I plan to go to graduate school for Computer Science."

Inspirational words to live by...
"I just go out and leave everything I have on the field and no matter what the outcome of the game I know there was nothing else I could have given or done."

By Diane Johnson, Sports Editor

This Week in Sports

Field Hockey
Fri., 9/15 at Georgetown 4p.m.
Sat., 9/16 Catholic (at Georgetown) 1p.m.

Football
Sat., 9/16 at Franklin and Marshall 1p.m.

Cross Country
No Meets Scheduled

Men's Soccer
Wed., 9/13 WIDENER 4p.m.
Sat., 9/16 at Franklin and Marshall 2p.m.

Women's Soccer
Wed., 9/13 at Swarthmore 4p.m.

Women's Volleyball
Thurs., 9/14 IMMACULATA 7p.m.
Sat., 9/16 Lebanon Valley Invitational
Mon., 9/18 at Widener 7p.m.
Field Hockey Still Looking For First Win

Danica Godri
Special to the Grizzly

Despite outshooting both teams, the Ursinus field hockey team fell to 0-4 overall, and 0-1 in the Patriot League after losing games this past week to LaSalle and Lafayette.

On Wednesday Sept. 6, Ursinus fell 3-1 to the LaSalle Explorers. LaSalle started out with a 2-0 lead early in the game. The Bears' reacted as junior Tara Lucas scored off a corner shot in the first half. Unfortunately, it was not enough, as LaSalle then scored another goal to make the final score 3-1. The Bears had 23 shots to LaSalle's four, and they dominated on penalty corners, 14-5.

"I think we played well, but we just weren't scoring. We gave up 2 goals on sloppy play," junior midfielder Tara Lucas said.

On Saturday Sept. 9, the field hockey team traveled to Easton, PA. The Bears were psyched for their first Patriot League game against the Lafayette Leopards. Once again, Ursinus outshot their opponent, this time 24-17. Unfortunately, the Leopards were able to get the ball in the goal 3 times as opposed to the Bears' 1.

"Our intensity level was really high which allowed us to step up and play. Our defense really put the pressure on," freshman Amanda Young said.

Sophomore Sandy Fetterman scored the lone goal for Ursinus in the second half, while sophomore Nicole Monastesi registered 12 saves for the Bears. The Bears pushed the ball up the field well, but couldn't finish enough around the goal.

Ursinus' next games are this Friday and Saturday, when they will travel to Washington to play Georgetown and Catholic Universities. Wednesday the 20th is their next Patriot League game, when they will travel to Bethlehem to play Lehigh. Two of the Bears' wins last year came from their games against Georgetown and Lehigh.

Men's Soccer: Win Over Wesley, Shut Out Vs. Scranton

Megan Restine
Opinions Editor

On Wednesday, Sept. 6, the Men's Soccer team traveled to Dover, DE to take on the Wesley College Wolverines.

Dominating the field from the very beginning, the Bears defeated the Wolverines with a score of 4-1.

Both the defense and offense factored greatly in this victory, as sophomore Jim Kappler called it "a balanced team effort."

Offensively, Ursinus surpassed Wesley, tallying 25 shots on goal, as opposed to the mere 12 shots by the Wolverines.

Early in the game, junior Scott Hussey scored the first goal for Ursinus, taking the assist from junior Steve Wilkes. Sophomore Russ Saurall fed the ball to sophomore Jonathan Miller for the second goal of the game.

Finishing up for the offense, juniors Mark Drinker and Chris Got each contributed one goal apiece.

On the defensive end, sophomore B.J. Callahan had a stellar day in goal, allowing only one goal by Wesley's Steve Adams.

The weekend, however, did not bring such good fortune to the Bears. Hosting the Scranton University Royals on Saturday Sept. 9, the Bears experienced their first overtime loss of the season, 1-0.

The Royals outshot the Bears on goal, 18-8, respectively. The game remained scoreless during regulation play.

With 13:45 left in overtime, Scranton's Jeremy Basedone managed to slip one by the UC goalie, sophomore Tim McDonald, to end the game. McDonald had racked up 14 saves on goal during the game.

"It was a tough game and we have to forget about it. We just have to come back hard from now on," McDonald stated with great enthusiasm.

Women's Soccer Splits at Pepsi Cardinal Classic

Diane Johnson
Sports Editor

On Saturday, the Lady Bears traveled to Plattsburgh, NY for the Pepsi Cardinal Classic.

In the first round, the Bears routed Southern Vermont 9-0. The Bears dominated the game and were very patient with the ball.

They utilized their back passes and moved the ball quickly up the field. Senior Lori Kruk and freshman Nicole Silversteen scored two goals a piece.

Junior Krista Bailey headed one goal and contributed with two assists. Krista Smith, Courtney Barth and Jess Troutman each added a goal. The Bears had 39 shots, while Southern Vermont had none. Although the competition wasn't great, we maintained our intensity and worked on strong ball movement." Senior Lori Kruk said.

The Bears advanced to the championship round against Plattsburgh State. The Bears outshot Plattsburgh 14-13, but failed to put the ball in the net when it counted. Plattsburgh defeated the Bears 1-0.

The speed of the game was much faster and more physical than Saturday's game.

Kruk commented, "They had a lot of speed and they beat us to the ball too many times. We stepped it up in the end, but we just couldn't score."

The Bears travel to Swarthmore on Wednesday for their first conference match-up.

On Saturday they will take on Washington on their home field at 1 pm.

Photos by Joseph Laskas, Photo Editor

Want to be a Weight Room Supervisor??

Contact:
Jeff Schepers
x2113
The Ursinus Bears Football Team hosted the Lebanon Valley Dutchman on Saturday, September 9 at Patterson Field and sent them home smelling more like trashmen than Dutchman. The Bears dominated both sides of the ball from the first minute of action until the last one and ended up with an easy 39 to 6 victory.

The Ursinus defense was stifling throughout the game, allowing only six points in sixty minutes of action. They were led by Kevin Mallon who appeared as a manchild to the overmatched Dutchman offense. Mallon recorded 3 tackles for a loss of 17 yards, 2 sacks, and 2 batted passes. For Mallon's devastating play to the Leb Val offense he was rewarded with the Centennial Conference’s Defensive Player of the Week. Seniors Joe “the kid” Conte, Jesse Shay, and Pat DeBelle also added sacks as well as junior Mark Heinaman. Junior safety Lyle Hemphill recorded the first interception of his collegiate career and said, “I snatched that pigskin right out of the air and ran over a couple players in the process.” The defense as a whole matched, if not surpassed, all expectations holding Leb Val to a total of 139 total yards.

The offense put up extraordinary numbers for an average team, but the Bears are no where near average. With 488 yards of total offense, quarterback Frank Vecchio, running back Sherrod Duncan, and receiver Rashard Williams led the Ursinus Bears. Vecchio had a stellar game going 17-36 for 234 yards and 3 TD’s. Duncan added a score with 90 yards rushing on 14 carries, and Williams caught 5 passes for 73 yards and 2 scores. Behind all of the stats lay a group of humble players which are known as “Line-men”. These men are the heart and soul of the Ursinus offense. They are the warriors in the trenches. Pure gridiron football. Nose to nose smashing is all linemen look forward to week in and week out.

Names like Bossio, Kochler, Taylor, Siscil, and McArthur are the names that tend to slip through the cracks. Vecchio, Conte, Duncan and Mauro are the names that flood the papers but what about those 300 lb beasts which keep a stagnant wall for the rest of the offense? Players like Brian DeGiosio really appreciate the O-line, he stated, “As a running back, I would have no chance of scoring without those big lugs.”

Next week the Bears open Centennial Conference play at Franklin and Marshall in Lancaster, Pa. The Bears look to go 2-0 against the Diplomats in their league opener.

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UC Football got off to flying start against the Dutchmen. Photos by Joseph Laskas, Meghan Beck

XC Off to Fast Start

Lauren Cysky
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Not many sports teams can say that they haven't had a win in almost four years. That was the case for the men's and women's cross-country team until this weekend.

With only nine members on the girls' team, they placed first over eleven teams at the Abington Invitational. Junior Lindsay Glaah finished third with a time of 21:28 for the three-mile course. Freshman Katie Dougherty finished fifth in 21:52, with juniors Bridget Barnes and Jamie Johnston, and sophomore Ali Bierly also scoring for the team.

All three members of the men's team were in place to score, but lacked the total five men that are needed. Junior Brian Penderghest finished second in 31:12 on the five-mile course. Freshman Drew Foy finished fourth in 32:58.

"I'm happy with the win, but there's still work ahead," Head Coach Neil Schafer said.

The team will take next weekend off and compete on Sept. 23 at Messiah College.

The XC team poses after the women's win in the Abington Invitational this past Saturday, Sept. 9.

Photo Courtesy of Mariana Morris