



Ursinus College Grizzly Newspaper

Newspapers

9-3-2009

The Grizzly, September 3, 2009

Caitlin Dalik

Katie Callahan

Liz Kilmer

Roger Lee

Laurel Salvo

See next page for additional authors

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.ursinus.edu/grizzlynews>

 Part of the [Cultural History Commons](#), [Higher Education Commons](#), [Liberal Studies Commons](#), [Social History Commons](#), and the [United States History Commons](#)

[Click here to let us know how access to this document benefits you.](#)

Authors

Caitlin Dalik, Katie Callahan, Liz Kilmer, Roger Lee, Laurel Salvo, Ryan Collins, Nick Hanford, and Zach Shamborg

The Grizzly

The student newspaper of Ursinus College

Thursday, September 3, 2009

Summer Fellows: Students skip the beach and hit the books

Liz Kilmer
elkilmer@ursinus.edu

Concluding this year on July 24, the eight-week Summer Fellows program recruited 71 upperclassmen, all of varying disciplines, for its 11th annual proceeding. The program, offered to rising juniors and seniors, allows students to select and conduct projects under the supervision of a mentor, which is normally a faculty member. Often projects are research contingent, though they may involve a creative undertaking.

Senior Roger Lee, for example, studied visual art and dance collaborations, which ultimately led to the development of his own performance piece. Others within this discipline developed performance pieces as well, in addition to those studying theater.

According to Summer Fellows Coordinator Greg Weight, this year's program saw a particularly large amount of theater and dance projects- all of which incorporate a creative endeavor.

Overall, though, there was a very "diverse group of students," said Weight, who explained that nearly every major was represented- a reality which, he admitted, was more coincidental than intentional. "We like to keep [the



Photo by Erin Hovey

distribution between disciplines] balanced, but it's not a primary concern," said Weight, "we are really looking for the best students."

Students are selected by the Working Group on Undergraduate Research, amongst a competitive applicant pool. Although there's no specific limit, generally 70 - 80

saw someone walking down your hall, could you say if they actually lived there? If not maybe you should get to know your neighbors a bit better.

Here are some tips on keeping your valuables safe this school year:

1. Lock your door. It sounds simple, but most thefts in residence halls occur because doors are unlocked.
2. Don't prop open the doors or let someone else into the building if you do not know them. It gets tricky when they say they are just meeting someone else. If that is the case, ask them for the name. If it still seems suspicious, call Campus Safety and report it. It is better to be safe than sorry.
3. Hide your valuables. Desk drawers do not count, start getting creative! This includes money. Try not to keep a lot of cash in your room, and if you do make sure not to tell anyone about it. You never know who is listening in on your conversation.
4. Do not leave your items unattended. If you go to the library and leave your computer to go to Zack's, anyone

"Theft" continued on page 3.

students are selected. "Our biggest year was 2006," said Weight, "when we had almost 90 students."

In addition to the general selections, one Whitman Summer Fellow is chosen through a separate application process. The Whitman scholar, often a Business and Economics major, is required to not only fulfill the general Summer Fellows requirements, but to attend a seminar hosted by the Institute of Humane Studies. This year's selection, senior Anthony Ambrogi, chose to attend the California seminar, which discussed ways to foster "economic development through a libertarian framework," said Ambrogi. According to Ambrogi, the seminar covered elements which pertained to his research, in addition to those which he'll apply to a forthcoming, year-long Honors paper. His Summer Fellows research, which

"Summer Fellows: Students skip the beach and hit the books" continued on page 2.

UCTV Returns: Bringing back the news

Roger Lee
rolee@ursinus.edu

With a literary magazine, weekly newspaper, and campus radio station, Ursinus College communications is on the rise. The only thing missing is a television station bringing Ursinus themed entertainment to the growing campus. This fall the missing link has been filled.

Ursinus College Television, more affectionately known as UCTV, is officially back in business. In 2005, students produced a news program for the campus. It was extinct before the 2006-07 academic year was underway. As a new freshman, I wondered what it would be like to have a campus television station at our disposal. I dreamed of bringing it back to Ursinus in the form of a features program. This dream became a reality last spring as I finished up my junior year. I did not want to graduate from Ursinus without being a part of the UCTV generation.

I decided to take action and bring UCTV back to life in time for my senior year. After running the idea by the 2009 graduates who had UCTV with them during their

UCTV Returns continued on page 5.

Theft on Campus: Tips to keep you safe

Katie Callahan
kacallahan@ursinus.edu

Leaving your dorm room unlocked can prove to be a costly mistake, as one freshman on Ursinus' campus found out within the first few days of football pre-season.

The student left his room at night and returned in the morning to find his iPod and wallet missing. The wallet contained his license and a few credit cards, and by the time he went to cancel the stolen cards, they had already been maxed out in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

As a new year starts, what can you do to make sure your belongings are safe on campus? Campus Safety cannot monitor every part of campus 24 hours a day. That is why the students, faculty, and staff, need to be alert to what is happening, especially if they think something suspicious is going on.

This is not just a problem at Ursinus, but it is a problem on every campus. New faces are walking around, and not everyone knows their neighbor quite yet. If you

I
N
S
I
D
E



New Construction
Page 2



Intern with Joan Jett!
Page 4



Whitney's Comeback
Page 6



John Noonan Spotlight
Page 8

"Summer Fellows: Students skip the beach and hit the books" is continued from page 1.

was titled "Political, Social and Economic Implications for Public Pension Funding and Performance" will also assist in the paper's development.

Like Ambrogi, many summer fellows elect to implement or even expand their research into an honors project. In fact, applications that state this intention receive priority over those which do not.

Applications may also include a detailed budget request of up to \$250, in addition to the \$2,500 stipend granted to all fellows. According to Weight, "about half of the students receive research budgets" and request them as a means of covering expenses pertinent to their research.

Senior Danielle Harris requested and consequently received a budget, which she used for travel. "My travel budget was very important in my project," said Harris, who traveled to New York City with "the intent of finding

text resources and/or old newspaper and magazine articles on [her] topic." Her topic, which centered around the African and African-American influence on Modern Dance, focused in on two specific choreographers- Katherine Dunham and Alvin Ailey. While traveling, Harris was fortunate enough to meet a woman whose dance history included performing alongside Dunham. "I had the luckiest experience," said Harris.

Like Harris, Ambrogi is also grateful for his experience as a summer fellow: "I would absolutely recommend it to anyone interested."

Senior Karen Boedecker would likely concur- as a junior, Boedecker's Summer Fellows experience was so appreciated that she chose to participate for a second time this past summer. "Summer Fellows provides the perfect jumping off point for pretty much any research project," said Boedecker, "so I decided that it was worth applying for and taking advantage of again."

According to Weight, it is rare that students are allotted a second year to participate, but Boedecker's research proposal was entirely different from that of the

year prior. This summer, Boedecker studied the history of religion on campus, particularly its evolution to a secular liberal arts institution. "I was curious about UC's history and wanted an opportunity to look into it more," said Boedecker, who documented her progress through an online blog. "Using the blog afforded me more freedom to feel out what I was discovering in something of an open forum – it was easy for other people to follow along and even comment on my findings," said Boedecker, who used the blog as her final submission piece at the end of the program. By July 24, all fellows were required to submit a physical version of their project- that being whatever is agreed upon by the student, the mentor and Weight. Unlike the honors program, the final project is evaluated solely by the mentor, and no credit is involved.

"It's unlike any opportunity that you have at Ursinus," said Weight, "It's such a valuable experience for students." Applications are typically due in February. Those interested may contact Weight.

Sizzling Entertainment News with Liz Kilmer

The following is a recap of the juiciest celebrity moments of the summer!

Jackson death ruled a homicide
A manslaughter investigation is being issued against Michael Jackson's personal physician, for a death which the Los Angeles County coroner has ruled as homicide. The autopsy, released August 28, revealed that the king of pop died of "acute propofol intoxication." The primary drugs responsible for his death were propofol and Lorazepam. Benzodiazepine, a sedative drug, also played a contributing role. According to the cardiologist under investigation, Dr. Conrad Murray, the lethal concoction had been administered to Jackson as a means of treating the 51-year-old's insomnia. Several of the drugs detected in Jackson's system, most specifically propofol, are typically considered dangerous outside of the operating room. Murray has not yet defended his decision to offer the drugs to Jackson, but stated that he "told the truth" and that "the truth will prevail." As this issue went to press, the full autopsy report had not yet been released, a fact which Murray's lawyer, Ed Chernoff, has publicly asked authorities to investigate. The Jackson family has released a statement which concluded in expressing their confidence in the investigation, as well as their anticipation of justice. According to Dr. Michael Baden, a homicide ruling provides for an easier prosecution against those responsible, however it does not necessarily imply that a crime has been committed.

Jon and Kate Confirm Divorce Plans
Following weeks of speculation, reality television stars Jon and Kate Gosselin announced plans to divorce on Monday, June 22, after 10 years of marriage. The decision was confirmed during an episode of TLC's "*John & Kate Plus 8*," a reality show which follows the couple and their eight children. The hour-long broadcast featured Kate explaining that "Jon's activities" had left her "no choice but to file legal procedures in order to protect myself and [their] children." Such "activities" may consist of the alleged affairs between Jon and several women- one of

which prompted the divorce rumors. However, neither Kate nor Jon has confirmed these rumors, and both agree that their children are currently the number one priority. Divorce papers, filed by Kate in nearby Montgomery County, were obtained by the Associated Press on June 23, a day after they were filed. In the papers, the mother of eight asserts her willingness to "negotiate a fair and reasonable" settlement. A settlement has not yet been negotiated, as this issue went to press.

Abdul Leaves Idol
After spending eight seasons as a judge on Fox's hit show *American Idol*, pop singer Paula Abdul has announced her plans to leave the

program. The decision was revealed Tuesday, August 4, via Abdul's Twitter page, in which the star admitted she would miss "nurturing all the new talent" and being a part

of what she "helped from day one become an international phenomenon." A statement released by Fox confirmed the decision, stating their "sadness" over her departure. Abdul has neglected to explain her reasons for leaving the show, though many suspect it involves the confirmation that first-year Judge Kara DioGuardi will be returning for season nine.



photo courtesy of google images

The Grizzly

The student newspaper of Ursinus College

Volume 34, Issue 1
grizzly@ursinus.edu

PHOTOGRAPHY

Matt Whitman

Photo Editor

EDITORIAL BOARD

Caitlin Dalik
Katie Callahan

Editors-in-Chief

Liz Kilmer
Laurel Salvo
Zach Shamborg
Matt Campbell

News Editor
Features Editor
Opinions Editor
Sports Editor

ADVISOR

Dr. Lynne Edwards

News in Brief: Kidnap victim resurfaces, Sen. Kennedy dies

Liz Kilmer

elkilmer@ursinus.edu

Thursday, August 27

(CNN)- Following her 1991 kidnapping, 29-year-old Jaycee Dugard was discovered last Tuesday, August 25, at the University of California's Berkeley campus. Dugard was found with two daughters, suspected to have been fathered by her abductor, Phillip Garrido. The three had been accompanying Garrido that afternoon at Berkeley, when police officers approached upon finding "the interaction... rather suspicious," said El Dorado County Undersheriff Fred Kollar. The officers performed a background check, which revealed Garrido to be a registered sex offender on federal parole. Garrido was subsequently asked to appear at the parole office, where it was revealed that he had been housing Dugard and the children in backyard sheds. Neither child had ever seen a doctor nor attended school; authorities believe the two were born in the compound. According to Kollar, Dugard had been living there since her abduction, and had never attempted to outreach. She has since been reunited with family, including stepfather Carl Probyn. Probyn was said to have witnessed the abduction of Duggard, then 11 years old, as she walked to her bus stop in South Lake Tahoe. Clad in a pink windbreaker and stretch pants, Duggard was reportedly approached by a vehicle occupied by both Garrido and his wife, Nancy. The two face kidnapping and rape charges.

Friday, August 28

KABUL, Afghanistan (CNN)- Roadside bombings brought the number of U.S. military deaths in Afghanistan to 46 this month, the highest monthly death toll since the 2001 invasion. The toll just surpassed the previous high of 45, held by the month of July. Currently, the United States has an estimated 62,000 troops on the ground, in addition to the 35,000 NATO allies. The presidential and provincial elections in the nation, held several weeks ago, prompted an increase of these figures as a means of improving security. By the end of the year, the Pentagon plans to add an additional 6,000 troops, and possibly more in 2010. Defense Secretary Robert Gates has stated that he plans to measure the impact of 6,000 troops prior to requesting more. It is expected, however, that Gen. Stanley McChrystal, the top U.S. commander in Afghanistan, will request that Obama commit more troops. President Obama, whose mission in Afghanistan is currently being assessed by McChrystal, has described the war as one of "necessity."

Saturday, August 29

(CNN)- A crew of seven astronauts departed on a mission to the international space station last Friday, August 28, aboard space shuttle *Discovery*. The liftoff, which occurred around midnight at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida, was originally set for last Tuesday, August 25. It was first postponed due to bad weather, and then twice more for the inspection of a faulty valve. The shuttle is transporting science experiments, The Leonardo logistics module, and a treadmill meant to "keep [the astronauts] healthy, which is

really part of being able to come home in one piece," according to veteran astronaut Cady Coleman. The shuttle plans to remain in space for 13 days before landing at the station. Of the seven astronauts, Nicole Stott is the only set to remain on the station. Stott will serve as a flight engineer.

Sunday, August 30

(CNN)- Following a lengthy battle with brain cancer, Massachusetts Senator Edward Kennedy died late Tuesday, August 25 at the age of 77. The "Lion of the Senate" was buried Saturday afternoon at the Arlington National Cemetery, nearly 100 feet from the graves of brothers Robert and John F. Kennedy. Among the private ceremony's attendees was Cardinal Theodore McCarrick, who recited a recent letter from Kennedy to Pope Benedict XVI. In it, Kennedy had requested that the pope pray for him as he prepared "for the next passage of life." Preceding the burial was a prayer service held outside of Washington D.C., in addition to a street procession. President Barack Obama delivered a eulogy at the funeral in Massachusetts, in which he described Kennedy as "a champion for those who had none." Kennedy's eldest son, Ted Jr., also spoke, stating that his father was a man who "never stopped trying to right wrongs." Mourners at the ceremony included former presidents George W. Bush, Bill Clinton and Jimmy Carter, as well as Vice President Joe Biden. Despite rain, the streets of Boston were lined with people cheering for the last-surviving of the Kennedy brothers.

Four big changes hit campus this summer

Caitlin Dalik

cadalik@ursinus.edu

As tuition rises again this year and the campus becomes even more cramped with what seems like an ever-expanding student population, it's easy to wonder where these extra dollars are going. So if you're upset that you are crammed in a double with two roommates or upset about the lack of the old block meal plan, here is a short description of four areas of improvement on campus you are sure to be happy about:

1. CONSTRUCTION:



photo courtesy of Ursinus.edu

probably noticed coming back to campus was the major construction taking place on the front lawn as the Philip and Muriel Berman Museum of Art is in the midst of receiving a face lift. Ground was broken on Oct. 30, 2008 to add the new Henry and June Pfeiffer Wing. A live webcam of the project can be found on the Berman Museum of Art section of the Ursinus Web site. Above is a rough drawing of what it should look like after completion. Speaking of construction, students will also notice the renovations in the Wismer Dining Hall. The new seating arrangement will provide 60 additional seats. Wismer Marketplace will also feature a "new expanded salad bar with local, organic, composed and tossed to order salads." Wismer will also feature a new hot and cold deli sandwich station which will have a new hot sandwich daily.

2. GOING GREEN: Along with Wismer's new renovations comes some changes to make dining options "greener." As Ursinus College President John Strassburger addressed upperclassmen students in an e-mail over the

summer, Wismer Dining Hall will begin "composting to recycle food waste, in collaboration with a local composting facility." This project goes along with the National Climate Commitment that President Strassburger signed. The campus also has a new sustainability coordinator, Kyle Rush, who is on the coaching staff. On freshman move-in day Ursinus students and staff were seen helping to recycle materials from cardboard boxes to packing plastic to help reduce the carbon footprint. In addition, the UC Bike Share Program which kicked off last year has been expanded to include several new bikes as well as a tandem bike and a grocery bike with baskets. The UC Bike Share is only \$5 for the year and students can sign out a bike at Campus Safety. The near-by Perkiomen Trail is a great place for students to bike.

3. ACADEMIC RESOURCES: On the academic side, the college has introduced the Center for Academic Support, which is located in the lower level of the Myrin library. It will provide peer tutoring, peer mentoring, disability services, first-year student resources, and assistance to students on academic probation. Peer Mentors are a new resource for first-year students as each freshman student received a peer mentor to help guide them along their year. This great, new program is a great resource for all students.

4. TECHNOLOGY: The Ursinus Web site has also seen a facelift. It's been cleaned up and improved to make it easier to navigate. The *Gazette* and weekly calendar has been replaced by the new online publication, *UC Link*. This colorful e-mailed newsletter features photos and information on what is happening on campus. It also includes a calendar listing of events happening on campus. It will be sent out to the campus every Monday via e-mail. Submissions for *UC Link* are due by noon on Thursdays. The college also has a new cable TV services provider which included some new channels available to students on campus.

Of course, these are not the only areas where the campus has seen some great changes. There are new clubs and programs on campus that *The Grizzly* will be covering!

COMMENTS SOUGHT FOR TENURE REVIEW

In accordance with the Ursinus College Faculty Handbook, student comments on teaching effectiveness and student-faculty interaction are invited at the time of a faculty member's review for tenure. Although student names must be signed to be considered, student names may be withheld, upon request, when their comments are shared with the Promotion and Tenure Committee, and the faculty member.

This year, the following members of the faculty are being reviewed for tenure:

Professor Meredith Goldsmith, English

Professor Walter Greason, History

Professor Codrina Popescu, Chemistry

Your feedback is strongly encouraged and will assist the Committee in its review process. Letters should be sent to Dean Judith T. Levy, Office of the Dean by October 9, 2009.

"theft" is continued from page 1.

can take it. It would not be out of character for someone else to be carrying your same laptop on this campus, right? This goes for clothing too.

5. Finally, if something does not seem right, it probably isn't. Upperclassmen know the vibe of the campus, but the freshmen are still learning. Remember that Campus Safety is here to help.

Theft does not seem to be a huge issue on the UC campus, but some of those thefts are never reported. Would you report a stolen jacket in Zack's? Probably not. According to the Ursinus College Campus Safety Report from 2008, there were 58 burglaries on campus in 2007. 15 of those burglaries occurred in residence halls.

Keep these tips in mind as you start out the year. As Kim Taylor said, this is a team effort, everyone must be aware of their surroundings and be willing to contact help if it is needed.

Special thanks to Kim Taylor who helped with information for this article. For the full safety report on Ursinus College, you can go to <http://www.ursinus.edu/NetCommunity/Document.Doc?id=187>.

Features

Interning with Joan Jett: Taking advantage of the UC opportunity

Laurel Salvo

lasalvo@ursinus.edu

My experiences this Summer with managing the radio station have definitely surpassed any expectations I've imagined, but the highlight of it was most definitely on September 5th at MusikFest when I got to meet Joan Jett, and the random course of events that transpired afterwards. In New York City I scored an internship with Blackheart Records, the label Jett owns.

Upon becoming General Manager for WVOU, these past few months I've done nothing but drown myself in making our station bigger and better. I started working on getting band interviews at venues and doing phoners with different artists for a new WVOU Blog I created, booking artists for Fall Semester through label contacts, and re-tailoring our website to make it look...well, pretty again. One of these phone conversations took place in July with Blackheart Records PR rep, Julie Rader.

I had originally called her to get an interview with San Antonio based rock band "Girl in a Coma" which I did end up getting and putting on our blog. Towards the tail end of the conversation we had, Julie mentioned quizzically to me what other artists she thought were coming my way (around PA), and then said, "We are Blackheart, so we do have Joan coming through in August..." Afterward, she offered me the opportunity to get guest-listed with a plus-one to meet Joan for radio hospitalities before her headlining set at MusikFest.

I was floored at the time, and writing this article the day after meeting her, I can tell you I'm still caught in the undertow of her stage energy and friendly persona. I remember listening to her band from a very young age and



Photo courtesy of Maryanne Berthel

always thinking how amazing it would be to attend one of her concerts. And then in early August, there I was ascending the steps to her trailer, shaking her hand and talking about WVOU with her. Beforehand I even got to meet Kenny Laguna; who's not only known Joan since the beginning of her career with the Blackhearts in the early 80's, but has also shared the stage with her, and helped produce the hefty catalogue of rock albums she's released.

On stage Jett and her band seemed like a close-knit family; sharing smiles and laughs, posing guitars against one another playfully, and their interaction with the crowd was fun-loving. I've seen hundreds of musicians take the stage in the past 5 years of my life and with Joan you could tell she's just in love with her life. It comes

off her in waves from when she took to standing and leaning down above us from the edge of the stage; to whenever she'd pause sideways at a band mate, grinning a toothy smile with a light in her eye. Even with meeting her in person, the energy she exuded was a mixture of contentment, bursting optimism, and genuine streaks of good nature speckled in between.

I've met bands before. I've been on Billy Howerdel's tour bus; danced to Scissor Sisters with Ryan Shuck and Amir Derakh from Orgy. I've eaten pizza with Stabbing Westwards front man, Chris Hall. This time around with Joan Jett however, I felt it was more important because it was legitimate. This was something I'd done on my own without my friends who were friends with the band.

After Musikfest, I kept in touch with Julie via phone

and email and mentioned I wanted to send my resume Blackhearts way for an internship. Met with encouragement, I was invited to come to NYC to interview. To tie loose ends, for my ILE that ended up getting put off until my Senior year, I'm now Interning for Jett's label, Blackheart Records. It's all very surreal and strange to me. All things aside, this article wasn't just meant to highlight the happenings of my summer.

What I'm trying to say with this article more than anything is that whatever you came to Ursinus College for; whether you're a Biology major who wants to move on to med school and treat patients with a genuine care, or a dancer who feels fire in their veins when they're feet touch the bare surface of a stage; utilize this experience. Four years may seem like forever when you're a freshman but by senior year you come to realize that every moment you have here is precious, fragile; a paused scene in a movie of your life you can only go back to in memory.

Since I've been here I've been trying to drown myself in what I love through writing for the Grizzly, working with WVOU, booking concerts for everyone to come out to, and trying to pick up skills that will benefit me in the music industry through my courses. I believe we're a generation who are given the freedom to not become square pegs in a round hole. We're all rattling cages with something deep inside that inspires us and with college we've been given the chance to find out what those embers of fuel may be.

I never want to stop learning, listening, and feeling what I feel when I'm at a show in the city, or after buying a new track and pressing play on iTunes. Oddly enough, when I first arrived here I was dead set on becoming a High School English teacher. And then I started going to a lot of shows, immersing myself in music magazines and internet band websites, flooding my computer's hard drive with too many mp3's, and starting to interview and photograph bands. I remember telling my parents I wasn't planning to teach anymore but instead I wanted to become a music columnist or work for a record label. The look on their faces was enough to deter me and I was worried that my idea of a post-grad career was too unstable. I've since learned that the most unstable place under neon colored floodlights in front of a stage in the middle of a mosh-pit is where I feel the stillest. Don't be afraid to challenge your barriers. Don't be afraid to find yourself at Ursinus.

UC Community Service Center: Encouraging benevolence on campus

Ryan Collins

rycollins@ursinus.edu

The Ursinus Center for Advocacy, Responsibility, and Engagement (UCARE) is proud to announce its formation this year. UCARE will effectively be Ursinus' community service center, but it is our hope that it will be much more than that.

The office was created as a result of a number of different factors. We wanted to provide a resource to let students know what service options were available, since there had never before been one single place to access that information. The UCARE web-site should address this problem. We also wanted to promote more cooperation among groups: if there are groups with similar goals and sentiments, why not work together? There are three interns in the community service office at this time, and we will be happy to help coordinate these cross-organizational efforts. It is our hope that when groups pool their resources together, it will allow even more ambitious projects to come about.

One of our most valuable tools in helping service with opportunities will be the service calendar on the UCARE website. Groups can e-mail us information about events they are doing, which can be put on the calendar, accessible by anyone. This will give students the ability to get more informed about ways to get involved. This service is not limited to groups that are explicitly devoted to service: we'll be happy to advertise an event in which any group is engaging that is related to service, advocacy, or some kind of political action.

However, in addition to individual service opportunities, UCARE's mission highlights the importance of fostering the culture of service that already exists at Ursinus. Service can be something you begrudgingly do in order to be accepted by some organization, or it can be your personal opportunity to transform our world according to your own vision. Ursinus' mission statements states that it aims to produce independent, responsible, and creative leaders who engage their local and global communities as a positive force in the world. Service is integral in this mission, as it means putting down the books,

getting your feet on the ground, and acquiring the skills you need to fulfill your goals. UCARE wants to connect students to the benefits of service, and bring some real benefits to our campus community, as well as the wider community.

Of course, it's not up to just a few kids in an office, or a couple campus organizations. To create a more harmonious, involved campus and community, it takes everyone's support, even if it just means picking weeds for half an hour at the organic garden, or writing a letter of thanks to the workers on campus. Service can be done on every level; small deeds help, too.

We sincerely hope that you will join us for our grand opening on September 16th, from 11:30AM to 1:30PM. Come check out our office in the Student Activities Office in Wismer Lower Lounge. Don't let that be the only time you stop by, though: if you ever have any ideas for projects, or would like to ask about setting up a certain project, come by and we'll try and help get you in touch with the resources you'll need.

Bridging the Gap between 2010 and 2013

Roger Lee

rolee@ursinus.edu

As the freshmen settled into their new humble abodes, the seniors arrived on campus for their last year at Ursinus College. Both classes were anticipating the 2009-10 academic year for different reasons. The freshmen were looking forward to new beginnings while the seniors anticipated new endings. In an attempt to bridge the gap between the freshmen and seniors, I caught up with members of both classes to hear about their summer stories and excitement for the new school year.

Michael Thomas, a senior history major, spent most of his summer on campus.

"I had a great opportunity to look through a wealth of information that I wouldn't have been able to during the school year," said Michael.

He was a part of the prestigious Summer Fellows program, working alongside Dr. Walter Greason of the History Department. Michael spent eight weeks looking at the Criminal Justice System and possible rehabilitation techniques that can be implemented in today's society. This research offers alternatives to reducing recidivism. Now that senior year has arrived, Michael plans on finishing his major requirements while completing his double minor in East Asian and Africana Studies. He will also serve as Treasurer for the new campus organization *UCTV Live*.

While reflecting on the future Michael said, "I'm excited to finish the rest of my classes, graduate and hopefully study in China for a year after school."

Alex Rawley, a proud member of the class of 2013 was eager to come to college. He came all the way from Cairo, Egypt. This international freshman spent some of his summer in Europe as he visited a small city called Montreaux in Switzerland and even found time to stay in Geneva. While in Europe, a freak skateboard accident caused Alex to break his jaw.

"I don't think I'm ever skateboarding again," he laughed.

UCTV returns continued from page 1

freshman year, I received nothing but positive responses. With the help of strong student leaders, passionate media & communications studies majors, and faculty support, UCTV was approved as an official student organization for the 2009-10 academic year. With the green light from the Student Government Association, our organization took off running with the goal of a fall 2009 premiere.

This October, UCTV is proud to present its new monthly program titled, *UCTV Live*. The half-hour program will air on Wednesdays during the 12:00 p.m. common hour. Each show is filmed live from the television studio housed in the Ritter Building. The program is student-run with advice from Dean and media & communications professor, Dr. Jay Miller.

The station is headed by a dedicated group of creative Ursinus students. Roger Lee serves as the Producer and General Manager for UCTV, overseeing all planning and production aspects of the station. Justin Cunard is the Segment Producer, writing the scripts and

Alex is trading in skateboarding for snowboarding because snow is a lot better on the jaw than concrete. Once his jaw healed, Alex went back home to Egypt for a month. He went with his family to Long Island, New York to visit New York City and see a Broadway show.

"I see a play every year on Broadway," said Alex.

This summer, he had the pleasure of visiting Broadway twice, seeing "Ruined" and "The Fantastics." After a whirlwind summer, Alex is excited to settle down at Ursinus. He plans on joining the swim team while taking courses in biology and psychology to help determine his major. No matter what he picks for his major, Alex wants to end up working in a field that makes him happy.

"There is nothing worse than waking up each day and hating your job!" he said.

Alex isn't the only one looking for happiness within his profession. Senior Justin Cunard landed a unique internship that catered to his creative interests. Justin worked as an intern at the Sordoni Art Gallery, becoming a well-respected and contributing staff member.

"The work I do there is very meaningful and the director is very friendly and welcomes my input," Justin said proudly, "After a day's work, I actually feel inspired to draw and expand upon my creativity."

Justin looked for exciting upcoming artists to be featured in Sordoni exhibits. He maintained current exhibits and gave presentations on them. He learned a lot about working artists and the ins and outs of the art gallery world. He even interacted with Wilkes University's professors as they dropped off and installed their works for a new faculty exhibition. All of these exciting opportunities gave Justin new ideas for his upcoming independent work.

"I am very excited for my independent drawing/painting study that I will be working on with Roger Chavez," said Justin.

The senior is enrolled in the independent study course, working on a semester-long project with a faculty advisor. Justin plans on entering his new work in the Berman Student Art Exhibition this spring. He also hopes to have a creative career upon graduation.

time-run down for each show. Laurel Salvo is the Talent Coordinator for the station, booking guest speakers, professors, students, dancers, singers and bands for the live broadcasts. Matthew Whitman is the video editor and set designer, incorporating pre-taped outdoor footage into the live broadcasts. Eduardo Almonte is the Technical Director and Graphic Designer, overseeing all of the stations equipment and graphics. Michael Thomas is the treasurer and script editor of the station while Alexandra Wilson serves as the Stage Manager for live shows. This talented executive board will work together while heading the three UCTV committees.

The committees are where the students become most involved with the station. There are news, talent and production committees that help each broadcast run smoothly. Students interested in news, journalism, and television writing may be interested in the news committee. This group comes up with three news topics for each broadcast. For the entertainment lovers, the talent section may be the committee of your dreams. This group books bands and other live entertainment and interviews for the live shows. Then there is the production committee that

Features

Career Corner: Team up with Career Services

Career Services

career@ursinus.edu

New school year! New books...new friends...new plans and new strategies for making the most of your Ursinus experience. That's where Career Services can help. Our staff eagerly awaits your visit and looks forward to working with you and planning for the future. Not sure of your major direction? Finding it hard to narrow down career options? Looking to secure an exciting internship? Need some help with your graduate school plans? Want to get a head start with your job searching? Whatever your need, we are committed to helping you design a plan that will help you compete successfully in today's marketplace, realize a satisfying career and lead a rewarding life.

Check us out at www.ursinus.edu/career or in Bomberger Hall, Suite 110.

- Schedule individual appointments to assess interests and explore career options.
- Get assistance with job searching, resume writing or interviewing skills.
- E-mail your résumé or cover letter for an individualized critique.
- Access resources and advice on the graduate professional school application process.
- Utilize **PERFECT INTERVIEW**- an online interactive simulated interview so you can practice interviewing anytime, anywhere.
- View our Web page for our **new video series** of 3-minute, YouTube style clips on critical career topics.
- Visit **UC CareerNet**- the UC web based job & internship management system.
- Attend workshops and programs on career-related topics.
- Participate in the Annual UC Job & Internship fair scheduled for Feb. 10, 2010.

Career Services' office hours are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Appointments are strongly encouraged except for TALKING TUESDAYS - where we welcome you on a first-come, first served basis from

Noon -5 p.m. Become a fan of Ursinus College Career Services on Facebook and add "UrsinusCareer" to your IM buddy list. You can reach us at career@ursinus.edu. Hope to see you in the Career Services office soon!

provides students with first-hand experience in television studio production. The committees work together to produce a unique features program that covers news, entertainment, sports and campus events.

UCTV Live is set to premiere in October. If you are interested in joining a committee, pitching story ideas, or having your organization featured on a live broadcast, feel free to e-mail uctv@ursinus.edu. We encourage students and their organizations to get involved in this campus-wide effort to bring Ursinus achievement to the limelight. See you on the air!

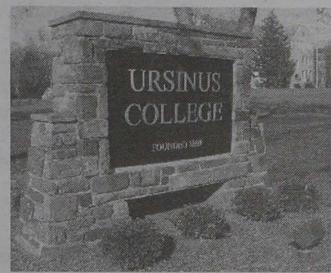


Photo Courtesy of Ursinus Website

Opinions

grizzly@ursinus.edu

Whitney Houston makes a true comeback in 2009

Roger Lee

rolee@ursinus.edu

Whitney Houston, one of the top-selling female artists of all time, has become a household name in pop, gospel and R&B music. Her crystal clear diction, rich tone, effortless range, and soul-piercing lyrics have made her a musical legend. After a long battle with drug addiction, the superstar is back with her promising comeback album *"I Look To You."* The album debuted August 31.

The first single off the album is *"Million Dollar Bill."* The catchy club-tune was written by Alicia Keys. The single starts off with a distinct base solo reminiscent of the classic film *"Shaft."* The powerful pipes of Houston blare as the base solo picks up. She holds two notes for at least ten seconds each before singing the first verse. I was surprised at the power and length of these opening notes; they reminded me of classic Whitney and not the early 2000's Whitney. The notes were strong indications that this song could be a potential radio hit.

"Million Dollar Bill" celebrates women who have found "the one". The song tells women to embrace the men in their lives that treat them with the respect they deserve. The catchy chorus goes "If he makes you feel like a Million Dollar Bill say, oh..." The catchy "oh, oh" section reminded me of

Beyoncé's *"Crazy in Love."* If it worked for Beyoncé, it will certainly work for Ms. Houston.

Another promising track from the album is *"Nothing But Love."* The mid-tempo R&B track has soft background vocals mixed with Whitney's powerful pipes. The song is a thank you letter of sorts for all the haters who failed to believe in Whitney. In fact, she explains that her enemies were celebrating her downfall, counting her out as a fallen

diva or a has-been in the music world. A now-transformed Whitney is not bitter or upset at all. While many would lash out against their enemies, Whitney has sucked it up and said "thank you" instead. Without their hate and negative energy, she would not be motivated to fight back and take her talent to the next level. In a way,

Houston's haters

have helped make her what she is today. So for that, I will chime in and echo a strong "thank you" for all of those who said that she'd never make it. As a supportive fan, I know that with time, training, hard work, prayer and the

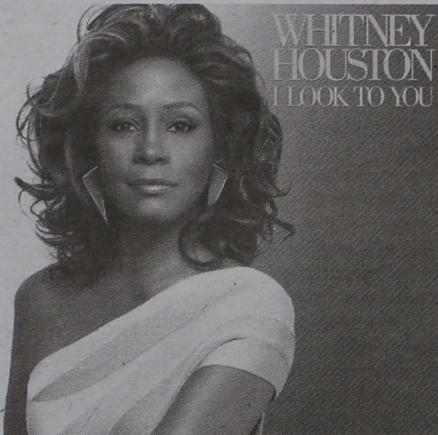


Photo courtesy of Google Images

power of God, Whitney will continue to make a full comeback—one beyond her wildest dreams. This track is a true testament to the singer's class and maturity.

The fourth offering on the album is the title track *"Look To You."* It is a beautiful ballad full of power, sincerity, and vulnerability. "After all my strength is gone, with you I can be strong, I look to you" croons Houston in her signature falsetto. The song talks about being at your absolute lowest point. That's when Houston admits, "I look to you." After doing all that she can, she throws up her hands and gives up on her own devices. Instead, she surrenders and asks for outside help. Although Houston never mentions who she looks to, I am almost certain that she is referring to God. She says "I need you to shine on me" and murmurs a quick "Oh Lord" reminiscent of her gospel roots on *The Preacher's Wife*.

The closing track is a slow hip-hop number that rivals most of today's most popular songs. It has the same vibe as a Mary J. Blige hit mixed with the softness of a Mariah Carey club track. The song is appropriately named *"Salute."* Much like *"Nothing But Love,"* this track is a positive response to some of the haters in Houston's life. I would bet money that the song is a tribute to her ex-husband Bobby Brown. Houston admits that it took years for her to realize that she could do better without this "mystery person." She says, upon realizing her full potential, she could stand strong and reclaim her life. I like the honesty and positivity on this track. Whitney closes this classic "comeback" album by saluting the one who bought her to her lowest level. It does not get better than this folks! Another true class act from Whitney Houston. I pray that there are many more to come.

B Unum Pluribus: The Journey of Modest Mouse B-Sides

Nick Hanford

nihanford@ursinus.edu

Modest Mouse are perpetuators of musical style and some of the profound elders of indie rock, and have recently found mainstream success. This success is most likely well beyond anywhere they would have placed their pessimistic selves on a ten year plan. 2004's *Good News for People Who Love Bad News* contained their first hit, "Float On," which was so big it was Kidz Bopped. In 2007, they followed it with a number one record on the Billboard 100 with "We Were Dead Before the Ship Sank."

Their follow up to these was a series of three vinyl singles made up of B-sides from the two recordings and a few other songs recorded between albums. On the surface, "No One's First and You're Next" can be split up into four topics: Paranoia/Fear, Crime, Death and Anger. Though normally every album includes these, the singles are split up into distinct themes.

The first single released included "Satellite Skin" and "Guilty Cocker Spaniels," involving a level of paranoia that must have been higher than usual for lead singer Isaac Brock at the time he wrote them. "Satellite Skin" holds a fear of hurting others with their "moth wing feelings." Brock worries that the "powdering dust" will never wash away

from incidents. His voice is raspier than usual, with tinges of apparent pain that aren't always present in other songs. In "Spaniels," the EP's most accessible song, the fear is of life being strictly a game. Its pace is just like a line in the song, a runner jogging 'on treadmills in a perfect line,' endless, but amusing.

The next single, "Autumn Beds", seems like a lullaby to a criminal on death row that you almost have to feel sad for. The song is about someone who has tried and tried again and gone through the millions of appeals to try anything to get away from death. They have been completely drained of their energy at the end of the process. The abrupt ending of percussion makes you think of a hanging, with the small ticks of the banjo being the last kicks of the swinging body. "Whale Song" almost seems like a prelude to the first. The long instrumental beginning

jumbled behind voices repeating things that sound like the confusion of actions taking control.

"Perpetual Motion Machine" and "History Sticks to Your Feet" seem to deal more with the idea of death. "Motion Machine" is a hearty barroom jaunt with warm horns and percussion that sounds at times like cookware. It's almost something to be sung when drinking to your own unavoidable death. "History" seems to talk about the moment of death with lyrics like "clocks to splinters, but time goes on" and a constant reference to personal history that gathers its meaning as you live your life and eventually pass on.

The last two songs were not released on vinyl, but have been in rotation on tour since 2007. "King Rat" is raucous and rampant with Brock yelling over blaring horns. Anger rings forth in every second, with the song ending with the words "What do you have to say for yourself?" The late Heath Ledger directed an animated music video for the song, which included a ship of whales at sea hunting for humans and then proceeding to skin and sell them. Ledger used the anger to speak out against illegal whaling being allowed in Antarctic waters. The last song, "I've Got It All (Most)," is one of the smoothest songs on the EP, but lacks a necessary punch. However, it is a direct mirror of the song "We've Got Everything" from *We Were Dead*, possibly showing Brock's frustration with having much as a part of a group, but not as an individual.

On the whole, the album is solid and each song holds its own weight, but it doesn't seem to go any farther than that. The album is best when it is split up into four sections and dissected carefully. That being said, not many bands could produce a B-sides collection that is of this high quality.



Photo courtesy of Google Images

is one of their most beautiful portrayals of talent in a long time and seems to almost describe the origins and committing of a crime, up until that moment when the perpetrator has realized how deep they really are. The regret builds in the lyrics when they finally begin with lines like "I should've found a way out." These words are

Opinions

The biggest news of summer '09 (that you never heard about)

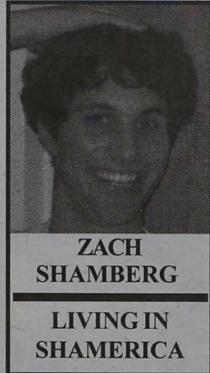
Zach Shamborg
zashamborg@ursinus.edu

Chances are you probably aren't very much like me. And some people might say that's a good thing. For instance, in a summer jam-packed with hit films like "The Hangover," "Transformers" and "(500) Days of Summer" (which you probably saw), I was focused solely on the movies that wouldn't be released until we stow our short-shorts and tank tops in closets in exchange for winter coats and snow boots. While you were celebrating the life and music of Michael

Jackson and trying your best to memorize the "Thriller" music video dance, I was examining the new Jackson documentary set to open this fall to weigh the chances it might have to take home some awards. And during the days of extreme heat, while you were most-likely sprawled out on a sandy beach with the newest Taylor Swift song streaming from your iPod (I do love "You Belong With Me"), I was sprawled out on my living room couch, watching critically-acclaimed indie films to take note of the riveting performances that few mainstream moviegoers may ever see.

The point is this: I love movies. And I love the movie award season even more. When teachers in high school used to ask which season of the year was my favorite, I would calmly reply "Oscar season" and wait for the mocking laughter from surrounding students (and even, sometimes, faculty members). A few years ago, when films such as "Spiderman" and "X-Men" transformed a little-known event called Comic-Con from a cult nerd-hideaway to the cutting edge of movie premieres, comic book lovers everywhere emerged from the woodwork and embraced their love of masked superheroes and animated villains. This summer, faithful readers, was my very own "eureka!" moment. During our summer of box-office hits, tragic deaths, and unbelievably sunny weather, you may have missed the single-biggest story to ever emerge from the people over at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, better known as "the guys who bring us the Oscars."

As it has stood for nearly sixty years, the Academy selects five films to be included in the Best Picture category for their annual Oscars telecast. In the 1930s and 40s, however, Hollywood was churning out so many quality films per year that the Academy had no choice but to recognize eight to ten Best Picture nominees. In recent years (when films such as "Crash" and "Seabiscuit" were nominated), you'd be hard-pressed to find three to four quality movies that could be honored by voters. It seems that now, as Oscar telecasts reach record-low viewership numbers and sponsors drop faster than stock prices after an Obama press conference, the good people at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences have chosen



ZACH SHAMBORG
LIVING IN SHAMERICA



Photo courtesy of Google Images

quantity over quality. This Paris Hilton-like approach to choosing mass amount rather than sheer value may work, but it may also develop into the biggest misstep the Academy has made since snubbing Jim Carrey's performance in "The Truman Show" in 1998.

Here's what they've done: this year, the Oscars will nominate ten films as Best Picture nominees, rather than the usual five. The news has caused a great divide among Hollywood residents not seen since Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman announced that they were getting a divorce. Some argue that ten nominees create space for small indie films or big-budget summer movies that might not be nominated in other years. Others say that the ten nominees deter voters from selecting the cream of the crop; rather, there are so many films to choose from that the real masterpiece may get lost in the shuffle. Both sides of the argument are completely valid. Here's my take:

Why it works: Audiences are tired of the Oscar telecast—plain and simple. They're tired of watching five indie movies that haven't been seen by anyone (except for the director's close family and friends) compete for the title of Best Picture of the Year. And frankly, I don't blame them. Last year, Best Picture nominees "Milk," "The Reader" and "Frost/Nixon" were three of the lowest-grossing films of the last decade in that category. How can a film be nominated for such an honor if theatres showing it across the nation are empty? When "Titanic" won Best Picture more than ten years ago, it wasn't because of the acting, directing or (awful) dialogue. It was because, like the ship it was named after, the film was absolutely unsinkable. For months, grosses of "Titanic" skyrocketed, and it was up to the Academy to decide if audience turnout

and record-breaking cash sums were reason enough to award it with Oscar gold. Was "Titanic" the best film of the year? Absolutely not (that honor should have been bestowed upon "Boogie Nights," which wasn't even nominated). But should it have won the title of Best Picture of the year? Absolutely. If that logic doesn't necessarily make a whole lot of sense, consider this: last year, "The Dark Knight" became the second-highest grossing film of all-time (behind "Titanic"). It was a critical masterpiece and a favorite among all demographics (except for this critic).

The film truly transcended comic book lore and cemented itself at the center of mainstream publicity. Alas, it received no major Oscar nominations. The same goes for Pixar's "Wall-E," which is probably the most brilliant animated film ever created. I can make the argument that these two films should have been nominated instead of "The Reader" or "Milk" simply because wider appeal creates a better Oscars telecast and a much more interesting Best Picture race. The Academy's decision to include ten Best Picture nominees this year guarantees that films such as "The Dark Knight" and "Wall-E" will be nominated. I am more than willing to sacrifice great art for a watchable, fun telecast. Can you imagine how exciting it would have been to root for "The Dark Knight" just as millions of teenage girls cheered on "Titanic" ten years earlier? Movies that

wouldn't have dreamed of getting nominated years ago now have a chance, and it's time to embrace that change.

Why it doesn't work: Academy voters base their final decisions on the principle that they have watched every single nominated movie and selected the one that best exemplifies the aspects of the award it has been nominated for. But watching five movies is a downright arduous task when voters are given a limited amount of time. I love James Bond films, but I can hardly sit through two of them without becoming uninterested and losing all sense of plot and characters. I'm afraid that if voters are forced to watch ten films, they'll simply skip the task altogether and vote

for the movie that has received the most publicity. The Academy would love to dismiss this theory, but the fact is that the majority of their members most likely do not see every movie nominated for an Oscar. A nother concern is the

quality of the

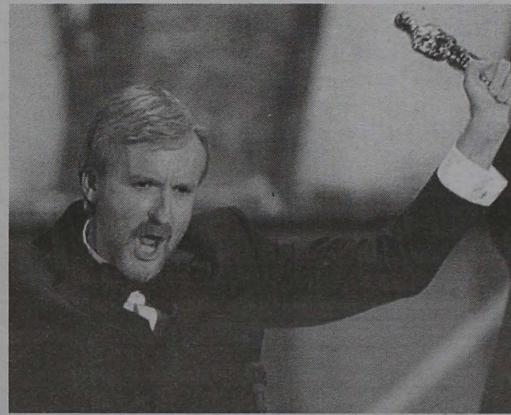


Photo courtesy of Google Images

films themselves—there's already been talk of the new "Star Trek" film scoring a nomination. If this happens, consider me finished with movies. Adding five more movies to the list does not mean that quality has to completely vanish altogether. It's just a way to mix the mainstream successes in with the small indies to create the perfect list of Best Picture nominees.

The Oscars are my favorite telecast of the year. They're flashier than the Super Bowl, bigger than the Stanley Cup, shorter than the NBA Playoffs, and they have more storylines than any World Series game ever will. But in recent years, the essence of the Oscars has been lost on questions like "who's hosting?" and "who will he or she be bringing as their date?" The Academy Awards should be the one night of the year where all of Hollywood shuts down and focuses on a singular event. Hopefully, including ten Best Picture nominees in the Oscar race will make this event even more special for people around the world. If not, James Cameron would be happy to start filming *Titanic 2: Jack's Back!* anytime.

Have opinions you would like to share?

Want to build your writing portfolio?

Think you could add something new?

Want to learn about journalism?

Join the Grizzly!

**Attend weekly meetings on
Mondays in Olin 103 at 7 p.m.
and have your voice heard!**

E-mail: grizzly@ursinus.edu

Sports

Dan Mullen '94 named Mississippi State Head Coach

Kevin Veazey
Ursinus Magazine

Dan Mullen grabbed a cowbell with a handle, one of Mississippi State University's spirit props, in front of a few hundred fans at a morning pep rally here last month. The fans cheered wildly. Moments later, and with his distinctly un-Southern accent, he said he'd tell anyone that he was, indeed, from Starkville, Mississippi — this classic Southern small college town of 20,000. He's a long way from Ursinus College.

Mullen was named the new head football coach at Mississippi State on Dec. 10. It's the first job as a head coach for Mullen, a native of Manchester, N.H. and a tight end on Ursinus teams from 1990 to 1993. He comes to MSU — and this \$1.2 million a year job — from the University of Florida, where he ended his career on Jan. 8 as that team's offensive coordinator with a second national championship in three seasons. A day later, he was meeting with his new team in Starkville.

"Boy, my life has taken so many drastic turns," Mullen said a few days after being hired. "You take my career in football aside, I've tried to live my life for the stories. For all the different experiences I've had in my life."

Mullen certainly isn't short of stories. Like the trip he took backpacking through Europe after his freshman year at Ursinus. How, as an assistant coach at Bowling Green in 2002, he courted a television sports anchor named Megan West. (She became his wife three years later.)

How his mother gave him a one-way plane ticket to Australia and a hundred-dollar bill upon his graduation from Ursinus. It was going to be a great trip — until he took an entry-level coaching job.

Fourteen years later, he accomplished a big-time goal — landing a head coaching job — at a school in the Southeastern Conference, largely regarded as the country's toughest.

No doubt fueled by his association with Florida head coach Urban Meyer, Mullen became one of the hottest names in coaching circles. Meyer and Mullen first met in 1999, when Mullen was a graduate assistant at Notre Dame. Mullen served on Meyer's staffs when Meyer became a head coach at Bowling Green in 2001, at Utah in 2003 and Florida in 2005.

Mullen spent much of his first month-plus focusing on recruiting and hiring assistant coaches, but no small amount was spent on meeting MSU fans. Mullen's enthusiasm — and his message of a high-

powered spread offense — has been well-received by MSU fans who saw few wins and even fewer points in the previous five seasons under Sylvester Croom.

First-year athletic director Greg Byrne interviewed Mullen into the wee hours of the morning Dec. 10 in an Atlanta hotel.

A half-hour in, Byrne knew he had his man.

"He came across just as a really good person," Byrne said. "Easy demeanor, but you could also tell when he started talking about football, that a focus came in that you're looking for in your coach."

Byrne noticed what many have since Mullen was hired: Though focused and football-driven as any coach, Mullen has a broad background and command of almost any topic.

And he's seen quite a bit in his 36 years.

"I kind of take a bit of pride in all the different places I've lived and all my backgrounds," Mullen said. "I think I've lived a very good life."



Photo courtesy of MSU Athletics

Mississippi-based writer Kyle Veazey wrote this piece for Ursinus Magazine and it is reprinted from the winter 2009 magazine. Photo courtesy of Mississippi State Athletic Media Relations.

John Noonan: Full court press to Europe, summer 2009

Ellen Labrecque (1995)
Ursinus Magazine

During John Noonan's four years as a guard on the men's basketball team, the Bears won two Centennial Conference titles, played in the 2008 Final Four, and he was named first-team All Conference his junior and senior year. Yet while triumphing on the court, John and his teammates were consistently reminded to keep their success in perspective.

"We talk often here in our basketball family about learning to truly be 'men for others,'" explained Head Coach Kevin Small. "We've woven this message into the fabric of who we are. John took these words to heart. He did an awful lot for other people during his time here."

Acknowledging this spirit of being a "man for others," John was named one of 10 finalists for The 2009 Jostens Trophy, a national award created by the Rotary Club of Salem, Va. The award, which honors the most outstanding Division III basketball player of the year, takes into account basketball ability, academic prowess and community service: John averaged 20.7 points as a senior, had a 3.4 GPA as an Economics and Business major, and spent a lot of time working for charitable organizations. He refereed basketball games in the Special Olympics, helped organize Coaches Versus Cancer fundraising efforts, and volunteered time at Mercy Hospice in Philadelphia, a house for troubled women, many who

are single moms and recovering drug addicts.

"Working at these places reminded me how fortunate we are to have all that we have," John said. "It taught me to enjoy every moment and not to worry about small stuff such as if my shot was falling."

John's community outreach wasn't limited to the United States. In the summer of 2008, the team took a trip to Brazil to play in exhibition games against Brazilian professional and youth development teams. While there, they did a clinic at a school in a poor section of Sao Bento Do Sapucai, a city about 100 miles northeast of Sao Paulo.

"The clinic was the best part of the trip," John said. "We worked with the kids for like two hours. They loved it and got a huge kick out of us being there. Our team still talks about the joy we brought those kids."

While in Brazil, John got a taste of what he hopes might be his future — playing against professionals. Ursinus played a game against Sao Paolo club who's star was Leandro Barbosa, a player for the Phoenix Suns who

was practicing the NBA offseason in his home country. John scored 40 points that game.

"After the match was up, [Barbosa] told me I had a 'very good game and I had a very good three-point shot.' He also asked me if I was looking to get drafted in the NBA," John said with a laugh. "It

was a pretty unreal experience."

Although the NBA is most likely not in John's future, playing abroad is. He hopes to be picked up by a professional European team (Most leagues begin mid-August). Former Ursinus star Dennis Stanton, 2004, who played in Denmark, Poland, Italy, Austria, and Spain over the past four years, helped John put together a highlight tape to send to various clubs, and introduced John to his own agent.

"I'd be highly surprised if John isn't playing pro basketball next year," Dennis said. "He's such a receptive kid, and he's got such a great base to work from. He's only going to get better as the years go on."

Wherever John's career takes him, he says he'll always carry with him the lessons he learned at school — especially the one about appreciating the good times. "Playing basketball at Ursinus was the best sports experience I've ever had," John said, "especially playing in the Final Four. And to go over to Europe and get paid to play? That would simply be unbelievable."

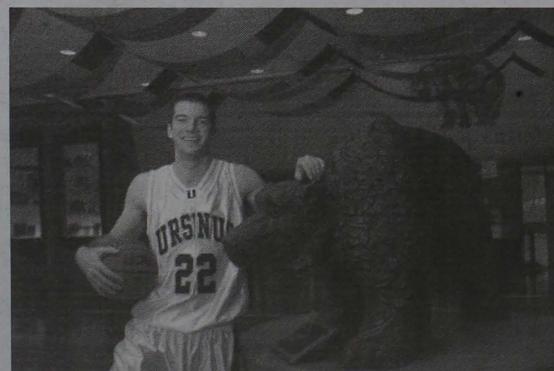


photo courtesy of Ursinus Magazine

Upcoming Games

Saturday, September 5th
Home Events

Football vs. Albright, 1pm

WSoccer vs. Manhattanville, 1pm

MSoccer vs. Misericordia, 3:30pm