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Black Women paints a picture of the consequences of the commercialization of Hip-Hop music and modern women led to the rebirth of this genre. The new generation of Hip-Hop music has brought explicit and degrading lyrics to the top of the music charts, extracting language of sexual abuse and crude violence from the teens and young adults. Hip-Hop music and modern women led to the rebirth of this genre.

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News

News in Brief: more melamine found, Algerian flood

Kristi Blust
Grizzly News Editor

October 1, 2008

NEW YORK (AP) - A new study has found that the AIDS virus has existed and been spread among people for about 100 years, several decades longer than scientists initially thought. Scientists had estimated the origin to be around 1930, but recent genetic analysis has pushed the estimate back to between 1884 and 1924, specifically at 1908. Despite knowledge of the disease, AIDS was not formally recognized until 1981. Experts are not surprised that it took 70 years for HIV to be recognized. An infection often takes many years to produce noticeable symptoms, which can hide the role of the virus. Researchers point out that the new estimated date of origin aligns with the knowledge of the disease, specifically at between 1884 and 1924.

Gri:::zll' Nell'S virus has existed and been spread among people for about 70 years for HIV to be recognized. An infection often takes many years to produce noticeable symptoms, which can hide the role of the virus.

October 2, 2008

ALGIERS, Algeria (AP) - North African officials said Thursday that heavy rains in the Algerian Sahara were responsible for flash floods that killed 30 people and injured several dozen others. Around the medieval town of Ghardaia, hundreds of people were rescued by helicopter; additionally, up to 600 houses were destroyed between September 30 to October 1. Concern arise that drinking water was contaminated. Authorities were working to fix downed electricity and gas links and reopen roads. The Sahara, which covers a large portion of Northern Africa, is the world's largest desert, and also one of the driest. Occasionally, thunderstorms bring heavy rain to the region leading to engorged rivers that exact considerable damage.

October 5, 2008

HONG KONG, China - Melamine, a compound found in plastic and composed of nitrogen, carbon, and hydrogen has been found in two recalled candy products made by British candy-maker Cadbury, authorities from Hong Kong said. As reported last week by the Grizzly, the chemical has been found in Chinese-made milk products that have sickened many and killed four thus far. Cadbury recalled all of its Chinese-made candy products last week after tests revealed trace amounts of melamine. The Cadbury Dairy Milk Hazelnut Chocolate was pulled because, according to spokesman Tony

Indian temple stampede kills hundreds, injures others

Kristen Stapler
Grizzly Staff Writer

Most college students have been to at least one concert in their lifetime. Whether it was a hardcore punk show with studded belts and mohawks, or a once-famous boy band singing to teary-eyed teenage girls, everyone knows the feeling of being surrounded by too many people and becoming claustrophobic. Mosh pits, too, often result in large crowds getting rowdy. Another incident of masses of people being in a small space occurred overseas in a sanctuary for worshippers.

Devoted Hindus crowded inside this hill-top shrine dedicated to the celebration of Navratri, the Mother Goddess. A wall inside the temple collapsed, contributing to rumors of a bomb threat. Thousands of worshippers stormed the doors, which is when the chaos began. According to The Washington Post, “the temple's floor had become slippery when devotees broke hundreds of coconuts as religious offerings.”

As soon as the first person slipped, others fell on top. Hundreds were pulled out of the building and rushed to hospitals, but the total count of those killed climbed drastically. Although many were physically injured, the majority of deaths were due to suffocation.

The temple was reopened the following day, but the majority of Hindus chose to remain at home and mourn their friends and fellow worshippers. It was reported that only 200 arrived at the temple that Wednesday, a drastic decline from the 25,000 counted just one day before.

Surprisingly, deadly stampedes are not uncommon in India. When many humans congregate in a tight space, accidents become quite frequent. This was actually the fourth stampede to occur in India this year. In August, during a pilgrimage at the Himachal Pradesh temple, over one hundred were killed when heavy rain caused one of the temple walls to collapse. Rocks began to break away from the walls and fall onto the people, which caused panic and resulted in a massive stampede to get out.

It is surprising how similar these two events were. Both took place at a religious place of worship, a falling wall was the cause of hundreds of deaths, and people created a stampede in an effort to escape. Rumors spread easily when many people are crowded into small places and the exits are limited. Next time you find yourself surrounded by large crowds (or at a party in Reimert), make sure you don’t slip on the floors. Better yet, make sure you have a way to get out if something happens.
Hollywood mourns legend Paul Newman

Liz MacDonald

Grizzly Staff Writer

The Hollywood elite give off the vibe that any kind of publicity is good publicity, right? For some, that may be the case; however, one iconic legend was quite satisfied without the constant flickering of camera lights and high profile living that characterizes the Hollywood lifestyle. Unfortunately, the Hollywood community had to say goodbye to this influential figure last Friday, September 26, 2008.

Paul Newman was a rare gem in the Hollywood arena. Not only had he managed to stay out of the celebrity spotlight (unless it was to promote his charities), but he remained married to his wife, Joanne Woodward for fifty years. CNN reports that when asked about his long lasting marriage, Newman justified its longevity by explaining "I have a steak at home, why go out for a hamburger?"

Newman played significant roles in more than fifty movies, such as "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid" and "The Verdict." Similarly, Newman was considered a "heartthrob" in his day with his good looks and "piercing blue eyes," according to MSNBC. He was among the likes of James Dean and Marlon Brando. Interestingly enough, he sought other roles where his acting was showcased more than his looks. He was depicted as an outsider, "a rebel, or loser." Newman received ten Oscar nominations other awards, according to MSNBC. In regards to his successful acting career, Newman claimed that he never read his movie reviews; he explained that he didn't want to get a big head, or be depressed about a bad review.

Newman was the son of Arthur Newman and Theresa Felter Newman of Cleveland, Ohio. He began acting after much encouragement from his uncle, Joseph, and his mother. After serving in the navy in World War I, Newman attended Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio and graduated with a degree in English. Next, he studied drama at Yale University along with Marlon Brando, James Dean, and Karl Malden. Newman then travelled to New York to pursue television and the performing arts. According to MSNBC, Newman caught his break through an unfortunate event, he was cast in the a television depiction of "The Batter" by Ernest Hemingway. James Dean was originally cast as the lead; however, a fatal car crash in 1955 changed this. Newman's career took off. He was nominated for his roles in such movies as Cat on a Hot Tin Roof, The Hustler, and The Absence of Malice. Some recent movies Newman was involved in included The Road to Perdition, Empire Falls, and he lent his voice to the character Horne in Disney's Cars.

Newman was also active in his charities, according to MSNBC. He had a "soft spot for underdogs in real life." Newman established various charities through his food company, "Newman's Own." His food company raised $175 million dollars in 2007 where all proceeds went to his charities. He established summer camps for children with various severe illnesses. After Newman's son, Scott died of an alcohol and drug overdose in 1978, Newman set up the "Scott Newman Foundation" in his son's name to raise funds towards producing "anti-drug films" for kids.

It was noted that when Paris Hilton was trying to raise money for children in Darfur, Newman raised $200 million dollars through his food company but kept that fact under wraps. He made an impression in the Hollywood community, not only through his acting, but through his efforts at becoming involved in his community.

Earth shattering stock market fall shakes nation

Nathan Humphrey

Grizzly Staff Writer

The Dow Jones Industrial, an index of America's 30 top industrial companies, took a record hit of nearly 778 points on Sept. 29. The huge sell-off was in response to Congress's failure to pass the economic bailout package. The loss was the biggest single day fall since the market reopened after September 11th and fell 684 points. Stocks responded immediately to the failure, falling 500 points as the vote took place in the House of Representatives. In monetary terms, the market lost over $1 trillion in a single day.

Even before the trading woes began, Wachovia Corp., the countries-fourth-largest bank, was up for sale to Citigroup or Wells Fargo. This was the fourth-largest bank to fail and the most recent to feel the pain of sub-prime lending. As the market opened in New York, it immediately fell 1 percent.

The Nasdaq stock index, the Standard and Poor 500, and the MSCI World index, which follows 23 markets in developed countries, all took giant hits as no one seemed safe from the economic catastrophe. The Standard and Poor 500 lost 8.4 percent which was the largest drop since the 1987 crash. The only stock in the S&P 500 to gain value was the Campbell Soup Co.

The market's earth shattering fall shook other international markets. India's market fell 4 percent, while Brazil's stock exchange closed trading after the market dropped 10 percent.

As the sell-off occurred, investors began to panic and short term credit markets immediately froze. Short term credit is an essential part of a business's daily activity. It gives the business the ability to pay out expenses before receiving their gross sales.

The fear of risky investments drove traders to buy U.S. Treasuries which are widely regarded as the least risky investment one could take. But, the prices of treasuries increase as they are increasingly bought and their return decreases as more are bought. The rush to buy the Treasury backed securities depleted their value drastically in one day.

The sheer volume of poor economic news instilled a deep fear in the American consumer. The Gallup poll on U.S. economic conditions reported 56 percent of Americans believe the economy is in "poor" condition while only 13 percent reported the economy as "excellent" or "good." A second poll compiled by Gallup reports 86 percent of America's see the economic outlook as "getting worse."

The Associated Press reported that the federal Office of Thrift Supervision, who is partly responsible for government banking oversight, believed the market was overreacting to the failure of the bailout and the fears of consumers are misplaced.

It seemed that no sector was safe as the day wore on and the market took hit after hit. The financial sector was the Campbell Soup Co. and fell 8.4 percent which was the largest drop since the "getting worse."

"Biden and Palin hold their ground in 2008 VP debate" is continued from front page.

"...to human activity. He said that by investing in alternative energy sources, like solar energy, new jobs could be created both within the United States and abroad."

The one issue that Biden and Palin were in total agreement on was same sex marriage, which they both made very clear they did not support. "In an Obama/Biden administration," Biden said, "there will be absolutely no distinction from a constitutional or legal standpoint between a same sex and heterosexual couple. Same sex couples should be able to have visitation rights in hospitals, joint ownership of property, life insurance policies etc. That's only fair." When asked whether or not she would support the same thing, Palin said she would, so long as it didn't interfere with the "traditional definition of marriage" which, she believes, is one between a man and a woman.

Toward the end, the debate took an emotional turn. Both Biden and Palin have sons that are either about to be deployed to Iraq or are already there. Palin spoke passionately about her concerns for Track, her oldest son who is in the army and her newborn, Trig, who is a special needs child. She reflected on when she and her husband, Todd, were talking about having more children and he said, "this is our last one." And he didn't have the heart to break the news to her.

So who actually won the debate? Both candidates received mixed reviews. The general consensus was that Palin had performed much better than expected, but did not do enough to distance McCain and herself from the highly unpopular Bush administration, as was hoped. According to the New York Times, Palin was more appealing to working class voters than Biden because of her "folksy" manner and frequent use of colloquialisms. Biden's primary tactic was to repeatedly point out McCain's political connection with the Bush administration. He said that McCain was no maverick, given the amount of time he's backed President Bush, who has the lowest ratings in the history of the American presidency. Biden was forceful without being condescending and held his own against an opponent, who, according to the Times, "was difficult to attack given that she's a newcomer and a woman in an arena long dominated by men."

GRIZZLY RETRACTION

MISATTRIBUTIONS IN TURF ARTICLE

"The Grizzly wishes to make a full retraction regarding the article on a new turf field that appeared in last Thursday's paper (Oct. 2) on page 12. In the article, the bears' head coach, Peter Gallagher, and defensive coordinator, Chris Rusiewicz, both were quoted extensively. In fact, neither coach was contacted by the article's author, so all quotations were entirely fabricated. The Grizzly editorial staff deeply regrets these misattributions and apologizes to both Coach Gallagher and to Coach Rusiewicz for misrepresenting them in the paper's sports section.

At the same time, the editorial and reporting staffs wish to reassure our readers that every effort is made to guarantee accuracy in each story that we publish. We take this matter very seriously, because members of The Grizzly work diligently to produce a weekly newspaper that adheres to ethical journalistic practices. We also wish to make clear that no one on The Grizzly editorial staff had any reason to believe that the article had not been submitted in good faith."
Feature

Spotlight on Sally Rousse: dance artistry at its finest

Roger Lee
Grizzly Features Editor

Last Friday, an exhausted group of Ursinus dancers finished up a 19-hour rehearsal week for an upcoming ballet number in the fall Ursinus College Dance Company program. They also bid farewell to a very special guest, choreographer and artist Sally Rousse.

From Sept. 27 to Oct. 3, Ursinus College housed a major figure from the current dance world. For seven days, the dean’s apartment became home to this semester’s visiting guest artist Sally Rousse. She flew in from Minneapolis for a weeklong residency with a lucky group of Ursinus Dancers.

On the morning of Sept. 27, Rousse held an open audition for a new ballet piece she would choreograph as part of this fall’s UCDC concert. The audition saw a large number of eager ballet dancers vying for a spot in the piece. However, the grueling audition process left only 15 lucky dancers cast for the ballet.

The hard work had just begun for those cast by Rousse. For the next six days, intense 2-3 hour rehearsal sessions were crammed into busy schedules, biology labs and endless paper assignments. Last Friday was Rousse’s last day at Ursinus as she finished up the promising piece slated for a November debut.

Before Rousse’s departure, I had the opportunity to sit down with the talented artist and discuss her life, artistic visions and impressive dance career.

“I lived in Vermont, Chicago, Belgian, New York City and Minneapolis,” smiled Rousse. “Out of all these places, Rousse finds it hard to forget Belgium—Belgium was beautiful!” smiled Rousse. “I felt very connected there...I still dream about it.” The experienced traveler also spent 15 years in New York City training as a dancer while experiencing the fast paced city life and enthusiastic arts scene of the big city. Although Rousse no longer lives in New York, she still visits about four times a year.

Now as a mother of two, Rousse resides in Minneapolis. She loves the environment and enjoys raising her children there. “I want my kids to do chores!” laughed Rousse. At a Montessori school her children learn to become tillers of the land, and more importantly about cause-and-effect in everyday life through responsibility.

Sally learned all about responsibility as she juggled working with dancing. By the age of 17, Rousse was dancing with New York choreographers, sometimes sacrificing paying jobs to meet the rigorous demands of company rehearsals. “I definitely suffered,” said Rousse. While dancing with Omaha ballet, Rousse learned how to live in the Mid-West. She learned firsthand about dance company politics and procedures, often wondering “Is there room for my vision?”

Sally Rousse definitely had visions of her own, ones that were hard to contain. After working with numerous small and large companies, she gained a lot of experience and learned the difference between choreography/choreographer and repertory driven companies.

“Each has their own distinct set of rules,” explained Rousse. Some sets of rules helped Rousse move her ballet career into a new direction. After dancing with the Royal Ballet of Flanders, 25 out of 50 company members left at a rapid pace. Rousse was one of those dancers who felt compelled to leave the company. This is when she ran into James Sewell, a great choreographer and “leader” as Rousse called him. By 1990, the two co-founded James Sewell ballet; the rest is history.

Eighteen years later, Sally Rousse is married to James Sewell and a proud mother of two children. She is still going strong, performing and choreographing countless works. Looking back on her early beginnings, Rousse remembers her introduction to dance. She met a popular girl in second grade who was beautiful, friendly and a talented dancer. Sally Rousse figured that if dance was part of this girl’s success, then why not dance? Rousse enrolled in a ballet class with the popular girl and the two are still friends to this day.

“She’s one of my only friends from Vermont,” smiled Rousse. “She is very loyal.”

This loyal friendship landed Rousse in ballet and tap classes. She credits much of her unique rhythmic sense and musical relationship in her ballet choreography to tap. The rhythm and percussiveness of tap dance has rubbed off in Rousse’s ballet work.

“It makes you think music in a new way,” she said.

Rousse also talked about her love for classical ballet. Although she has studied numerous styles of dance and performed in different types of companies, Rousse will always have a soft spot in her heart for ballet.

“I am absolutely sincere when I am in it,” said Rousse. “You cannot fake it!” She also explains from her experience of being a dance company muse, the best way to stand out is to perform fully at all times. “It is okay to mess up!” said Rousse. She mentioned that while dancing fully, a choreographer can critique and work with that person. Mediocrity will not help the dancer or choreographer in a rehearsal setting. “You have to be willing to embarrass yourself!” laughed Rousse.

Taking that chance, stretching a little farther, breathing a little deeper, jumping a little higher has all helped Rousse reach the platform that she is at today. Taking a risk to “be embarrassed” by going full out in rehearsals and asking important questions has helped set Rousse apart from other dancers. Her company and performance experiences have helped shape this modern-day dancer as a “renegade ballerina” of our times. There is surely more to come from this outstanding human being known as Sally Rousse.

Ursinus in Tuebingen students travel to Berlin, Munich

Serena Mithbaokar
Grizzly Staff Writer

I’ve been in Germany for over a month and have had plenty of opportunities to travel beyond Tübingen, namely Berlin, Munich (twice, once for Oktoberfest), the former East German city of Leipzig and around Saxony-Anhalt including the Harz mountains as well down south around Bodensee or Lake Constance. But today I will honor Berlin, a city that has emotionally overwhelmed me a lot in many different ways.

Walking through Berlin, it is hard not to notice the German capital is growing at an incredible pace, probably faster than any other European city. Today’s Berlin is a modern, busy, international, vibrant, political and economical capital. As a tourist or in my case, a student on a four-day excursion, it is common to rub shoulders with high school students dressed in Goth fashion, East European and African émigrés looking for a new experience and tourists from all over the world out on the streets or the brisk subways. Berlin is also home to a livelier alternative culture including the art and the music scene, the string of vegetarian restaurants, world class museums and even some of the world’s best graffiti, which is officially accepted, and legally speaking, “totally fine!”

Upon arrival, this modern side of Berlin is very overwhelming, particularly if you are freshly out of the quaint old Collegewall. But what about the tumultuous times that Berlin has gone through? What happened to The Wall?

It would be wrong to say that Berlin has completely reinvented itself. The past still remains an integral part of the Berlin’s identity. The former East and West parts of Berlin may look indistinguishable, but as you walk through documents. Most of them gave me goosebumps and made me want to know what the personal story of each individual

More of Berlin’s dedication to freedom of people around the world and mockery of its communist past can be seen in the East Side gallery, the largest remnant on the wall by the Spree River and also the largest open air art galleries in the world are both important monuments today. Through monuments like these, Berlin continues to stand as a monument to people who fought against oppression and continue on doing so in 2008.

Berlin is very unpretentious. Close to the wall at Augustusstrasse, there is a small sign on the ground that pays homage to the people who died while crossing The Wall, from the East to the West. The life behind these falls affected the common people immensely. An installation of a brief history of The Wall at Bernauer Strasse has been created, and one can see life behind the Berlin Wall through the eyes of the common people. Their sufferings have produced iconic images and photographs—most famously that of a soldier jumping over some of the border controls, relatives waving at each other as the wall is being built. When I saw these photos, many of which were replicated enormously and used on postcards and on picture frames in cafes, it serves as a reminder of how hard life had been in Berlin. To me, these photographs are precious documents.

Most of them gave me goosebumps and made me want to know what the personal story of each individual photographed.

More of Berlin’s dedication to freedom of people around the world and mockery of its communist past can be seen in the East Side gallery, the largest remnant if the Berlin wall that stands by the spree river. Almost a kilometer long, it is also a tribute to the people’s freedom struggles not just in Germany, but all around the world. Some of its images are slightly disturbing, but they convey messages rather humorously. I will continue more on Berlin and Munich in the near future, but if I were to compare both, I would say that Berlin might not have the “picture perfectness” of Munich, but its unpretentiousness and “cosmopolitanism” is unrivaled.

The Grizzly
Introducing the Gender Wage Gap

How much progress has really been made?

Laine Cavanaugh
Grizzly Staff Writer

Even in traditionally male-dominated fields, women see less money. Female math majors earn 76 percent of what male majors make, and female engineers earn 95 percent of what male engineers make. This study is particularly significant because just one year after graduation, these students do not typically have children yet, and both genders are starting without a great deal of experience.

This initial inequality is hard to explain. “Women are as likely, if not more likely, than men to go to college and to graduate. So the differences in wages, hours worked, and job status are not due to skills or training differences,” Ussey asserts. Because the variables are controlled in the first year study, the only explanation for this disparity seems to be discrimination. The initial wage gap only widens over time, leaving women to earn only 69 percent of what men do within ten years.

One explanation for the increasing wage gap could be the fact that women expect less, therefore becoming less likely to negotiate their salaries. According to Linda Babcock, an economics professor at Carnegie Mellon and co-author of Women Don’t Ask: Negotiation and Gender Divide, men initiate negotiations 4 times more often than women. In addition, women are more pessimistic about what is available to them. When they actually do negotiate, they ask for less than men do, and as a result, earn less.

While negotiation is an interesting and possibly hindering variable for women, it fails to explain the initial wage gap. Although a likely cause is discrimination, many insist it can be explained by a woman’s role in the family.

“Women are more likely to accommodate to a spouse’s job change or promotion,” Ussey adds. If this is eventually exposed as the cause, Palin should get her fair share.

“Pimps Up, Ho’s Down: Hip-Hop music and modern women” is continued from front page.

The Grizzly

October 9, 2008

Features

Career Corner
Consider interning!

Career Services
career@ursinus.edu

An internship is a structured and supervised professional experience that gives a student the opportunity to link academic study to “real world” experience and develop practical skills in a work environment. With the approval and support of a faculty internship advisor, you can receive credit for an internship and satisfy your Independent Learning Experience (ILE) requirement. There are many reasons to consider an internship:

Try out a career field: An internship gives you experience in a field and can help you make more educated career choices. Would you buy a car without a test drive? Marry your partner without a date? Why don’t you jump into a career field without trying it out first?

An internship allows you to explore careers in different fields to help you narrow down your focus.

Develop career-related skills: Employers want to know what you can do for them and they are especially interested when you’ve already done it for someone else. Many skills are best learned on the job and internships can provide you with opportunities to demonstrate your transferable skills, such as leadership, analytical thinking, communication and interpersonal skills.

Great networking contacts: If you want to know about where the opportunities are in an industry, the people you want to talk to are the ones already working in it. Internships give you the perfect opportunity to make connections and develop a network of professionals in your field.

An inside track to a job: Most organizations will hire successful interns over candidates they’ve just met. Many companies use internships as extended interviews for full-time employment. Some hire new graduates almost exclusively from their internship pool.

Also, Career Services has A New Partnership with Internships USA. This site provides summaries and links to internships in many fields including sports, international affairs, corporate America, communications & media, human services, social change/human rights, politics, the environment, and more!

Log in to your UC CareerNet account and link to Internships USA in the quick links section of your home page or go directly to http://www.internships-usa.com/ (username: interns; password: learn)

For more information on finding and securing an internship contact Career Services. career@ursinus.edu or 610.499.3590.

back in forth in an endless cycle, multiplying the negativity present in both the society and in the Hip-Hop world. “In order to get ahead, you basically sell yourself…” Catriona explains, describing how girls can succeed in the commercialized Hip-Hop industry. It promotes this idea that a girl has to wear revealing clothing, and virtually view herself as a sex object to compete in the glossed over world of Hip-Hop.
Opinions

Ashes Divide: On the stage and behind the scenes

Laurel Salvo
Grizzly Staff Writer

I’m sitting on a cushy leather couch that spans the length of Ashes Divide’s tour bus. The showroom lights that outline the mirrored ceiling above are dimmed down, there’s a sense of ambiance and calm in the atmosphere, and the liquid track of “Between Breaths” by Blaqk Audio is flowing out of sound speakers loudly. Billy Howerdel, former “A Perfect Circle” guitarist and now “Ashes Divide” frontman walks shyly out of the back room and plants himself quietly in a booth parallel to me. He’s wearing a t-shirt that reads “Innersystem,” the local Philly electro band they toured with only a few months ago at this same venue. I and a few friends ended up spending time with them after the show and it gave me the opportunity to learn a lot more about each band member as individuals.

Having gone to dozens of shows before, I can tell everyone reading this that Ashes Divide is like no other. I’ve been fortunate to spend post-show time with them after the show and it gave me the opportunity to have to enter some sort of drawing and it becomes a contest to actually interact with the band.

In a blog written by Howerdel on their official website, he mentions, “Getting to meet all of you after the show has been pretty cool. This is why I got into this whole music thing in the first place, to have my music touch people the way so many musicians have inspired me.”

I think that a lot of fans today are missing out on this with the groups they admire. It’s one thing to see a role model on a stage in front of you but for a lot of young kids to be able to casually walk up and shake Howerdel’s hand and have him smile back and strike up a conversation afterwards without the feeling of cinematic on stage, I highly recommend giving Ashes Divide a chance. Their live performance is unforgettable, and offstage in person, they really are wonderful to spend time with.

Democratic and Republican extremes at Ursinus College

Joshua Krigman
Grizzly Features Editor

This past September 11th, at the Denver Metropolitan State College, English teacher Andrew Hallam asked his students to write an essay about Sarah Palin’s speech at the Republican National Convention and to point out the contradictions that Hallam felt the Republican Party created by trying to make Palin’s life seem like a fairy tale. Hallam asked the class to, “Note her body language, facial expressions, the way she dressed, what she said and who she pointed out or talked about in her speech.” This assignment, deemed bias and potentially bullying by the administration, was only brought to the school’s attention after Janna Barber, a student in the class, went to Channel 4 in Denver and spoke to them about the situation instead of the faculty at the Metro State College.

But this atmosphere of collegiate bias is not restricted to the West Coast. Back here in Collegeville, Pennsylvania, students at our very own Ursinus College are dealing with the same issues. Though there have not been any publicized instances of teacher’s openly favoring one candidate over another, there are daily occurrences of republicans and even Hillary supporters uncomfortably sitting through mini-Obama rallies in CIE classes.

“Though there have not been any publicized instances of teacher’s openly favoring one candidate over another, there are daily occurrences of... mini-Obama rallies in CIE classes.”

Hey, do you think about things sometimes? Why not write those thoughts down and send them to zashamberg@ursinus.edu? What’s the worst that could happen?

October 9, 2008
The Grizzly
Harold Lloyd versus Harry Potter

Abigail Raymond
Grizzly Staff Writer

Let’s be honest—Harry Potter is a wuss. He’s a fictional character with “magical powers” and really, what does that even mean? Some may say that makes him a hero of children’s literature. I say that makes him a delusional nutcase who, if he were real, would probably would too hopped up on anti-psychotics to be of much use to anyone. And this is why, amongst other reasons, silent film star Harold Lloyd would win in a fist fight against Harry Potter. Not convinced? Here’s some more proof:

Harry Potter is a wizard, which is basically the male equivalent of a witch. And you know who’s all about witchcraft? The Devil. That’s right, Mr. Potter is in the same league as the devil himself. Meanwhile, Harold Lloyd was an actor from the 1930’s who performed wholesome comedy for the masses. No Devil worship there, which obviously means that he was on God’s side. And God always wins.

Harold Lloyd is missing two fingers on his right hand. Though you might think that this puts him at a disadvantage, it only proves his strength. He lost those fingers when a prop he was holding exploded. If the man can survive a bomb, then he can certainly survive a few punches from some scrappy teenager. Lloyd went from handicapped to handi-capable when he then learned to use that hand to climb buildings, shoot archery, and play a mean game of table tennis. Let’s see Mr. Potter do that with a full set of digits!

Harold Lloyd is an original. Who was the first character to wear black round-rimmed glasses? That’s right, it was Mr. Lloyd. Just like he was studying divination and making friends with giants before Mr. Potter was even conceived. Experience will always trump a copycat.

Harold Lloyd is real. Harry Potter is not. That’s right, I went there. Sorry to all of you fanboys and girls out there who are still waiting for that Hogwarts letter to arrive. It ain’t comin’. You can stop composing all that fan fiction about how you are the long lost heir to Hufflepuff, or whatever. The truth is that you aren’t because there is no Hufflepuff. What is real is the ghost of Harold Lloyd stomping the hell out of Prisoner of Azkaban.

So there you have it. My prediction is that after four tough rounds, Mr. Lloyd would prevail over Mr. Potter on the technicality of reality. Of course, even if they were both real and still alive, Harold would kick ass because he lived through two world wars and the Golden Age of Hollywood. And we all know that the Golden Age was fueled by opium and hookers. So if he can survive that, he can survive anything.

Feel like challenging Abby Raymond about the tenacity of another hardly-heard-of film star? Email her at abraymond@ursinus.edu, but don’t expect to win.

Christopher Schaeffer
Grizzly Staff Writer

Listen, I’ll be honest with you guys—I have never read a Harry Potter book. Now, I know Harry Potter fans. I know what a “muggle” is, and I think I basically know the difference between a Slytherin and a Hufflepuff. I also remember bits and pieces of one of the movies, as seen extremely drunk and falling asleep. Admittedly, in light of these facts, I may not be the most partisan Potter-ite, but Abby really, really wanted to boost Harold Lloyd. So here we are.

Now, normally when called upon (as I often am) to predict the odds of a 12-year-old boy versus a grown man who does his own absurdly masochistic stunts, I tend to lean towards the conservative. But, let’s take a trip down memory lane and look at some textual evidence in our boy H.P.’s favor.

At the beginning of the movie, Harry is playing some kind of...space rugby? I’ve known my share of rugby players in my time, and they were some tough customers. Harry Potter manages to scrounge it up while flying and, I guess being attacked by green skulled fire? Harry, Hank.

Harry Potter is, above all else, a young wizard. A wizard is basically British for “magician”, right? This implies that Potter has an entire arsenal of tricks up his sleeve in a right. I love Harold Lloyd, but I’ll bet he’ll be just as flabbergasted as you or I when H.P. guesses his card, makes the Statue of Liberty disappear, or dresses like Kris Angel.

Harry Potter is the people’s hero, as shown by this quick interview of audiences leaving each of our combatants’ latest movies: Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix, 2006:

Pretty good! I loved Harry’s track jacket and stallion-like forelock! The Milky Way, 1937:

It’s the Great Depression! Oh God! I want to die! I want to die! Cool, Mr. Lloyd. You’re a real pick-me-up.

Most importantly, Harry, while a young Turk in some ways, is a boy in his prime. Harold Lloyd, by contrast, was born in 1893. Damning enough before you take into account that he’s also been dead for over thirty years! Harry Potter isn’t real. You can’t beat up a fake person. And believe me, I’ve tried. You’ll get yours someday, Ethan Frome.

So let’s review: Harold Lloyd, comedy genius. Film pioneer. Big deal. Harry Potter is a rugby player who can fly, spit fire, and hasn’t been dead for any years at all. Smart money says Hogwarts all the way.

Think Chris Schaeffer should stop pretending not to know anything about Harry Potter and own up to his secret fascination? Email him at cschaeffer@ursinus.edu. Chances are, though, he’d had enough false accusations this semester.

The Grizzly
October 9, 2008

Opinions

Zack’s Dining:
Why wait?

Spencer Cuskey
Grizzly Staff Writer

Think about what time you typically get out of class before the cafeterias open to serve lunch. Now think about what time you actually get served your food, eat, and finally leave the cafeteria. The fact of the matter is: the above time frame takes way longer than it should. As Ursinus College students, we are paying top dollar for a premium education. Should we not also receive a more efficient means to satisfy our daily hunger? When I walk into Zack’s I am usually met by a long line backed up to the bookstore,” said senior Doug Yodice. It is ridiculous that in order to get served a meal in a timely manner on this campus, one has to incorporate different strategies for different cafeterias.

One such strategy shared by some students on campus is known as the “ducking” strategy. Students using this method to satisfy their hunger must plan out when they have to leave their dorm room. If they leave two minutes too late, all is lost, for the line at Zack’s is already too long, and they will be late for class. The ducking method has its pros and cons. If carried out successfully, lunch is served on time. The only problem is that the only good times to go to Zack’s are before one would normally go to lunch.

Ursinus College is not the only educational institution plagued by overcrowding. According to USA Today, the number of U.S. high school graduates has peaked this year (around 3,40,235) and is expected to start declining due to a weak economy. There is a projected estimate of 3,225,017 graduates by 2011-2012. The heavy influx of freshmen this year has not helped the situation at Wissmer or at Zack’s. Schools across the country are trying desperately to solve overcrowding issues in housing situations, classrooms, and cafeterias. Warren Wilson College in North Carolina is experiencing the same high number of freshmen enrollment as we have here at Ursinus. Administration and Dining Services at Warren Wilson are encouraging students, staff, and faculty with flexible schedules to avoid the cafeteria during the busiest hours of the day.

St. Joes University is also experiencing a boom in freshmen numbers this year. Admissions report that enrollment went over the limit by 250. To remedy the overcrowding, St. Joes has added faculty and increased hours of operation of their cafeteria and other student help centers.

So what is it going to take for the line at Zack’s to diminish? What is Dining Services doing about the ever-growing lines at Hometown in Wissmer Dining Hall? These questions shouldn’t take long to answer, but it wouldn’t be a surprise if it’s not until 2011 that Zack’s purchases another computer kiosk. With overcrowding in campus cafeterias being a nationwide problem, it will be interesting to see what angle Ursinus takes on solving this issue compared to other educational institutions.
Women’s Rugby in for incredible season

Emily McCloskey
Grizzly Staff Writer

A broken hand, a black eye, and a sprained ankle were just some of the injuries of last weekend’s women’s rugby game. Rugby is the only full contact sport offered for women and is increasing in popularity.

According to USA Rugby, “Growth at the high school level has increased 1000% since 2002 from 50 to 5000 in 2007-08.” There are 11,000 women collegiate club rugby players playing on 347 teams. One of those teams is Ursinus’ who is hoping to continue its tradition of excellence this season. Led by team captains Jeanette Graham and Erika Bradley, the girls have an optimistic view of this season.

“Our new players have picked up the sport quickly and are doing well. Two of our freshman, Emma Cave and Rebecca Walter, have played rugby in high school and are very strong players who have even taught us thus far,” shares Graham on the loss of great seniors.

The team has 3 more games: home against Franklin and Marshall. If you want to see a very formidable team. And just to be a part of the formation is very exciting for me. It’s an honor.”

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UC Men’s Rugby: Sport with quickly growing popularity

Jamey Cooper
Grizzly Staff Writer

Men’s Rugby is a sport that has been gaining popularity very rapidly here at Ursinus, evident by the startling number of first year players who joined the team this year. This influx of young talent could not have come at a better time for the team after enduring the losses of numerous key veteran players last season.

Although they have gone 1-2 thus far in a transitional year, the team has taken some significant strides forward. They played very well and came up just short in two tough losses to Penn State Berks and The University of Delaware, despite needing to play many rookies that are still learning the game.

Their one win came against West Chester. Team Captain Nick “Huggie” Paxton attributes much of the progress the team has made to new coach Jim Hall, formerly of the U.S. Rugby team.

“It’s been tough, one of the hardest parts of rugby is finding a coach,” Paxton said. “It’s hard to find an experienced guy. But he’s brought a lot to the table. Most teams don’t have this luxury.”

The younger players have certainly benefited from Hall’s extensive knowledge, but even the veteran players say that adapting to his new system has been a good learning experience.

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“It’s a club sport and because people are busy with school, it’s not taken as seriously,” says Paxton. “Our time has definitely been limited. But that’s okay. We don’t want to take things so seriously that we can’t have a good time.”

“The unique thing is that we have to police ourselves. We have to do everything ourselves,” added Orser.

Another encouraging sign for this young team is the strong camaraderie that exists amongst team members; the casual, amiable setting the team offers is what makes it so easy for anyone to fit in. Assigning special nicknames to each player, they make it a point to get everyone involved in the experience. Orser, nicknamed “Sexzilla,” spoke about how strong team unity has been this year.

“We have a very good core group of friends within the team itself, and we’re very inclusive,” said Orser.

“We’re friends first and rugby players second. Rugby is a very social sport,” Paxton added.

Rugby is more social than most of you out there probably realized. Did you know that after each game it is a custom for both teams to hang out and socialize together? After an 80 minute dog fight that features both sides virtually trying to kill each other, the two teams get together for a few drinks and discuss the game. How many sports do you know where bitter rivals are this civil with one another right after a hard fought game?

This is one of the most unique parts of rugby and the culture surrounding it. On top of teaching this young team the basics of the game, the culture and lifestyle embedded in rugby is being passed on to a core group of younger guys that will make up the future of this team. Paxton and Orser both made it clear that although winning now would be great, having a good time and making sure this team will improve is what is most important, for the present and future.

“I’m very excited about the future of this team,” Paxton said. “When they learn the intricacies of the game, we’re going to be a very formidable team. And just to be a part of the formation is very exciting for me. It’s an honor.”

The team has 3 more games: home against Susquehanna on October 18th, and two more away games at Gettysburg and Franklin and Marshal. If you want to learn more about the team you can visit their homepage at www.ursinusrugby.org.

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October 9, 2008

The Scorebox

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