

Fontbanner

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Anheuser-Busch Hall Makes its Grand Debut

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By Megan Myers
News Editor

It was a ceremony fit for a king, or the King of Beers, anyway, as members of the University community gathered in front of the former Science building on Saturday, October 17 to watch the unveiling of the facility's new moniker: Anheuser-Busch Hall.

The renaming of the building reflects the locally-based brewery's long partnership with the University, and Anheuser's most recent gift of \$1 million towards the restoration of the campus' main science hall. The donation will facilitate the University's comprehensive plan, which includes the construction of a new greenhouse, updated labs and classrooms, and a new student lounge.

Representing Anheuser-Busch at



the event was Laura Reeves, senior director of the Anheuser-Busch Foundation and Corporate Giving. In her speech, Reeves said she "felt a deep connection to Fontbonne," having attended St. Joseph's Academy, which was housed in the former West Science building until the mid-1950's. While on a recent tour of the campus, Reeves says she was "impressed walking through East with all of its improvements," and wanted the former location of her Alma Mater to "look just as good as the other facilities."

Currently, Anheuser-

Busch Hall is home to the Department of Human Environmental Sciences, the College of Global Business and Professional Studies, and the Department of Biological and Physical Sciences.

Reeves says the high percentage of commuter students on campus was an important factor in the corporation's decision to invest in the University. "The students who graduate from Fontbonne live and work in this community, so it is an investment in St. Louis, too," says Reeves.

Joseph McGlynn, University Trustee and Chair of the Development

Committee, showed off his Griffin spirit with a purple and gold bowtie as he introduced the morning's speakers.

Among them was University President Dennis Golden, who praised Anheuser-Busch as "the leading corporation to support Fontbonne in the entire history of the institution."

Marilyn Sheperd, vice president for institutional advancement, says the Anheuser-Busch Foundation has been a supportive partner to the University for over 23 years. The corporation's website positions education as

one of its main areas of charitable giving, and the University is one of many institutions in the area which has received more than \$100,000 in donations through the Foundation's Matching Gifts Program.

Besides a strong business partnership, the University also has familial ties to the corporation through the late John Valentine, who served on the University's board, and Trudy Busch Valentine.

A purple and gold sign cover used for the unveiling ceremony was sewn by Kay Barnes, assistant vice president for institutional advancement. Following the ceremony, the guests, which numbered around 70, were provided with refreshments in the Library. One beverage was notably absent from the spread, as Sister Pat Quinn humorously pointed out. "Wonder if they're gonna serve beer," she joked to a friend, before adding quickly, "Not that I would drink!"

Founder's Day True Theme Is In The Tradition

By Mary Gould
Reporter

October 15 is not only an important day in the history of our University: it is a day that celebrates the very beginning of this history. "Founders Day commemorates the formal dedication of Fontbonne College on October 15, 1926," says Mary Beth Gallagher, Assistant to the President for Mission Integration. "That day was selected for the dedication in part because the first Sisters of St. Joseph in France were clothed in their religious habits on

October 15, 1650."

In 1836, the founding members of the Sisters of St. Joseph, along with Jean Pierre Medaille, SJ travelled from their native France to St. Louis, Mo., where they "established a "community to serve wherever there is a need," says Gallagher. The mission of these six Sisters included providing education for the deaf, a service reflected now in the University's commitment to deaf education studies. Gallagher says these women were "characterized by quality, respect, diversity,

community, justice, faith and Catholic presence."

"We value celebrating Founders Day because it recalls the contributions of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, who built our college - now our University - in terms of construction as well building the spirit and community that Fontbonne has become" says Gallagher. In addition, she says the day celebrates those remaining Sisters who continue to work on campus whose "gifts and spirit are alive and well."

Every year, Founders Day is observed at the Founders Awards. This

year at the Awards, which were held at Westborough Country Club, five individuals received the Founders Award.

"The people honored in this way all exemplify distinguished community service with their lives," says Gallagher. "The banquet makes a public statement of Fontbonne's educational and social mission, which are inextricably linked."

According to the program distributed at the ceremony, the Founders Awards "symbolize the great

spirit embodied by the brave individuals who founded the Sisters of St. Joseph on October 15, 1650 in Le Puy, France. In honoring the five recipients, Fontbonne celebrates not only their distinguished service in today's world, but their roles as founders who continue a unique heritage."

This year the award recipients included University graduates, faculty and other members of the community who have dedicated their lives to serving others in the areas of education, social justice and art.

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Prestigious Poet Shares Works with Students and Faculty

By Scott Ellis
Reporter

Eleanor Wilner's award winning poetry focuses on anti-war themes, civil rights, and roles of women. On the night of October 14th Wilner shared her poetry first hand with the Fontbonne community. A packed Lewis room of about 70 students, faculty, and the general campus community got to experience Wilner's intense imagery and underlying themes within her works. It is hard to believe that such a powerful voice could come from such a small, delicate looking woman. Her large framed glasses, gray hair tied in a loose bun, and black shawl made her look the part of a poet.

English professor Dr. Jason Sommer opened the reading with a brief introduction of

Wilner and a reading that stressed how Wilner had avoided what she sees on the problem of "ego bound poetry," that overrules the personal aspect of poetry. He also spoke on how her use of mythological characters speaks for her concerns as a poet.

After the introduction, Wilner opened by jokingly saying, "I feel I'm destined to let you down." Though here poems were serious in theme, Wilner presented with a breathy tone and laid back attitude. The audience responded very well to her jokes, such as "I come from a long line of dead people" and her reassurance of the audience, "Don't worry, it only gets worse" after her first poem. Junior Allen Siedle said, "Eleanor Wilner was hilarious! She was really

laid back and fun to listen to. I liked her jokes a lot."

Wilner read nine poems. Before each reading, the poet gave a brief background and explained certain terms and describing events in time that influenced the work. Before Wilner's reading of "This Straw and Manure World," she presented her audience with the statistics that in World War I ten percent of deaths were civilian and ninety percent were military. In WWII the death rate was 50% civilian to 50% military. She finished by saying that the stats of all wars since WWII is 90% civilian and only 10% military. These stats added to the anti-war message within the poem.

The poem, "A Fossil Poet: A Post Pastor" was a crowd pleaser. It is about a poet's

life right before Mt. Vesuvius erupted. Sophomore Mike Horn said, "The poem about the fossil poet was my favorite. The imagery in it was unbelievable."

Wilner's reading of her popular poem, "The Girl with Bees in Her Hair," also seemed to be enjoyed by many. "I liked the fossil poet one but was glad to hear 'The Girl with Bees in Her Hair.' I knew that was the title of her book so I was hoping she would read it," said Siedle. The poem uses figurative language to convey the image of a girl who has bees create a hive inside her hair only to leave in the end. Wilner writes within the poem, "The girl—who had through all of this seemed/ unconcerned and blank—all at once looked up./ She shook her head, her mane of hair freed/ of its burden of bees... here,

where the days grow longer/ now, the air begins to warm, dread grows to/ fear among us, and the bees swarm."

Sharing her poetry at Fontbonne is now one of the many accomplishments Wilner has attained within her lifetime. She holds an interdepartmental Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University. She has published six collections of poems; her most recent one is entitled *The Girl with Bees in Her Hair*. Wilner has been the recipient of numerous awards, including fellowships from the MacArthur Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts, the Juniper Prize, and two Pushcart Prizes. Her work appears in many anthologies, including *The Norton Anthology of Poetry 1996* and *The Best American Poetry 1990*.

Take A Trainride Around New and Improved Christmas Around Campus

By Jessica Thurmond
Reporter

After months of hard studying students are beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel, it's Christmas again. The University has always shown their holiday spirit with the hanging of the green, Christmas trees hanging outside dorm hallways. Once again this year, the University will be showing their holiday spirit with a multitude of activities on campus. Beginning on Sunday December 6 from 4-6p.m. students, faculty and alumni have an open invitation to the University to enjoy exciting activities at several buildings across the campus.

For students who aren't sure what Christmas around Campus actually is, it is a campus-wide celebration for students and alumni. Randi Wilson Vice President of Student Affairs says "Christmas Around Campus is one of our newest Fontbonne traditions in its second year. It brings together students, faculty, staff, alumni, families and friends to celebrate the holiday season." Last year, Fontbonne's first annual Christmas Around Campus; brought in exactly over 1,000 people. This year Randi Wilson and Carla Hickman will be bringing more activities to an even bigger crowd onto the campus. Last year the festival included horse and carriage rides, an ice skating rink, and donation of teddy bears for the U.S Marines Toys for Tots.

This year we can also expect to see the same activities as well as some new ones, there will be an electric train for children and adults to ride on, as well as a North Pole Toy Land. Also in the Meadow there will be a blow up Giant Snow ball for students to roll around in. There will also be different holiday

showcases across the campus. In the library, on the main floor, the Special School District will be having their Christmas Poster Display. The Department of International Affairs and Multicultural Affairs will also present "Christmas around the World," holiday displays and decorations representing cultures, countries and traditions. Children on campus will have the opportunity to see the Sugar Plum Fairy Ballet on the Second floor in the library and who will with the children. There will also be a Birthday Cake for Baby Jesus in the Library. In the East Building outside in front of the main entrance, there will be an Interactive Living Nativity Scene and Mrs. Claus Bakeshop. Ryan Hall will have a Christmas Tree Display, North Pole Print Shop, and many more activities for alumni, students, and faculty to enjoy.

While the activities on campus are a great way to get into the spirit there will also be opportunities to get into the giving spirit. This year the University will be collaborating with Soles 4 Souls, a charity which seeks to "impact as many lives as possible with the gift of shoes," according to their website. All members of the University will be able to donate shoes. Wilson says "We are asking faculty and staff, and students to bring in new or gently used shoes for men, women and children some of whom may never have owned a single pair of shoes in their lifetime." There are marked boxes across the campus in each building on campus where shoes can be deposited.

Last year, Christmas Around Campus had the "Bleacher Bears" drive. Wilson would like to have that same success happen with the Soles 4 Souls. "We are inviting xinviting members of the

Fontbonne Community to repeat the generosity of last year's Christmas around Campus. In 2008, 3600 stuffed animals were donated to the U.S Marine 'Toys for Tots' campaign. We hope to make this years "Bleacher Sneakers" project equally successful by donating, 3600 pairs of shoes."

Along with Soles 4 Souls, SGA is looking to brighten the season by bringing new St. Louisans to enjoy the festivities. Wilson says "The SGA will be partnering up with

Oasis, an agency that works with immigrant families in St.Louis. We are inviting Oasis families to join us and will have a bus bringing them to campus for the event." This also contributes to the dedicate semester theme.

Wilson says "It is a special opportunity for everyone, no matter what age, to come together as the Fontbonne community to launch a holiday season". So bring your family and friends and come enjoy the Holidays the season.

Student Government Association

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SGA wishes the Fontbonne University community a very happy holiday!



See everyone on January 20th at a Noon in the Griffin's Nest for the first meeting of the spring semester!

The Forgotten Minors Revealed

By Jennifer Bensinger
(Bidstrup)
Guest Writer

Across the hall from the bookstore is an office that is home to the Interdisciplinary Department and its chair, Corrine Taff. This department is not well known on campus, but it should be. Aside from being home to the University Major, the Advertising department, and Taff's office with a nice view of the circle drive, it also home to the Women and Gender Studies minor, and one of the most popular minors on campus, American Culture Studies.

Don't feel bad if you have never heard of this office or any of its majors and minors. Until last fall this reporter hadn't either. Now, this reporter has gained both the Women and Gender Studies and the American Cultural Studies minors. Obtaining them does require hard work and a variety of classes, but you might be on your way to getting credit for these minors and not even know it.

According to Taff, who has a Master's in American Studies from Saint Louis University, "a new student who chooses general education classes with American Cultural Studies (ACS) in mind can feasibly get the minor in one to two semesters." However, students who have taken American literature, government, and American history even if they are not new students should consider having Taff look over their degree audit to see if the ACS minor could happen with the addition of the three core classes and nine hours of electives taken from three clusters of study.

ACS's three core classes fall on the 100, 200, and 300 levels. ACS 100 is Introduction to American Cultural Studies. ACS 200 is America Abroad, which focuses on how Americans are viewed world-wide. The final core class ACS 300 is Topics in American Cultural

Studies and the topics vary with each class offering. This current semester the ACS 300 class is an honors and dedicated semester class entitled The Immigrant Experience since 1965 through Film and Literature. This coming spring the ACS 300 class will be about women and the body.

The three clusters of classes that complete the minor give students a chance to look at government, history, sociology, literature, art, and even music. These classes and the minor itself give students a chance to learn much more about America than just its government and history. Taff says, "American culture studies emerged as an academic field in the 1940's and 1950's and at the time was more about justifying and describing America's role in the world, but the field has moved into taking a critical look at America's role and to question and examine America's place in the world. Some people think ACS is only concerned about America in its borders, but it is also about the transnational experience."

The Women and Gender Studies (WGS) minor is another chance for students to expand their thinking about America and the roles every person in the country plays. It helps students to understand how people accept and reject women or even gender classifications world-wide. However, this minor requires a bit more planning. Like the ACS minor, WGS has three core courses and an additional requirement of electives totaling 21 hours.

The three core courses for this minor are: WGS 101 which is the introductory class, WGS 220 Masculinities, and WGS 470 Gender Theory. The electives to round out the minor include classes in several disciplines such as: psychology, sociology, communication, religion, biology, and human and environmental services. Though this minor is not as

popular as ACS it has been growing steadily since its creation in the fall of 2007.

What truly links these two minors is their focus on all the kinds of injustice and inequality that people face. Taff comments on this idea further, "Both ACS and WGS have traditions of being aligned with social justice. They look at all forms of oppression, especially gender and race, and to a lesser degree sexuality and social class. A tradition in both of these fields is activism though it may take different forms." Students who are concerned about equality, social justice, and making changes in these areas would enjoy these classes not only for their focus, but for chance to do critical thinking about how to make equality happen in this country and world-wide.

One unique feature to both of these minors is the teaching style. Taff describes it as "problem based learning." This type of teaching allows students to focus on a problem like gender inequality and then work towards forming a question about that problem. The next step in the style of learning and teaching is to "decided what material will answer the question." Materials may include traditional text books, literature, research studies, film, all forms of art, and even testimony. This style of learning is unique Taff says because, "The problem suggests the disciplines rather than the disciplines suggesting the problem."

Another focus of both minors is to not only to cover the past, but the present as well. History classes provide a lot of background to the present, but current issues based on past events don't always get covered due to time constraints and class designs. Classes in WGS and ACS try to give students a chance to hear about events happening recently. Taff says that the Fontbonne program focuses on post-1945 America." She says, "After

True Meaning of Christmas Lies in the Family Meal

By Raynesha Lovelace
Reporter

My family is far from being ordinary during Christmas. For one Christmas begins the day after Thanksgiving when we unload the big brown dusty box, from the basement, haul it upstairs and quickly start putting the tree together. Everything has to be perfect my mother stresses, decorating the tree the same colors to match the living room, white, gold and silver. As the days go on more and more presents appear under it. Nine of my brothers and sisters, excited about all of the different gifts they see, each of them counting how many gifts they have, while debating who has the biggest one. The youngest one Timberly two going on three repeatedly everyday asks the same question, in her sad but very sweet innocent voice "mommy can I open my presents." "No Timberly" Mom replies, in a tired voice as if she has been caring the world on her shoulders wait until Christmas.

There are a couple of traditional things my family does to prepare for the holiday. My mother and sisters all get together and cook the food on Christmas Eve. Everyone has a special dish that she makes: Girty makes potato salad, Mom makes the turkey and dressing, baked ham with fresh sweet pineapples and brown sugar glazed on top, Newbay makes the chicken rotiel, buttered corn on the cob and buttered sweet candy yams. Poohpea makes the cornbread, and also the cakes and pies usually about eight or nine of them. And Feiro typically stands at the table sampling everything that gets done cooking. These foods are rich with meaning, they bring peace and joy in our home, we all have the kind of love for each other that's burns in our souls, because we truly believe that cooking together as a family will bring us closer, not just on a holiday, but any other day. When we are cooking we cook for what we stand fo, women who are strong and independent who believe that families can be together forever.

During this holiday, we generally try to entertain each other joking and talking about the

many humorous things that have happened. Without mentioning any names about 15 years ago someone hid under the table and helped themselves to some cake and even a glass of milk leaving a trail of cake crumbs on the kitchen floor, and it wasn't Santa.

Traditions are a basic part of what it is to be a human being and what it is to be a family. With them, we evolved a sense of ourselves. What is important to us, how we tell the same stories over and over during the holidays. As a family we wake up exactly at twelve am and start opening up the gifts under the Christmas tree. So many different types of wrapping paper flooding living room floor, as if it were water leaking from a pipe. As a family we bring the meaning of the holiday into our home. It's such a wonderful feeling to see the joy in my younger siblings eyes and hearts, watching them rip off the wrapping paper and throwing it on the floor.

During Christmas Day, many members of our extended family from uncles and aunts to nephews and cousins will stop by to visit, exchange presents, and extend holiday greetings. There is a suspicion among us that several of them come by the house mainly because of the bounty on the table. More than one has commented about how good the food is and how we have the best Christmas meal of anyone in our family.

Before we actually serve the meal and devour the food, our family stands around the table holding each other's hands and taking turns talking about what we are thankful for and what Christmas means to us as an individual. Our family prayer will follow.

So many people feel that they need to have other things to help represent the meaning of Christmas, but a true Christmas lies within the family and home, the love and joy within each others hearts. For me Christmas is all about the family being together, the delicious food, and a time to reflect on the sacrifices Jesus Christ made so that we can be here.

That's what makes this holiday so special.

Alumn Inspired By The University to Reside In Collegiate Life

By Ashley Porter
Reporter

Bryan Smith graduated from Fontbonne University in 2004, but in a sense, he has never left a college campus and plans to be on one always.

He is the oldest of four children and his mother thought that it would be a good idea for him to attend a small private university. Smith wanted to remain in St. Louis because he really enjoyed his part time job at Borders Bookstore. Although he is not Catholic, the religious principles attracted him to the campus. He felt that the campus had a diverse and inclusive environment. He was impressed by the student teacher ratio as well as the opportunities on campus. He believes the campus was always a "good fit," the close-knit community felt like home. He added that the campus was broken down into "small villages", making it very accessible. It did not take him long to make friends and connections for the future. Smith felt that he could be open about his Christian beliefs and practices. He also thoroughly enjoyed being involved on campus. The connections he made through being involved on campus were priceless.

Smith attended Fontbonne from 1999-2004. While he planned to complete his degree in 4 and a half years, he was encouraged by Cheryl Baugh and Jason Sommer to take advantage of the Walt Disney World

College Program. He believes that his tenure at Fontbonne was all about change on the campus. He stated that Dr. Dennis Golden and Tom Gunn (who has President of the Board of Trustees at the time) stepped out the box to make Fontbonne what it is today. Smith believes the PR campaign about Fontbonne University students being more than just an ID number or SAT score were great strategies that provided Fontbonne with recognition.

Smith's major was Communication Studies with a concentration in Broadcasting and a Minor in Religion, but his most influential instructor was Anne Grice. Smith says that he told the instructor he always struggled with math. She told him that struggling was a good thing because it meant that college was going to be a challenge, and that he would graduate and do great things. He adds that Cheryl Baugh, Heather Norton, Rose Shapiro, and Dr. Burgo encouraged him to write an undergraduate thesis displaying his major concentration and minor. He does not believe that he would have received Honors on his thesis without the help of those instructors. Smith believes that each of them made college a learning experience that was deeper than just the classroom. They challenged him to be proactive instead of reactive. Their classes challenged him; especially his senior year and he strongly appreciated their input.

Smith served as the first African

American Student Body President. He was a resident assistant for two years and a Hall Director for three years. He was also a member of the Students Enhancement for Black Awareness (SEBA), a member of the student Alumni Association, an advisor for the Residence Hall Association, Fontbonne Ambassadors, and Event Coordinator for the Fontbonne Activities. Post graduation Smith served as a Board Member for the Fontbonne University Alumni Association until he completed his degree at the University of Missouri St. Louis. He also received the outstanding Graduate Award from UM—St. Louis college of education when he earned his master's degree.

Carla Hickman and the entire English and Communication Department encouraged him to enroll in graduate school. He believes that the English and Communication Department prepared him to be a professional. He adds that doing average work in their classes was not acceptable. While he believed that the professors were just being "mean" at first, he realizes that they seriously prepared him for the "real world." Smith believes that Fontbonne absolutely prepared him for Graduate School. Rose Shapiro, Dr. Burgo, and Cheryl Baugh pushed him to minor in Religion. They encouraged him to study apocalyptic rhetoric and write a thesis examining the way televangelism talks about the second coming of Christ.

Smith states that Fontbonne impacted

his life by presenting itself as a "tough love" institution. He adds that Dr. Dennis Golden made himself available to him whenever he needed sound advice; he always gave him "homework" to do. He shares that he is grateful for that. At Fontbonne, Smith learned that a person's credentials and titles mean nothing if they are not grateful to God for giving them what they have. He says that the mission for student affairs is "Engage Educate Empower with Passion by Grace." He lives by that motto today and believes that is what makes him a progressive student affairs professional today.

He is currently a Residence Hall Coordinator at East Carolina University. He oversees upper division housing and serves as an on call coordinator to a residential population of 5500 students. ECU enrollment is 26,000 students. He also instructs a Student Development Course and a Resident Advisor course. He is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity. He is still in touch with his Fontbonne mentors. He plans to pursue a doctorate degree in Sociology. He plans on continuously working in Student Affairs.

He has even encouraged a family member, former neighbor, and former colleague to attend the school—all of them have deemed it an appropriate decision and are proud to be Griffins.

What In The World Are They Doing?



A group of over twenty students from the University recently attend the 10th annual Dance Marathon to support the Saint Louis Children's Miracle Network. Students danced for 12 hours and dressed up for themed music hours. The event raised over \$134,000.

First-year resident students took a break from studying (and video games) to play a rowdy game of mud-football on an unusually warm afternoon in November.



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New Griffin Professor Gunning to Make His Mark Daily

By Jessica Thurmond
Reporter

In three words, Howard Griffin, no relation to Gunner the Griffin, describes himself as persistent, dedicated and organized. For eight years he had a paper route through his hometown of Georgia, from the age of 12 until he graduated high school. By the time Griffin was thirteen years old he had invested in mutual funds and stocks. "My first stock was Coca-Cola. I also had other stocks like Wal-Mart, Home Depot, etc, but then gravitated toward mutual funds."

Howard Griffin was born in Valdosta, Georgia. His mother worked for the local state university, and his father worked for the state of Georgia. As Griffin grew up, he became interested in the fields of language and business. "I have had an interest in languages since I was about fifteen years old." After graduating from Valdosta High School in 1991 at the age of seventeen, his parents gave him a special opportunity: "Instead of a car, I asked my parents for a study abroad trip to Mexico as a high school graduation present," says Griffin

Griffin ended up going to Guadalajara, Mexico. After a year in there, he attended Valdosta State University where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in economics and in Spanish. "When I finished college I went back to Mexico to teach English as a Second Language. I went to Guadalajara because I had done my study abroad there a few years before and still knew people there. Teaching ESL seemed like a great way to be able to spend more time in the country while earning a salary at the same time." says Griffin.

After returning to the states, Griffin decided to go back to college and received his masters in international business from the University of South Carolina in 1997. "Studying International Business seemed like an ideal way to combine my interests in language and business. Within the IB field, I was specifically drawn toward international finance and economics." says Griffin, After receiving his masters, Griffin began working with companies "After earning my master's degree, I worked for several companies in financial analyst type positions,

including one in Miami, FL. I also served as a Medical Service Corps officer (a hospital administrator) for the Air Force and was stationed at Wilford Hall Medical Center, Lackland AFB, TX."

While stationed in Texas, he worked in many different financial positions, with budgets and supply accounts. "I was on active duty from 2001 to 2004 and got out as a Captain. During my time in San Antonio, I also taught on an adjunct basis for nearly eight years at one of the local universities." After coming out of the Air Force, he began working with the University. Griffin says, "I got my start at Fontbonne by responding to an ad that the College of Business placed last year on the Chronicle of Higher Education website for an Assistant Professor of Finance." Griffin finds that the Business Department has a sense of community. "It's a very tight knit group- there's a strong sense of community."

From throwing out newspapers across Georgia to being a full time professor, Howard Griffin has accomplished all of his dreams except for one: No, not to become the school mascot, but to

complete his doctorate degree from Texas A&M International University. "Although I started the PhD in the fall of 2005, it was something that I had been planning for several years before that." says Griffin. After realizing that the career would be good for him he would continue to become a full time employee. "By that point I had done a lot of part time teaching, I was getting good student evaluations and liked the lifestyle. But I realized that to teach full time at the university level, regardless of what field you're in, you almost have to have the PhD," says Griffin.

While Griffin likes the corporate world, he doesn't see himself working with companies. He says, "yes, I have thought about going into the business world again, but not working for a company per se. I have always been drawn to entrepreneurship, so that's the direction I would most likely go." Griffin finds that his inspiration comes from helping people, helping students learn about business and the cooperate world allows him to learn something new everyday. "My inspiration comes from the ability to significantly affect the lives of people."

Flags, Forks and Festivities Fly at the First Annual International Bazaar

By Zach Kassman
Reporter

The International Bazaar, sponsored by Multicultural Affairs, was an eclectic mix of food, information, and entertainment. With over thirteen countries in attendance any attendees were guaranteed some experience in foreign culture. The countries that were represented were as follows; Anguilla, Brazil, China, Columbia, Honduras, Japan, Mexico, Nepal, Oman, Peru, South Korea, Taiwan, and Thailand. Each of these countries had booths set up with different items displayed, like traditional dress, pictures of food, cities, and the native landscapes, and famous exports from a few of the countries, like a bottle of rum from the Anguilla booth. All of this could be viewed from afar, but when a closer look was taken it then became evident that there was more to the International Bazaar than just free food and some free music.

The festivities kicked off with a parade of flags. There were flags from numerous countries, some even of countries that were not present at the Bazaar, and the flag precession marched from the front of Ryan Hall triumphantly all the way to gym floor in the DSAC. Students and staff were waving flags and bobbing around in anticipation of the event that lay ahead

at the end of the long march.

The international cuisine would have been the first thing to catch anybody's eye. There was a smorgasbord of food representing many different countries, which was provided by local restaurants from all over the city. People could walk around while eating a countless number of regional snacks from all over the world. Attendees could eat anything from spring rolls and rice, beef or veggie empanadas, lentils, and quesadillas, and even Thai chicken. There was plenty of food to go around and if someone did not want to walk and eat, then they

could sit down and listen to some live musical entertainment.

The first musical act to perform was a mariachi group wearing brilliant azure blue outfits. They played some very festive, up-beat music and they really got some of the bazaar goers into it. One woman that was working of the informational tables said that she loved one song in particular when it began and then she started singing along. The band featured an acoustic guitar, an acoustic bass, a violin, some trumpets, and some very nice Spanish singing. Following the mariachis was a drum

group with a heavy African influence. They had all different size drums and they had some really great beats that anyone could easily get down to.

Vast amounts of information on any of the present countries could have been taken. One very noticeable table was the International Dress display, which was sponsored by the Fontbonne Fashion Merchandising Program. They showed off a number of authentic traditional dresses, including multiple

Continued in Bazaar on Pg. 11

Fontbonne University is seeking comments from the public about the university in preparation for its periodic evaluation by its regional accrediting agency. Fontbonne will undergo a comprehensive evaluation visit Feb. 1-3, 2010, by a team representing The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. Fontbonne University has been accredited by the Commission at the undergraduate level since 1948 and at the master's level since 1975. The team will review the institution's ongoing ability to meet the Commission's Criteria for Accreditation.

**The public is invited to submit comments regarding Fontbonne University:
Public Comment on Fontbonne University; The Higher Learning Commission;
30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400; Chicago, IL 60602**

Comments must address substantive matters related to the quality of the institution or its academic programs. Comments must be in writing and signed; comments cannot be treated as confidential. All comments must be received by Jan. 1, 2010.

Lucky in Kentucky: FAB Finds Great Entertainers, Wins Award at NACA

By Mary Gould
Reporter

Instead of enjoying a traditional Halloween weekend full of costume parties, candy, haunted houses and carving pumpkins, I spent four days with my fellow FAB members at a conference in Covington, Kentucky. That's right...a conference...in Kentucky.

Fortunately, NACA is a lot more exciting than it sounds. NACA, the National Association for Campus Activities, is basically one huge commercial designed to give a sample of artists and entertainers to college students who are looking to bring entertainment to campus.

Our job for the weekend: find a few hilarious comedians for comedy night in the spring, and an awesome band for Springfest. Sound simple? Not when we've got a small budget, a tight schedule, and every other activities board in the Mid-America region fighting for the same hilarious comedian on the same day.

And that's not the only thing holding us back. In four days we saw 26 musicians, 21 comedians, 11 magicians, nine lecturers and an array of face-painters and mimes. Our options were endless. From 9 am to the wee hours of the morning we sat in a huge auditorium packed with about 600 other college students and listened to artists as they gave us only fifteen minutes of their best stuff.

I use the term best loosely, though, because some of the entertainment provided was definitely not entertaining. I found myself checking my watch quite frequently, and, instead of wild laughter after each joke, some of the comedians got only blank stares from the audience. Needless to say, there were definitely artists who didn't book any shows at NACA. And of course, since we spent so much time with our eyes fixed to the stage we were always looking for the best seats, which required lining up outside of the auditorium an hour before it started followed by pushing and shoving our way to the front as we sprinted to the front rows the instant the doors opened and the security guards got out of the way.

Fortunately we took advantage of the concept of strength in numbers, and by day two we had formed alliances with Manchester College in Indiana and St. Francis University in Joliet, Illinois. From then on we all took turns guarding our place in line, which was usually the very front, and we reserved entire rows for one another if we happened to get pushed out of the way in the scramble to the front rows. Following each showcase of entertainment, we spent hours socializing with these artists and their talent

agents, talking music, money and contracts at the Campus Activities Marketplace, CAMP.

Despite getting only four hours of sleep the night before in our tiny hotel room where we crammed five girls, we had to put on our best faces, our Fontbonne hoodies and head into the marketplace with high energy and big smiles, prepared to do business with the entertainers we wanted to bring back to campus, and even schmooze a little with those in whom we had no interest in hiring at all, just to be nice and get our name out there. Some of the perks of this conference were hanging out with Mr. Belding of Saved by the Bell and cast members of The Real World: Brooklyn.

My title in this whole process was not just FAB President, but Block Booker. As the Block Booker I had the power and was the only one allowed to sign any contract with an agency. After listening to the showcases for hours on end, talking with the talent agencies and listening to agent after agent try to convince us why their clients should come to Fontbonne, my trusty assistant, Stephanie Wilson and I headed into Block Booking, sometimes as late as 12am.

This is where the magic happened. We sat, organized by state, and waited for hours for the entertainer we wanted to be brought up. It was then that we shot our hands up in the air and waited to see if at least two other schools in the states surrounding us were interested in that entertainer as well. This is probably the best part of NACA. By booking an entertainer within five days of two other schools fewer than four hours away from Fontbonne, we get a major discount and are able to afford entertainers that we normally could not.

While this all may sound like a lot of work, which it is, NACA really is more fun than it sounds. All of our networking, late nights, friendly faces, professionalism and good attitudes paid off in the end, where, at the Awards Ceremony on the last night of the conference we beat 80 other universities and were awarded the CAMP Award, an award voted on by the entertainers and their agents to the most friendly, prepared and professional school at the conference.

Not only does our hard work mean we get to hang a plaque in our office until we have to give it back next year, but we have major bragging rights over all of the other schools in our region. Take that, Maryville. More importantly though, we've booked two absolutely hysterical comedians that will be performing here on March 5, and an awesome band for Springfest that we were able to score for a bargain of only about \$1,000.

Studying To Work and Working to Study: One Important Federal Student Aid Program

By Julia Loehr
Reporter

The university spends over \$200,000 each year for just one single student program. While the university receives \$120,000 for federal funding from the government, the other \$80,000 is supplied through the university's own funds. It is called the Student Work-Study Program.

Senior Courtney Harris, a communications major, has been doing work study since she came to the university. This year, Harris was recommended to work for Mary Beth Gallagher, assistant to the President for Mission Integration, by Leslie Doyle, Director of Multicultural Affairs. After Doyle made a lunch date for Harris and Gallagher, they both agreed on working together. Harris is Gallagher's assistant in mission integration. "I like working in mission integration because I'm learning things about Fontbonne that I didn't know before," says Harris.

Sophomore, Allison Honse, an English major, works under the English and Communication department's secretary, Melissa Eichhorn. Honse enjoys her Work Study job because she gets to know her professors, and she is able to make their own work schedule around her classes and other commitments. "We mostly just run errands and make copies, though every once in a while there is a big project that might take us a few days. We get paid once a month and the money goes towards tuition. We're only allowed to work a certain number of hours a week based on the FAFSA. The idea is that we don't have to pay the money back at the end of the semester," says Honse.

Senior, Tony Langhammer works on campus for an hourly wage at the University's Follett Bookstore. He usually works about fifteen hours a week, except during the beginning and the end of the semester when the bookstore is busy. Langhammer says, "I like working in the bookstore because

it is a lot of fun working with the ladies. They remind me a lot of my mom."

Work Study is a program that provides part-time employment to undergraduates and graduates to help with their college expenses. One hundred and fifty students currently work-study for the University. There are two different kinds of work study: federal and non-federal. A financial aid package determines if a student gets paid federal or university-based funds. Federal is a form of financial aid to students who need help and meet certain eligibility requirements. The non-federal work study is a paid job on campus. Students work 5-8 hours a week and can earn up to \$750 per semester. The program allows students to work within their area of interest or field of study. Even though some students don't have to get a job related to their major of study, it is recommended so that they can get a glimpse into that line of work. Having a work-study job looks good on a resume when students look for a full-time position after graduation.

For students who are interested in work study, there are a few options for applying: one is to file the FAFSA (Free Application for Financial Aid) at www.fafsa.gov, then schedule an appointment to meet with a financial aid counselor to have the work study funding awarded to them in their financial aid package. There is also a job fair in the beginning of the year where the departments are represented. Students can talk to any of the department heads to see if they need help. Some options include: student assistants, office clerks, PBX Operator or receptionist, computer center assistant, math specialist, and parking assistant.

Students interested in the work study option need to get moving, since the university only has a limited amount of funding for the work study program and it is awarded on a first come, first served basis and funding is usually exhausted by early April.

Late Night Special: Basketball Games and Entertainment

By David Cartier
Sports Editor

Late Night with Lee McKinney has become a strong tradition at Fontbonne over the years. The men's and women's basketball programs start off the year with a playful scrimmage against men and women alumni that have played for the University's teams in years past. This year's games would prove that Fontbonne hasn't lost much talent since these alumni have graduated.

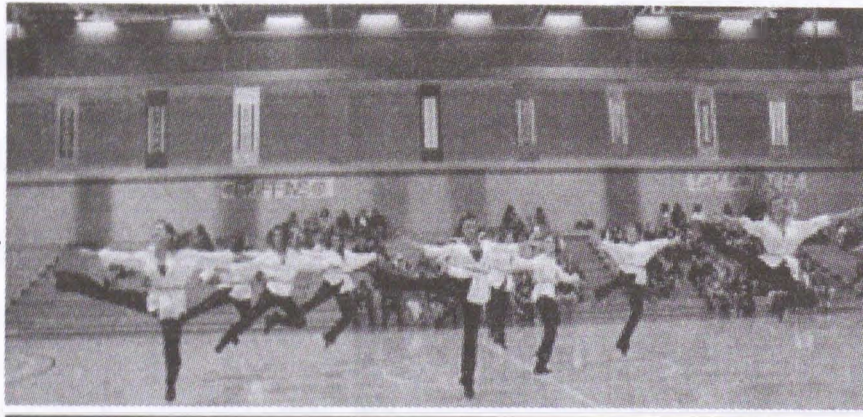
The doors to the DSAC opened at 8:00 p.m. and the women's game started at 8:30. The Griffin mascot was there to greet the spectators at the door and to let them know they were in for a night filled with basketball and tons of school spirit.

The women alumni team was introduced first then this year's women's team. The tip-off went to the alumni, but that would be pretty much all they got for the rest of the game. This year's women's team started off strong with a three-pointer and didn't stop. They made quite a few three's after that and proved too strong a side for the alumni in the first

half. The score at the end of the half was Griffins, 33, and alumni, 17.

Half time of the women's game was full of school spirit. The Griffin and many supporting students rushed the court and began hyping up both sides of the courts by throwing out shirts and other assorted Fontbonne noise-makers. This helped keep the crowd pumped, alert and ready for the start of the second half. The second half started off a lot like the first half ended; this year's team seemed unstoppable. The team's ball movement and play calling was just too much for the alumni and they really began to tire out the alumni and run away with the game. The game ended with the women's team winning 77-36, an absolute slaughtering of the alumni's team.

The men's game had the makings for a strong match-



The Griffin Girls Dance Team Performs at half time of the men's basketball game at Late Night with Lee McKinney

up with the new faces of this year's Griffins against the men from years past, many of whom played on last year's team that won conference and ended up going to the NCAA tournament. The game's tip-off went to the alumni, but much like the women alumni, it wouldn't be a tell tale sign of who would win the game. This year's men would score first and continue to score often. A major disappointment came early in the first half when junior forward, Mike Riva, came down from a rebound awkwardly and injured himself. Riva found out later that the injury was in fact serious. He tore his ACL and will need surgery, preventing him from being able to play the rest of the season. Injuries like this, or

any for that matter, are something fans and coaches alike hate to see, especially during a scrimmage.

The alumni would try to stay afloat with many strong points from last year's team captain, Patrick McCoy. He and fellow teammate, Brian Fogerty, would hook up late in the first half. McCoy lobbed a pass up close to the net that Fogerty slammed home. The play excited both students and alumni, and for a moment gave the alumni hope of controlling the game. Though they played tough, the alumni found themselves down 32-46 at half.

Half-time during the men's game was much more entertaining than the women's game. The cheerleaders performed first with a cheer, then a dance that was very well coordinated and fun to watch. Then Fontbonne's dance team took the floor to wow the on-lookers with a dance set to

the music of Michael Jackson. The dance was very good and introduced a lot of students and alumni to this year's dance team.

The second half of the game was much like the first. The men's team, like the women's, began to run away with the game. They were running set plays and finding men open all over the court, outside of the arch and inside the paint. The alumni battled hard but fatigue and lack of play calling proved to be their downfall. The final score saw this year's men's team up by 35 points.

Besides a serious injury and loss of a strong player for the men's team, the night can be chalked up as a complete success. The gym was packed with fans, young and old, to carry on the tradition of opening the season with two fun games and good times had by all. Lee McKinney made a point to inform fans that he believed the event has grown each year they have had it, and that this year was no different. The games hopefully are a foreshadowing of good things to come for the teams this season.

Student Floored By Happenings On the Second Floor of East

By Julia Loehr
Reporter

Senior Megan Poettgen, a communication major has an appointment with her advisor Cheryl Baugh, on the third floor of the East building. On the way Poettgen's curiosity hits her, when she sees students making their way to the second floor. She opens the door and peaks down the hallway to find that the second floor is different from the other floors on campus, the hallway looks more like a doctors office building. "What is this?" she asked herself. Poettgen was about to go where a few English and Communication majors have never gone before.

Walking down the hallway, she peaks through the windows to see if there is any information that could help her find out what this might be. Stepping into a room that looked to be similar to

a waiting room, the woman behind the door asks how she can help. "What is this floor of study?" asks Poettgen. "Speech-language pathology and deaf education." "That's interesting. May I have some information?" "Of course! But would you like a tour before you leave?" "Sure! Thanks."

Meyer took Poettgen on a tour. The woman's name was Barbara Meyer. Meyer showed her certain rooms such as monitoring rooms where students get to look on videos and take notes. Another room that looked to be a classroom where students help children and the parents get to watch through another window.

"The clinic at the university helps patients in the community. Everyone from the age of 18 months to ninety years old. We do evaluations, improving pronunciation and treating typical disabilities. For students we provide therapy for

those who may have stuttering problems."

Speech therapy began as an undergraduate program at the university in 1957 then became a graduate program in 1975. Since then this program has been training students in clinical practice and graduates can work in hospitals and schools in the community. Meyer continued, "There are four degrees in the major and twenty-five new students coming into the program, transfers more than freshman. When graduation comes along, most students will have a job before graduating. However struggles have been with competing with Southern Illinois University and St. Louis University student slots. But building relationships in this field are very important because makes the competition easier."

Poettgen was surprised to find out that nearly ten million

American's, or one out of every twenty people, have a speech, language or hearing disorder. The speech-language pathology program department at this university deals with ability to communicate and interact with others. The university offers the bachelor of science in speech-language pathology.

This field allows students learn about the disorders and development of human communication. By evaluating the speech, language and feeding abilities of children and adults, speech-language pathologists determine, if a communication or feeding disorder exists and decide the best way to treat. These specialist provide services in many different settings, such as hospitals, schools and clinics.

Poettgen also learned that this field covers deaf education. The university has prepared professionals for teaching children who are deaf and

hard-of-hearing since 1957. This school offers one of the few four-year undergraduate programs in the country. She learned that in the United States, two out of every one thousand infants are born profoundly deaf, nearly one million children are deaf and one of every 22 infants have hearing problems.

Studying this field will let students build a strong foundation in liberal arts, child development and elementary special education. It emphasizes spoken language and auditory skills for children who are able to develop these skills. Before sophomores and juniors begin student teaching, they will have the opportunity to work with children as a teacher assistant, tutor or dorm/playground supervisor.

Poettgen was very happy with what she found that day. She would love to go someday to do some observing herself.

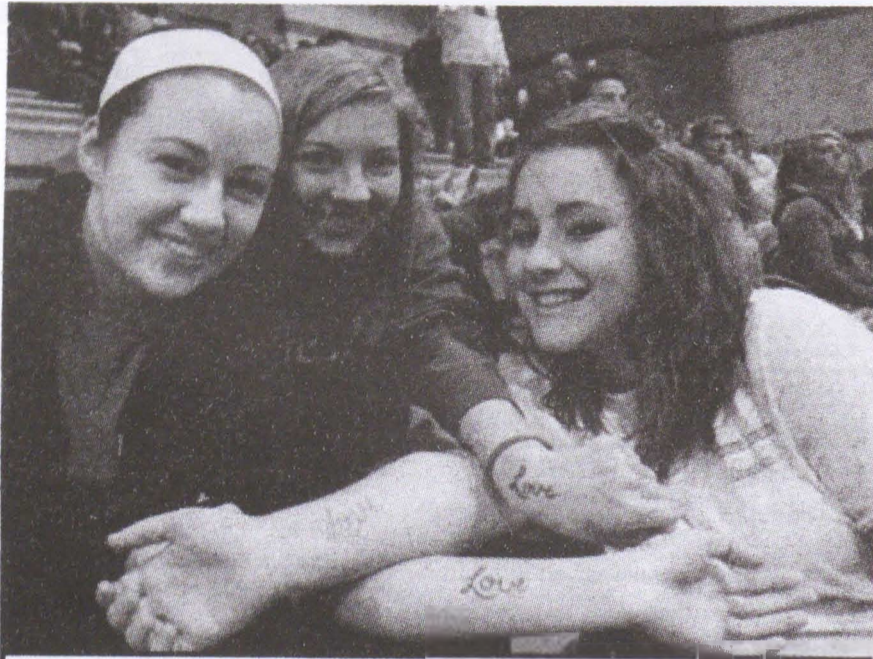
Student Suicide Silenced on Campus

By Mary Maxfield
Guest Writer

After a tragedy, we expect a moment of silence. Silence, as a custom, respects life and recognizes loss. Yet, in the weeks following the suicide of psychology student Bob Ebert, our campus community has fallen once again into another kind of silence: one built on discomfort and fear, one which feeds the stigma surrounding mental health issues, and one which -- ultimately -- leads to further loss of life.

I never knew Bob Ebert. I never rocked out with him to Britney Spears or heard him tell the jokes that still give his grieving friends cause to bury their heads with laughter. I have no wish to minimize Bob Ebert's life by focusing on the circumstances of his death. However, I firmly believe that by not recognizing those circumstances, we have done ourselves another disservice. The death of a student, here, where we focus so strongly on community, where we pride ourselves on the concept of familial connection and support, must be addressed. The idea that this could happen -- and has happened -- at the University speaks to an issue that did not start with Bob Ebert, and cannot end with his death: the issue of mental health on campus, and the lack of attention it receives.

We joke and complain endlessly about the stress of college life: the transition for traditional students out of their family homes; the conflict for non-traditional students between parenting and schoolwork; the pressure; the deadlines; the relationships... all of it takes a toll. Yet, we rarely discuss openly the ways we cope with these stresses. We almost never address if we have learned to talk with mentors and to take breaks with friends, or if we have learned to self-injure, starve ourselves, and drink to excess. Our coping mechanisms have powerful consequences. According to HalfOfUs.Com, stress can lead not only to unhealthy coping mechanisms, but also to the development of mood disorders. Of all college students, nearly half have felt so depressed that they struggled to function. Suicide, which 10% of college students seriously consider, is the second leading cause of death among



Sophomores Lisa Obermark, Megan Schmittel and Melissa Roberts show their support of TWLOHA at Late Night with Lee McKinney on November 13th.

us. Depression, bipolar disorder, eating disorders, and schizophrenia often surface for the first time in people of college age. Over 35% of adult alcoholics develop symptoms by age 19. And among college students who cut themselves, over 1/3 report that no one is aware of their behavior.

Like any "family," we prefer at the University to believe we're immune to this. Our students don't struggle, or they speak up when they do. Bob Ebert's death issued a challenge that we stop pretending. Fontbonne students fight depression. Fontbonne students fight self-harm. Fontbonne students fight eating disorders, anxiety disorders, bipolar disorders, alcohol abuse, and schizophrenia. In an environment of silence, we struggle against an added burden: the pressure not to vocalize these problems, not to bring them out into the open, where our work toward healing can be supported. We struggle alone when we could struggle together, and we die when we might live.

Mental health issues are inevitable. Silence is not. In the initial e-mail informing the student body of Bob Ebert's death, the suicide went unmentioned -- as did campus counseling services -- leaving students confused, cut off, and without an outlet for their emotions. In the weeks that followed, students challenged that silence, communicating through text messages, through covert conversations, through Bob's Facebook wall, and finally through a bonfire held Friday, November 13, to honor the young man who

lost his life. Earlier that Friday, nearly 50 students participated in To Write Love on Her Arms (TWLOHA) Day, an international campaign to offer hope to those struggling with depression, self-injury, addiction, and suicide. Yet, last year, when a Fontbonne undergraduate approached student services to discuss starting a chapter of TWLOHA, she was told that there wasn't a "demand." Likewise, a Fontbonne chapter of Active Minds, a national student-run organization working to "change the conversation about mental health on college campuses," has struggled to get off the ground. Without support and direction, student attempts cannot meet a campus-wide need. All of us -- students, faculty, staff, and administrators -- must step forward and refuse to stay silent about mental health. We must actively work to tell the truth about our campus climate and the changes that need to take place here. Only then, will we truly honor both the life that we've lost and the lives that remain.

For more information on the Fontbonne chapter of TWLOHA, please contact Rachel Lawrence. (Lawrencer@fontbonne.edu)

For more information on the Fontbonne chapter of Active minds, please contact Carol Dillon. (Cdillon@fontbonne.edu)

To schedule a free appointment with a Licensed Professional Counselor, please contact Mary Asaro (masaro@fontbonne.edu) or visit Student Affairs.

Don't You Forget About Me: The Fall 2009 Fontbanner Staff

By Jake King
Features Editor

It has been almost three months since the passing of writer and director John Hughes and I'm still mourning the loss. When Hughes passed away the world lost an incredible writer and director whose films have made a generation of people laugh, girls cry, and help all the nerds realize that the geek can, in fact, get the girl. Hughes gave us such classic films as Ferris Bueller's Day Off, Sixteen Candles, National Lampoon's Vacation, and, my personal favorite, The Breakfast Club.

The Fontbanner staff is comparable to the Breakfast Club. It seems a little far-fetched, I know, but just try and follow along with me.

We have an extremely eclectic group on the Fontbanner staff and within the staff we have a "Brain," an "Athlete," a "Basket Case," a "Princess," and a "Criminal." We even have Richard Vernon who is played by our advisor, Dr. Jason Sommer, although, Dr. Sommer appears to be raiding James Taylor's wardrobe rather than Barry Manilow's. I also never recall Sommer telling us that "If you mess with the bull, you get the horns!" We usually just get some sarcastic comment that is muttered under his breath in a muffled New York accent.

Rather than meeting in the school library on Saturday morning at 8:00 a.m. we arrive in the newspaper room every Thursday at 3:30 p.m. It's not for a Saturday detention but some days it feels like I am being punished as I climb the abnormally warm East stairwell. It feel as if the school has finally caught me stealing packaged toilet paper from the DSAC bathroom (I'm in college and I'm broke, just cut me some slack) and my punishment is 16 weeks of sitting in the crammed newspaper office that smells like old books and stale Cheez-Its with Scott Ellis (Hey, Scott). Now, I don't really have a stereotype but if John Hughes would have made a character that fit me I would have been "the Procrastinator" and I would have been played by John Cusack (if you know your 80s movies).

As I sit there waiting for the class to begin, I watch my fellow classmates begin to arrive. Rachel Hanson, "the Jock," is the first to arrive. She comes walking in wearing her spandex shorts from Cross Country practice, clutching a box of Cheez-Its and talking about how her Jetta is broken again (no surprise), how she is SLIAC runner of the week again (no surprise either) or her cat, Marley, threw up and she had to clean it off her rug (which then makes me feel that I'm about to be sick, as well). Moments later Megan Myers, "the Brain" arrives. Megan is the silent force of the Fontbanner. She's a prodigy and a journalistic genius. We say hi to Megan and ask her how her day is going.

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Teacher Evaluation Process Open to Interpretation

By Scott Ellis
Reporter

It sure would be nice if there was a way to know exactly what your classes next semester would consist of. Previous students' comments of, "Great professor, she really knows the subject matter," "You must go to her class because she will fail you if you have more than 5 absences," "Class is an easy A," or "This lady is off her rocker; it's impossible to score well on speeches" could all be very useful advice before class registration. The website www.ratemyprofessors.com does just that by helping students at all Universities nationwide discover just what they are in store for before they even step foot inside the classroom.

The website is very easy to navigate. Those who visit the website do not need to be a member or supply any personal information in order to view the reviews. The process works like this: anyone can access the website by typing in the URL www.ratemyprofessors.com, they then can search by either the professor's name or by school. The professor's names are listed by last name alphabetically. A person clicks on a letter A-Z to expand the search to include all professors at the school whose last name starts with that letter and have reviews posted.

The website's concept is very straightforward. Students leave reviews about professors based on their own experiences. The reviewers' rate on four categories: Easiness, Helpfulness, Clarity, and Rater Interest. The scale is from one (lowest) to five (highest). At the top of the page, called the "scoreboard," the scores are averaged out so an individual can quickly see the overall rating of a professor. Under the scoreboard are individual ratings and comments left by

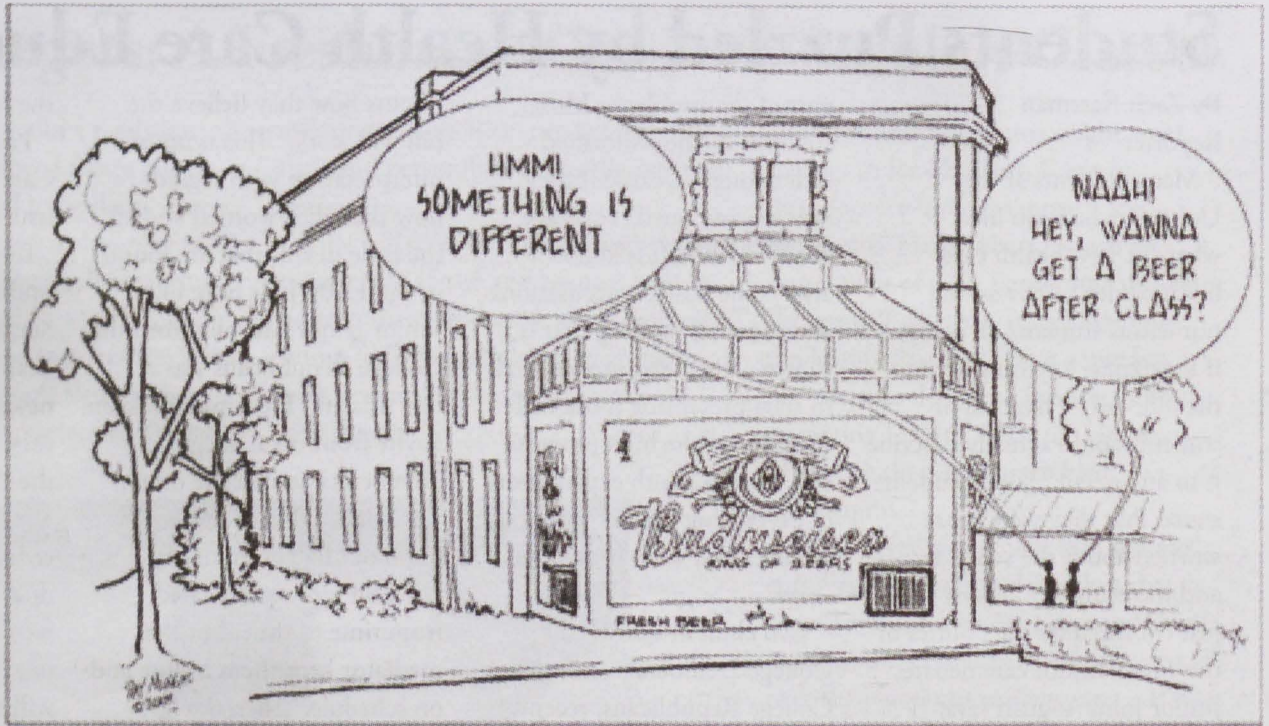
students. The dates of the comments and class sections are also displayed next to the comments. There is also an option to place a picture of a "red chili pepper" on the review indicating the "hotness" of the professor.

Ratemyprofessors.com creates several valuable benefits to universities. The obvious one is geared towards helping students get an overview of what they are in store for before they enroll in a class. A hidden benefit may be the opportunity for college administration to evaluate how the staff is performing. These reviews are anonymous so people tend to not hold back on their true feelings.

Currently, the university uses "end of the course student evaluation forms." They are typically given the last day of class. This causes an issue because if they are given before a final, students usually want to fill them out quickly and take their final, and if they are given after a final, then students are usually burnt out and over anxious to leave. This results in evaluations that are more than likely not 100% accurate or honest. Junior Danielle O'Keefe says, "Evaluations can't be anonymous because of the handwriting section. They are flawed because of the pressure they create to write something good. They can't be valid." The website offers students a way to voice their thoughts at their convenience and without fear of being exposed.

For students who are familiar with the website, stories of help are common. Senior Jake Buerke explains how the website helped save his college career. "I was going to enroll in a business class from a professor I had never had. A friend of mine told me about ratemyprofessors.com so I

*Continued in To
Rate, Pg. 11*



ANHEUSER BUSCH HALL

Life-Learning and Observing Schools

By Ashley Porter
Reporter

I have always been aware of the fact that educational disparity exists in our society, but I have never had the opportunity to witness those inequities firsthand. My decision to observe in classrooms at Roosevelt High School presented such an opportunity. I was reminded of the reality that students have vastly different experiences within in our educational system within the first few minutes of my arrival at the school.

I knew that my observations at Roosevelt would be different from my own personal high school experiences in the desegregation program. As I walked up the front stairs, the quaint facade of the building itself was a sharp contrast with my expectations of a modern high school. After coming to terms with the school's structural differences, I was confronted with the presence of metal detectors lining the entranceway, something only seen in movies up to that point.

While I waited to walk through the second set of detectors, students

knowingly placed their belongings on a table outside the detector to be searched by guards and then headed off to class.

As I entered the main office, I overheard a student complaining about the temperature throughout the building, saying that she would rather go home than sit in hot classrooms all day. During my tour of the school, I would come to understand the source of her complaint—while there was air-conditioning in the main offices—the lack of air-conditioning in the hallways and classrooms made the environment extremely hot. Each classroom was equipped with a box fan, but it could not cool the entire room. In one of the classrooms, a student would get up every few minutes to change the direction of the fan. I understand that many schools lack air-conditioning, but I believe it was a distraction to students, preventing them from truly focusing during class.

I spent the majority of my observation hours in the geometry and art classes. The geometry teacher was a

first year instructor in the Teach for America program, designed to eliminate educational disparity. These college graduates teach in an urban or rural school for two years. The art teacher was a retired professional, who had been teaching in the district for about seven years. At first, I thought that the classrooms were disorganized, the students a little rowdy. Before class began, the teacher stood in the hall until the last bell. I learned about "hall sweeps" at this point in my observation: as soon as the final bell sounded, the teacher quickly stepped into the classroom and locked the door. A few late students immediately began to knock on the door, but an announcement from the principal informed these late students to head to the detention room. I was really shocked by the hall sweeps, the locking of classroom doors to prevent students from entering the classroom. Safety and student discipline took precedence over education, it seemed.

When class began, students completed a "do now" activity on

the board. Students were arranged in groups of three or four, as a method of encouraging student collaboration. Some students continued to talk during the teacher's instruction and to get up periodically without her permission. Students were positively reinforced for good behavior, the teacher gave slips of paper to students displaying proper classroom behavior. I learned that students could "buy" chips, school supplies, and even extra credit with these tickets. I had never seen the token economy implemented in a high school setting, but I believe that the instructor was putting forth her best effort, as she was a first year teacher with a large group of active students.

Although the art teacher had been instructing students for several years, he also seemed to struggle with classroom management. Students from other classes would hang around until the bell rang. After the "hall sweeps" some students settled down to work on projects. Other students just sat there, talking, or sleeping. I remember one student refusing to work

Students Puzzled by Health Care Educated By Real Debate

By Zach Kassman
Reporter

Many students at the University have no idea what the new health care bill includes. After asking numerous students on campus if they knew anything about the bill, only a handful of students could actually describe it in any detail. Some students stated that they were more worried about the swine flu and the economy. Many are just confused by the politics of the whole health care debate. Junior John Augusti says, "I don't know what the hell they are doing in Washington." Some students like sophomore Ian Linquist, positively say, "It (the new health care bill) is just to subsidize health care to make sure everybody gets it." While students with opposing views believe that this is part of the problem. Most of the news coverage about it is usually just arguing between the two sides with no factual basis. This is

part of the problem. Most students are not informed well enough because if they ever see any media coverage about the bill, it is almost always the baseless accusations and senseless arguing that is shown. The news media needs to start presenting more real coverage of the bill's progress and have in depth explanations of everything the bill is suppose to cover and what it needs to cover.

Two clubs at school, the College Democrats and the College Republicans, recently met to continue this debate. The subject of the debate was the new health care bill with concerns to cost vs. worth. The purpose was to enlighten students on the subject by answering any questions that they had and to figure out what is covered by the new bill and if it should be covered in the new bill. One representative from each club was selected to debate for their side and

discuss how they believe the bill will work. This is up to interpretation with regards to how the bill is worded and all the little details that are found in the 1,500 plus page bill. Junior Jamey Murphy from the College Republicans was on one side and Freshman Braxton Payne from the College Democrats was on the other. They debated back and forth for about half an hour. Things got a bit tense and heated from time to time, but the mediator kept them in line and on schedule. Then the floor was open for questions from students, faculty, and staff that were in attendance. People that were unsure about certain details within the bill got their questions answered and left more informed, which was the whole purpose of the debate. The two clubs were pleased with how the debated turned out and they are planning to revisit the issue in the spring once it is more well defined by

the Senate.

President Obama's Health Care Plan is one of the biggest issues in the country right now.

There are roughly 46.5 million people in the United States without any kind of health insurance, but if the new health care bill passes they will be covered under the President's new plan. Some believe that the present economic status is partially due to the health care system we now have, so if we can fix our health care system, we will then also be improving our economy. With that stated, the best news of the Health Care Plan might be that it will not add to our country's deficit and it is paid for upfront. It also will develop medical malpractice reform projects and eliminate waste, fraud, and abuse in the system, which will save the country countless dollars in the future. For those who already have insurance, this new plan

will help protect them from insurance companies that use foul practices and it will also help these citizens save some of their own money. Individuals who do not have insurance will start to receive some new benefits. This new health care plan will create a new insurance marketplace, give out special tax credits for insurance coverage, create a "high risk" pool for people who have preexisting conditions, and offer a public option for those uninsured who cannot afford their own insurance. This public option will give each individual person their own actual choice of which health care coverage they would like to accept.

Currently the bill has already passed through the House of Representatives with success and is now going to the Senate. Experts say that it could be ready to vote on as early as January.

To Rate, Cont. From Pg. 11

checked it out. The professor had eight reviews and seven of them were pretty negative. People said the class was ridiculously difficult, the professor grades hard, and there is a ton of homework. I took another class instead figuring I could take the business one next semester with a different professor. I found out later that eight of the 12 people I knew who had not used the website and enrolled in the course either got a grade of C or lower. I love ratemyprofessors.com; I use it before I enroll in any class now!"

Senior Phil Barnowski says, "Ratemyprofessors.com has saved my Polish behind more than once" while Junior David Dickerson adds, "ratemyprofessors.com is sweeter than sugar, it is a lifesaver." Now, these reviews are opinion based so occasionally you may find contradicting reviews. The good news is that there are usually several reviews so one can read them all and form their own opinion based on similar comments left. There is an option to flag a rating if it is inappropriate and even an option where professors can add their own rebuttal. In the end, it is up to the individual to decide if they want to enroll in the class, but ratemyprofessors.com is a resource to help students gain information that may otherwise not be available.

Breakfast Club, Continued from Pg. 8

We don't really have a "Princess" so I'll just give it to Mary Gould because she's a girl. It was either her or Scott Ellis but I think Mary is a better fit. Moments later Courtney Schofield "the Criminal" strolls in with a cigarette in her mouth and another one in her hand for when she's done with one in her mouth. Courtney is one of the strongest writers on our staff...and is also the most likely candidate to stab someone. I usually try to avoid direct eye contact with her. It may just be here say, but I heard she did hard-time and is heavily involved in the black market. Before taking her seat, Courtney proudly displays her newest tattoo to everyone. It's in another language and I'm pretty sure it says "Down with the Fontbanner." I'm terrified.

After everyone settles in, Dr. Sommer walks into the room and class begins. However, before he can even get a word out, in walks Zach Kassman "the Basket Case." Zach is barefoot and is dressed in all white with white paint on his face in preparation for the lunar eclipse that is going to take place that evening. Zach apologizes for being late and explains that he was protesting at a dairy farm. He sits down and pulls a trumpet out of his backpack that he found in

Forest Park and then a large bowl of organic rice and begins eating. And finally, class begins.

Over the course of this semester we have met together every Thursday to write, edit, re-write, edit again, laugh, argue, and, somehow, produce a newspaper. And once the paper was done we would sit together and whistle "The Colonel Bogey March," share life lessons and stories, or dance on the tables to 80s New Wave (Ok, all of that is from the Breakfast Club and never actually happened). But nevertheless, as you can see, there are a lot of differences among us on the staff but, in the end, our differences are what bring us together and make the Fontbanner what it is. As we finish up this semester of the Fontbanner, we leave this note:

Thursday, December 3, 2009.
Fontbonne University, St.
Louis, MO. 63105.

Dear Dr. Sommer,
We accept the fact that we had to sacrifice a whole semester in newspaper for whatever reason, either elective or for requirement. But we think you're crazy to make us write a question of the day for every class, which, you feel, will make us realize who we are as writers and as

individuals. In the simplest terms, in the most convenient definitions. We are a "Brain," an "Athlete," a "Basket Case," a "Procrastinator," a "Princess," and a "Criminal."

Sincerely yours, The Fontbanner Staff.

As we finish up this note we leave together but go our separate ways. Rachel goes to Cross Country practice, Mary goes to her 1,676 meeting of the day, Megan goes to finish her epic novel, I go to sleep, Zach climbs a tree, and Courtney lights up a cigarette, walks across the meadow, and throws her fist up in the air as Simple Minds' "Don't You Forget About Me" begins to play. Roll credits.



The Fall 2009 Fontbanner Staff

Don't Eat the Negative Integers: A Freshman's Guide to Peculiar Classes

By Megan Myers
News Editor

Biology majors beware: If you plan on taking organic chemistry with John Bookstaver any time soon, you will need to brush up on your word game skills. Senior Clare Anderson found this out the hard way when Dr. Bookstaver first sprang a spontaneous round of chemically-based hangman on her class after his questions about the reading went unanswered.

Not all Professors' eccentricities translate into such mental anguish for students, however, as Kay Graves' algebra class found out last Halloween. Junior J.J. Jasper and his classmates were tricked with an unexpected treat, he says, when Graves surprised the class by allowing them to work in groups for their test.

Perhaps to initiate debate over the existence of the proverbial free lunch, history instructor Lavanda Staples took her History of Sub-Sahara Africa students out to an Ethiopian restaurant for, well, lunch. Dan Bruce, senior, says he particularly enjoyed this component of Staples curriculum, as it "made the course more interesting" to him.

During a lecture about Marxist criticism, Patricia Brooke's literary theory class enjoyed a little 90's public television nostalgia. To clarify a point that had some students perplexed,

Dr. Brooke broke out in a rendition of Mr. Rodger's beloved theme song. Apparently, you had to be there. The class' next assignment: a challenge to design the best "theoretically-informed Valentine's Day card."

Incorporating food into lectures seems to work in Annie Rice's algebra class as well, as sophomore Hannah Person

appreciates how Rice uses analogies to fruit and personification to illustrate the lessons.

"She will refer to negative and positive numbers as apples and oranges to help us keep them separated, or she will say things like 'Negative three is going to walk across this side-street over here,'" says Person.

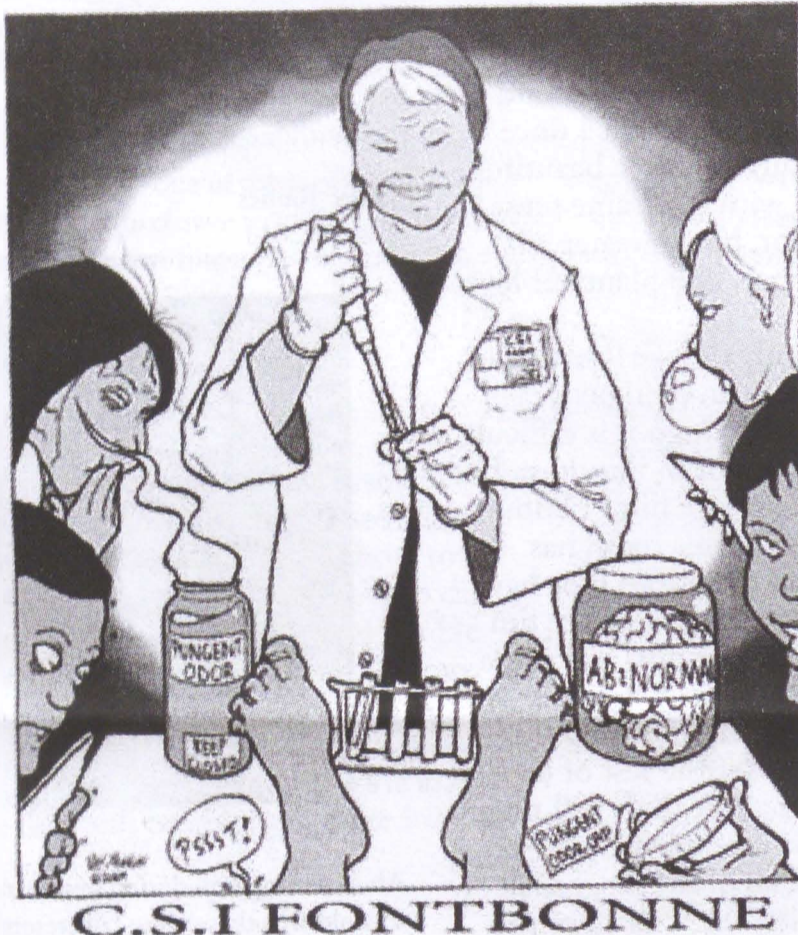
Students studying drama might want to drop in for Elizabeth Rayhel's introductory biology course a few weeks after Halloween to watch an installment of CSI: Fontbonne unfold. Professor Rayhel sets up a homespun (and properly gory) crime scene for her amateur sleuths to investigate by extracting "DNA" from the blood of the "victim," a disassembled mannequin.

Denise Nguyen, senior, says she was completely unprepared for class that day: "I walked into the room and there was blood everywhere, stuff shattered all over the place, crime scene tape...it was a mess. But it was the most fun I'd had in a science class in a very long time!"

For the queasy stomach, the resourceful Professor Rayhel also presents "Biopoly," complete with a home-made game board that puts the 'fun' in cell-part functions.

Although unusual approaches to teaching are sometimes meant to elicit laughs, others help students grasp serious topics. For example, while studying Deafness Psychology under Professor Lewis, sophomore Rachael Kingma's assignment was to experience deafness herself by wearing earplugs to school for a day.

Kingma says the experiment helped her to "empathize with those who are hard-of-hearing and admire the extra effort they must make while learning."



C.S.I FONTBONNE

Students Thank University For One Full Night's Rest

By Shannon Behnen
Reporter

According to acting dean Joyce Johnson, Academic study day has been around for 15 years; giving students the day off from classes so they can study for tests and catch up before midterm. It is likely, that for 15 years, students have been finding other things to do besides study on Academic Study Day.

Teachers, however, do not have the day off. Most all of the faculty is required to attend workshops all day in the library. October 9th was the day off for Fontbonne students. This day happened to fall on Columbus Day weekend, which gave them a nice 4 days off from classes.

A random sample of about 50 students (who were unfortunate enough to walk out of the library at 1:45 on a Tuesday afternoon) was bombarded with questions on what they actually did on Academic Study Day. According to the majority of the results, 25% of students worked. "I had the day off so I decided to go into work and make some money" said Patricia Taggart. "It seemed like a good idea since I figured I had nothing

else to do."

More results include: 15% of students who went shopping, 10% slept most of the day, 20% hung out with friends and were lazy around campus, 10% actually studied or worked on homework.

"Friday is my day to do homework so I actually studied on that day off" said a student who wishes to be anonymous. Finally, 20% did miscellaneous activities among which include playing video games, venturing around Forest Park, etc. Of course, these results are only calculated from about 5% of the entire student population at Fontbonne. "I slept in, and went to lunch with some friends. It was an overall lovely day and a much needed break from school" said Teresa Losito. Some students claimed that they are lucky enough to not have classes on Fridays, which means they do the same thing that they usually do Friday.

Some of the students who already have their Fridays off from Fontbonne actually were productive and did some homework, but it didn't seem to have to do with having a designated study day. "I did a whole bunch of homework while jamming out to my favorite band,

Nickleback," said Greg Sweigart. "No, I'm just kidding (about the homework, not Nickleback). I listened to their live performance from Bro-Fest. It was awesome" said Sweigart. Former Fontbonne student Kasey Thompson said, "I remember Academic Study Days, It was a great day to make a to do list of all the assignments that needed to be accomplished, then do everything that's NOT on that list but add the things you did do to the end of the list, so that way you can cross them off. That way you don't feel as bad for just sleeping all day."

Teachers do not get this day off. They had to attend a workshop in the library on this beautiful day. When asked how he felt when he knew the students of Fontbonne were able to sleep in on this day, Ben Moore replied with, "I didn't know they were sleeping, I just assumed they were already up studying hard! The workshop lasted 6 hours and we had to be here at 8:30 A.M. I am sure students already had two hours of studying under their belt when we arrived" said Professor Ben Moore. "I wish we had more Academic Study Days so that students could study more!"

Bazaar, Cont. From Pg.5

Asian-styled ones, which were very colorful and quite beautiful. There were several international students from Asia that were also wearing some of their countries' traditional clothes. A few of them stood on display like mannequins while some of the others strolled around showing off some national pride.

Information about travel abroad programs was also provided through a couple of different organizations. These opportunities ranged from courses taken for credit, to internships, and even volunteer work. Students would have the option of study through Webster University at one of five of their international campuses for Fontbonne credit; or they could go through the other organization, International Education Programs, which offered the three types of opportunities listed above and the chance to work on six different continents.

Overall, the International Bazaar was a great experience. Students had a window into the lives of people in other countries with exposure to their cultures, cuisines, clothes, and even some music. Students were presented opportunities of future adventures and continuing their educational experience while also receiving insight into other cultures.

In Memoriam...

Page 12 Dec 2009

I've known Bob for six years, and we were about as inseparable as they come during our 4 years at St. Mary's High School. I remember the first time I met Bob. It was my first day of Cross Country practice, and I was coming in about a week later than everyone else. I didn't know anybody, didn't know what to expect, and to be honest, I had never even heard of cross country until I came to St. Mary's. I'm at practice, and Coach Bante tells me that Bob is going to guide me during the run to make sure I don't get lost. I look over at Bob; the kid had big feet, looked pretty uncoordinated, had acne all over his face, and, I'm not going to lie, he was a little chubby back then too. We were out on our run, and I'm literally following right on his heels. And for good reason, it was the first day of practice, and I didn't want to get lost. After a while, Bob notices this and as we're coming up on a turn, he fakes right but goes left. Since I was following so close, I lost my balance and nearly fell on my face. I felt like an idiot; but Bob couldn't stop laughing. His stories like these that remind me of what an incredibly light hearted and goofy person Bob was.

As our friendship blossomed, I got to know more about him. I witnessed the goofy

Bob, the fun Bob, the do whatever it takes to make you laugh Bob. And that is what I want to remember Bob as: the relentless, fierce, and passionate friend. He would do absolutely anything to help out a friend, even if it was an inconvenience to him. No matter what, he always put others before himself. Bob went through one hell of a transitioning phase in his life. The insecurities that he once had, slowly began to disappear, and the awkward high school boy that I once knew, turned into a beautiful human with that same sense of humor, but a greater self confidence, and plenty of love to share.

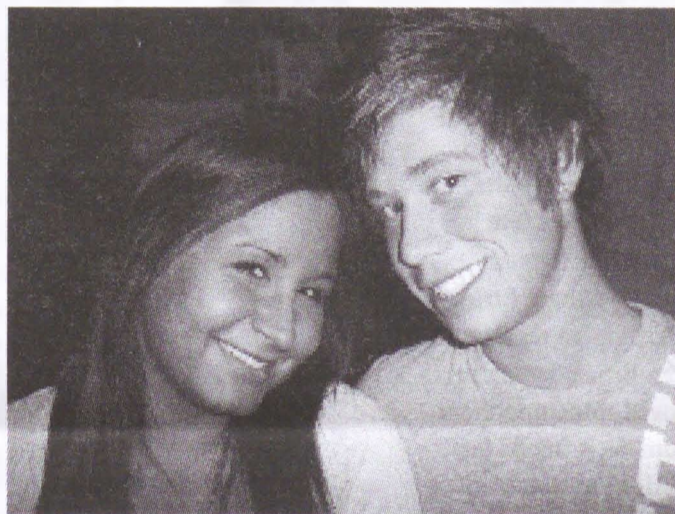
Not only did we lose a dear friend, but an even better person. Although it is difficult, we should not mourn him, but rather celebrate him. I know everyone in this room has countless memories they have shared with Bob that are fun and truly hilarious, and those are what we need to remember and think about during this time, and for the rest of time. If we can do that, Bob will never be truly gone. He will live on, through all of the laughs, all of the smiles, through all of the memories. Physically gone, but never forgotten. We love you, Bob, forever and always.

-John Agusti
Class of 2011

It was said by Bob's closest friends that he always had a trick or two up his sleeve. As my roommate Stephanie and I drove to class the day of Bob's wake, our minds were on everything except for school. I turned on the radio and Billy Joel's famous "Only the good die young" song came on. We both stopped in our tracks and thought of Bob's smiling face. After class and the wake that evening, Steph and me climbed back into the car to head to Fontbonne. Physically and emotionally drained, I for some reason or another, decided to put my ipod on. I turned it on, set it to shuffle, and no sooner looked down at the screen to see "Only the good die young" playing once again. We heard this same song two times in the span of about three hours that day. At first, hearing the song and seeing the title made me sad, but at the same time, I felt like Bob was trying to tell us that everything was going to be okay.

We miss Bob everyday. I've never known anyone so eager to put a smile on someone's face. His sense of humor, his thoughtfulness, and his beautiful smile will never be forgotten.

-Jackie Raines
Class of 2011



After meeting Bob during freshman orientation, my roommate and I would secretly call him "Abercrombie Boy," because we thought he was beautiful and model-esque. We had little school-girl crushes on him. As the year went on, he came to basically live in the room of the girls who lived across the hall from us. I came to realize that not only was Bob beautiful on the outside, but he was beautiful on the inside too. He was always smiling and up to something mischievous with Ellen and Sarah; I can remember a dorm room filled with balloons, skateboards going up the hall, and so many hilarious actions coming from the rambunctious group that lived across from me, Bob included. Bob always made it a point to help me carry my laundry down the stairs when he caught me dragging it up the hallways. Not only was his smile contagious, and his laughter constant, but he was a genuinely kind person. My "dorm memories" will forever hold Bob a part of them.

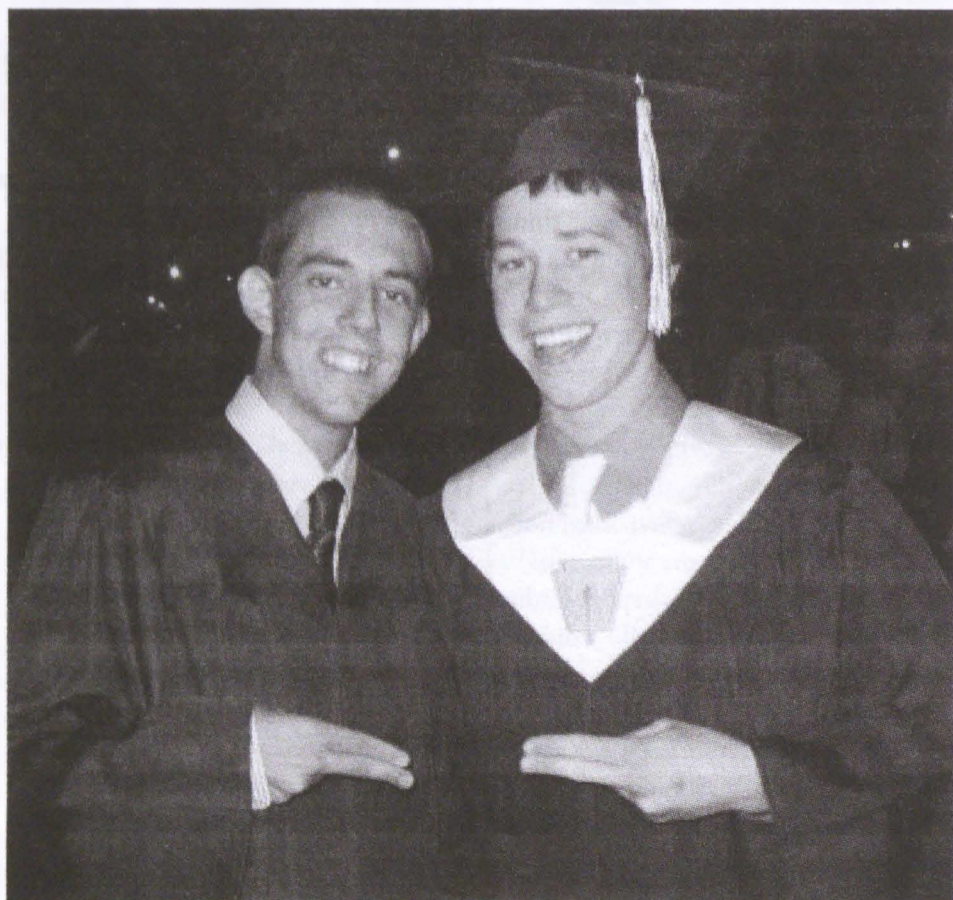
-Rachel Hanson
Class of 2011

Bob and I had taken a computer class together, so we would always meet up in the library to work on the projects. I never understood how to do the projects or would read something wrong, so Bob was my editor and would help me out. One time we couldn't get a seat next to each other, so we were a couple of tables away and were practically shouting at each other while trying to

figure out the assignment. We thought it was pretty funny, while other people probably thought we were annoying. When I think of Bob I think of him helping me in some sort of way, always with a smile.

Whenever I'd see him out we would always be so excited to see one another. He was a great kid that Bob Ebert.

-Katie Carberry



Robert "Bob" Ebert

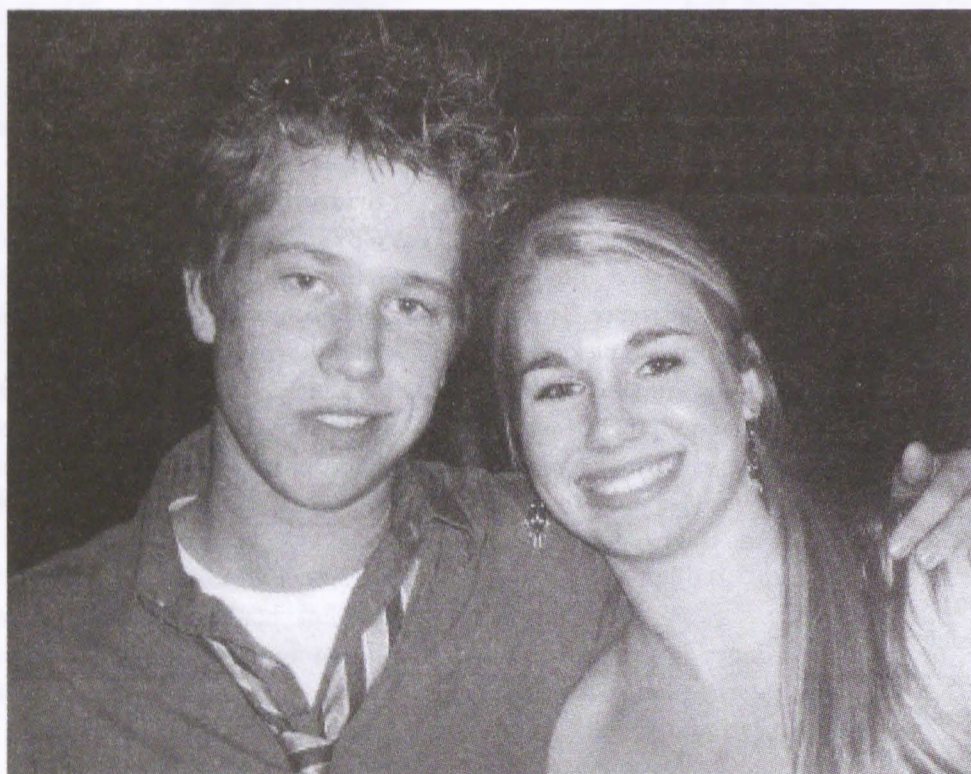
Fontbanner

Many things could be said about Bob, all positive in nature, but the thing hardest to admit is how much we all miss him. Bob was the kind of person who brightened any room he walked into, his sense of humor never missed a beat and he was truly a blessing to know. He always loved to have fun and that is how we all came together freshman year. My memories would not be as significant and great to look back on if I had not grown to know and love Bob like I do.

This has been a very emotional time for all of us, but seeing all of his friends, family, and even those he did not know come together, I know he is okay. His love for his friends is truly missed, and all those who were able to know Bob have lost someone who truly touched their hearts. No one will be able to fill a room like Bob Ebert, it was a gift he had and used it at its finest. It was a blessing to know Bob,

There is no one like Bob. He was his own unique person with his own goofy personality. There are too many words to describe him. His great beautiful smile always knew how to make someone happy and make a way to their heart. Bob did everything in his power to be the best friend he could be. He was always there to lend an extra hand and was never one to judge. He made life long memories with his friends that we will never forget. Of the many years I have known Bob, it's hard to let go, but his smile and heart will always carry with me and there will never be someone that will be able to replace him.

-Tori Preiss
Class of 2012



The first memory I had of Bob was when I moved into the Joe second semester of freshman year. I was new when everyone else had been there a full semester. Bob and the girls next door were some of the first people to welcome me. I saw him frequently throughout the semester and we realized we had a lot of friends in common. One of my favorite memories with him was when the power in the Joe went out and we played a game of flashlight tag. He was always ready for a good time with his friends. He will be missed :)

-Emily Spalding
Class of 2011

he was a remarkable person, brought laughs to many, encouraged those who struggled, loved anyone he met (always becoming their best friend :)), and loved by so many people he could ever imagine.

We miss Bob so much, although these words do not seem to bring justice to how much we really do. We miss Bob every day, every hour, every minute that goes by... there is not a moment that passes he does not cross our minds. He is with us every day, watching over us as we remember him. Whenever I look back to freshman year, I see Bob, which brings a smile to my face. I was one of the lucky ones to have the chance to know him. And I will never forget that beautiful smile...

-Stephanie Wilson
Class of 2011

I met Bob towards the beginning of my freshman year of college here at Fontbonne and right from the start I could tell that we were going to be friends. Bob was a goofy, fun loving kid who was always joking around or messing with someone. The kid was a character. I spent several night's of my freshman year hanging out in Ellen Morro's room with Bob and Sarah Criss and there are some memories from those nights that I'll never forget. Bob played a big part in making my freshman year one of the best years of my life and I'll never be able to thank him enough for that. Bob was one of the most unique and genuine people that I will ever know. He was truly a great guy. He had such a passion for his life and for living in the moment and, often, to the extreme. There is a quote

Tonight I find myself as I have for the past four weeks or so, saturated with thoughts of Bob. We shared a close friendship and his passing has caused immense grief but these thoughts and feelings are very different. They are foreign and new to me. Tonight I find myself in the weird position of not just wanting him to return but needing his guidance. I have found that feeling where what I want and most importantly what I need are gone. A feeling that until now had not truly sunk in. The initial shock took time to wear off, where it was replaced by sadness, and now emptiness. As time has gone by and distance developed it has showed me that Bob always gave me just what I needed. And it has taught me that the greater the life, the greater the loss. These very sentiments make his loss all the more painful. With that in mind the situation that has presented

from the novel "On the Road" that I think sums up Bob. "The ones for me are the ones, the ones who are mad to live, mad to talk, desirous of everything at the same time, the ones that never yawn or say a commonplace thing, but burn, burn, burn like fabulous roman candles..." Bob was among the "ones." Unfortunately, Bob left us too early but he'll never be forgotten. He touched so many lives during his short time here on earth. I feel that it's true that God keeps the best ones for himself. God has one of the best and I know that Bob is looking over all of us. R.I.P. Bob. Thanks for being you and for everything that you did. You'll truly be missed.

-Jake King
Class of 2011

itself was one that was at the very core of our friendship and one that I haven't experienced in over two years. It was the very same experience that required his understanding and care years before. I needed that one person I could always talk to, the one person who could keep all of my secrets and the one person who would be willing to put up with listening to me. Bob was more than a close friend he was a brother. Up until now I have had trouble understanding the depth of others pain but now it is evidently clear. We are all missing a very good companion. Bob meant many different things to many different people, all with their very own unique experiences of him, but they, we, all find ourselves coming to the same conclusion. God has taken a much needed friend.

-Jake Paasch
Class of 2010

McKinney Announces Resignation of Athletic Director Position

By Sam Waites
Reporter

Coach McKinney may have lightened the load, when he decided to go public with his decision to step-down as school Athletic Director on October 16. However, his decision may be beneficial not only for forty-two year veteran of high school and college basketball, but for the Griffins basketball cohort as well. McKinney willingly resigned as A.D., a decision, which will not be brought into effect until the beginning of the 2011 academic school year.

For the legendary coach this decision was not an easy one, but 'Coach', as the University community has affectionately come to know him as, rationalized his decision in saying, "I felt like I was cheating my team." The 1992 Missouri Sports Hall of Fame inductee will be entering his twenty-first season as Head Coach of the Griffins men's basketball team. He adds by saying, "When I was younger being A.D. and Head Coach wasn't really an issue for me. But at this point, the exhaustion is starting to take its toll on me physically." Understandably so, after having performed for over two decades, the energy required for his twofold position began to take its toll on him/

McKinney has reached a point in his career in which the dual demands are limiting his ability to perform duties expected of him at a level of perfection. Dr. McKinney's level of commitment to athletic success at the university is indisputable given the traditional success the school has enjoyed in almost all of its sports, an impressive feat for a man who took over an athletic department that was basically non-existent prior to his arrival. Being competitive in the SLIAC in nearly all of the sports, is a lucid sign of McKinney's dedication to winning, as well as helping his student athletes grow as individuals.

McKinney's primary concern is not the final score, unlike some coaches who put veritable pressure on their players to keep the focus on the results, from the playing field, track, and course. During his two decade tenure McKinney has always placed the most emphasis on academics for his players. He says, "I tell my kids every year that basketball is just a game. What we do in the classroom is what really counts in the bigger picture." This statement sums up McKinney's core philosophy.

While President Golden and his knowledgeable board of advisors are perfectly suited for the arduous task of finding a new Director of Sports operation; whoever indeed is fortunate enough to land the job will have to follow in the footsteps of a legend; because lofty expectations will be placed on the new athletic director, due to the mark left by his or her predecessor.



Senior Chris Forrest leaps to the basket at Late Night With Lee McKinney.

The Changing of the Guard: Men's Basketball

By Sam Waites
Reporter

Recently, the SLIAC Conference Basketball Coach's poll was released; this annual poll taken by the coaches from the six schools in the conference resulted in a unanimous tie, with the University and Westminster locked dead even three- three. Nevertheless, the publicized results from the poll gave the upper hand to Westminster.

McKinney delineated the biased outcome of the poll, but swiftly deemed it as meaningless in the bigger picture. He says, "First of all, it doesn't matter. The tiebreaker must have come from the fact that three of our top players graduated and they (Westminster) didn't lose any." He goes on to say, "Whoever was in charge of counting the votes probably thought we'd fall back a step after losing Brian (Fogerty), Patrick (McCoy), and Justin (Storandt). What the voters forgot to consider was our ability to recruit true freshmen and transfers." The reference made here is the additions of three key players, two of the three transferred in from Division I programs; guard Daniel Lisch from nearby Saint Louis University, Freddie Fleming, a Forest Park Community College transfer, and Jamahl Thomas from Southeast Missouri State. McKinney had high praises for all three of his transfers, but he made it clear that he expects big things in the future from Thomas, a 6'7 junior forward, who played his high school ball at Gateway High. "He's going to start for us at some point this season, I guarantee it. He has a lot of potential and should become a great player,"

says McKinney.

While the core players from the three time defending champions of the SLIAC Conference are no longer a part of the team; one of the recent graduates, playmaking point Guard Patrick McCoy, has returned to the team as a graduate assistant. The former quarterback of McKinney's aggressive, fast paced offense, returned to his former teammates to help guide them in the right direction. McCoy has worked arduously with his replacement at the point guard position, junior, Ben Rapp. McCoy thinks Rapp has high potential and raw talent that still needs to be transformed into keen insight on the basketball court. McCoy says, "It's great to still be around all these guys and be able to help make a difference. There is no doubt that Ben can pick up where I left off, I just think he needs to get comfortable running the offense." This being said, experience is what it's going to take for Rapp to feel at ease calling the plays and making sure that he keeps his turnovers to a minimal level.

McKinney and his staff already have a starting lineup in mind, as the season gets ready to kick off on Nov. 20th, during the Griffins annual trip to Chicago for the Moody Bible Big Four Invitational. Running the point, will be Rapp, the 5'10 junior out of O'Fallon, Mo. At the two guard position will be last year's "Newcomer of the year" in the SLIAC conference, Chris Forrest, a 6'3 senior from Springfield, Mo. Forrest cultivated his playing skills last season as he averaged a career high 16.0 points a game and shot .538 % from the field;

an impressive accuracy, which was good for ninth in the nation in that category. Starting at small forward will be Nollan Zoellner, a 6'4 player who hails from Washington, Mo. At power forward McKinney gives the nod to SLIAC All-Tournament selection, Josh Branch, who during the Griffins playoff run last season averaged 13.0 points per game and is ready to take on a bigger role as a scorer after the departures of McCoy and Fogerty. Finally, Mike Riva, a junior out of Imperial, will begin the season as the starting center, sharing duties with transfer, Ronnie Rust. But McKinney expects to see Thomas to quickly earn himself a place in the starting lineup. Furthermore, 6'8 forward/center Sean Gibson, the tallest member of the Griffin's team will be reinstated onto to the team after the first academic semester concludes. Gibson will miss the first seven or eight games of the season, but McKinney expects the big man to naturally step into his role on the team as soon as he is reinstated.

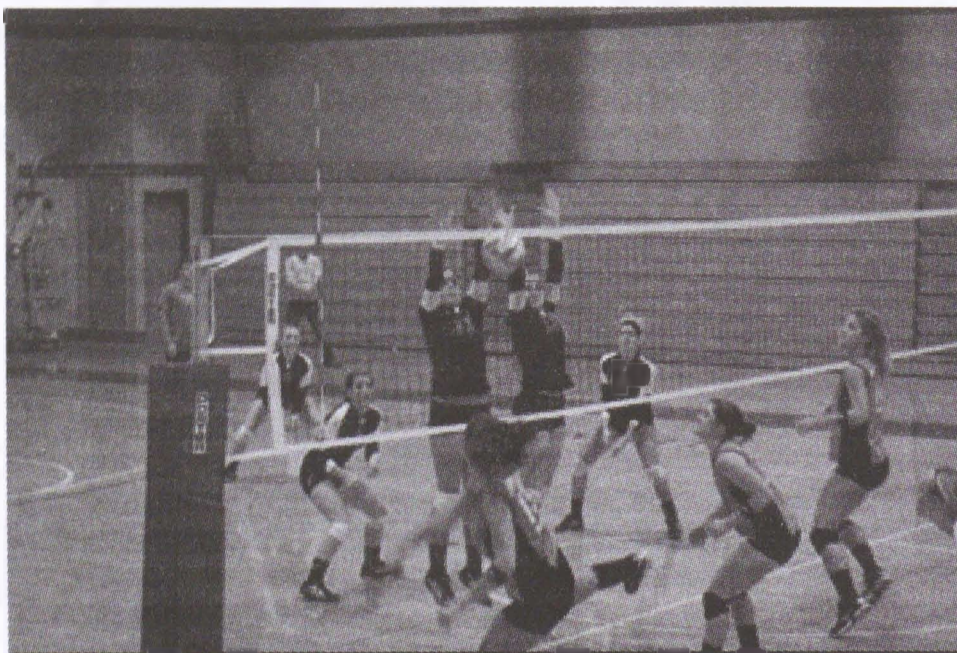
Overall the expectations for the Griffins shouldn't be anything less than a four peat as SLIAC champs. While on paper, it looks as if the team took a step backwards. McKinney, his staff, and the multitude of talented players on the roster this season expect to be ready to defend the title; as for the tainted pre-season coaches poll. No one seems to be paying any attention to it. In fact all it does is add more fuel to the fire for the Fontbonne Griffins men's basketball squad, who expect to be back in the NCAA Championships, this March.

Volleyball Comes Into A Successful Season Despite Loss

By Scott Ellis,

Reporter

It's game point, and Maybee's gymnasium's floor pounds like thunder. Hands clap sounding like waves crashing upon the shore. The crowd's deafening cheers drown out the sound of the ref's whistle. Shutting out all the chaos around, freshman Olivia Thurmond coolly prepares to serve. The ball sails over the net. It is frantically passed by Westminster player. The ball is then set and spiked, darting back over to Fontbonne. Talented passer, Megan Simon, digs the ball to setter Kaitlyn Stephan. Stephan sets a perfect ball right to master of kills, Kelly Lindsey. Lindsey smashes the ball straight onto the Westminster side so hard it sounds like an explosion. A diving Westminster player sprawls out further than the crowd thought possible and makes a diving dig. The ball is set for the attempted spike. Junior Carla



Two Lady Griffins jump for a block in a game against Spalding.

Stroll, has other ideas. She jumps up like she has springs on her shoes and blocks the ball. The ball spins weakly back down and lands just inside the inbounds line. The Lady Griffins have won their second match of the day,

going undefeated in their double header and earning their first wins of the season.

It has been a seesaw season for the Lady Griffin's Volleyball team. The team started off the season with high

hopes but fell to a record of 0-7. With tough losses to Robert Morris College in the home opener and Oakland City University, the team's morale began to dwindle. Sophomore setter, Rachel Beydler quit midseason because of personal reasons. To make matters worse, the team's California tournament resulted in zero wins. The team had to do all they could to keep their heads up. Lindsey, a senior, said "The California trip was rough. We had high expectations heading out there and were disappointed to lose. On a positive note though, we did have a lot of team bonding and good laughs." Lindsey's attitude mirrors the teams, which is why even when they are struggling a smile or two can be seen. The team used the early season disappointments to motivate them to turning their season around.

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Men & Women Griffins Fall to the SLIAC in Soccer Tourny

By David Cartier
Sports Editor

The Lady Griffin's Soccer team had a rough start to the season but has come into its own as of late. The women started off the season 1-6, with their only win coming against Illinois College. But the team has won three of their last five games and has a respectable record of two wins, two losses in conference play.

Sophomore forward, Kendra Schilli and freshman forward, Robyn Messey are producing most of the team's points. Schilli currently leads the team in points with 15, five goals and a team high, five assists. Messey leads the team in goals with six, and senior midfielder, and captain, Kristin Ferguson is still in the offensive mix and continues to find the net from time to time and serve up assists at will.

"I think some of our biggest strengths lie in our hard work and our motivation to succeed. I think if we work hard in practice, focus on our goals, and never give up we will be very successful," says Schilli.

The Griffins opened conference play with a 3-0 win over Blackburn College. Schilli, Messey, and Ferguson all scored to help the girls win an important match. They would lose their next two conference matches to Principia and Webster, who are likely their best conference competition. Despite these losses, they absolutely rolled over Spalding University, the newest team to the SLIAC Conference, 7-1. Schilli had two goals and three assists. Both

Ferguson and Messey each had a pair of goals as well, with the last goal being scored by freshman, Ava Johnson.

The women have seven games left, of which four are against conference opponents. The women will have to stay strong against their rivals in order to find a place in the conference tournament at the end of the season.

"One of our weaknesses is that we play down to our competition instead of playing the game we are used to. It is important late in the season to play our best no matter who we are playing. If we can do that then we will have a great shot at winning the conference tournament," Schilli says.

On November 5, 2009, the women's soccer team took on Principia College in the SLIAC Conference Tournament. Fontbonne was seeded fourth while Principia was the number one seed. The ladies fought hard but failed to come away with a win; the final score was 6-1.

The Griffins finished with an overall record of 7-12 and a conference record of 5-3. Defender, Kristin Ferguson and midfielder, Robyn Messey both received First Team All-Conference awards. Forward, Kendra Schilli received Second Team All-Conference. Schilli also had a record setting day towards the end of the season scoring three goals and passing for six assists. The six assists is a Fontbonne and SLIAC record as is the 12 points she tallied.

The women had a respectable year and hope to come back next season and dominate the SLIAC.

By Shannon Behnen, Reporter
David Cartier, Sports Editor

The men's soccer conference season hinged on facing Principia in the conference tournament. "They are going to be a biggest rival," says Jaeger. With a possibly of beating Principia, the team hoped to repeat another conference championship season, and maybe head to the National Tournament.

After the trip back from Colorado, the team has played five conference games which include; Blackburn, Principia, Webster, Spalding, and Westminster. The teams walked away from playing Blackburn with their heads held high after a romping 7-0 win. Team captain Kevin Vonarx scored two goals in the game's opening 20 minutes and co-captain Mike Utley scored in the 35th minute to push them ahead 3-0 at half time. Vonarx scored again after half time to make a hat trick and three more goals came from players Cody Townsend, Reed Holler, and Mike Imo in the second half to capture the first goals of their season.

The game against Principia was an unfortunate 0-3 loss. Principia has beaten nationally ranked Wash U and Principia now ranked 8th in the Nation for Division III. "We have the talent to beat Principia and make it to the Conference Championship, it is just a matter of us all peaking at the right moment" says Jaeger. Principia has recently lost to Webster University 0-1. "This is a good thing for us," Vonarx

said. "We're looking a lot better as a team since conference has started and Webster beating Principia is a good thing for our team."

On October 4th 2009, the team played Spalding University and squeezed out a 1-0 victory. The goal in this game came from sophomore forward Steve Richmond in the 84th minute assisted by Chad McBride. Zack Will recorded his second intercollegiate shut out. This win capped Griffins head coach Brian Hoener with his 100th career victory. Hoener has also been named "Coach of the Year" in 2003, 2004, and in 2008.

Capturing a 2-1 win against Westminster on October 7th 2009 puts the team at a 3-2 record for conference play and a 4-7-1 overall play. Both goals of this game came from Senior captain Mike Utley in the first half. Mike Utley now leads the team with 6 goals, followed closely by Kevin Vonarx with 5.

The men advanced to the SLIAC Conference Tournament again this year, making it the sixth year in a row they have earned a spot in the tourney. They were seeded third and were set to play the number two seed, Webster University, on November 4, 2009. The Griffins played well but were beat 3-1, ending their three year run at the tournament championship and their season as well.

The men finished the season 7-9-2 overall and 5-2-1 in conference. Six of the teams players were given post-

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Cross Country Sweeps the SLIAC to Compete at Regionals

By Raynisha Lovelace,
Shannon Behnen, Reporter

Both the men and women's cross country teams rewrote the Griffin record book on Saturday September, 19, 2009 at the Missouri Southern Stampede in Joplin, MO. Both teams proved that they could compete well against stiff competition from Division I schools like University of Arkansas and Oklahoma State. The University was the only Division III entry and non-scholarship program among the 47 schools.

The men's team ran strong throughout the 8000 meter race as the top three finishers broke the school's previous record of 27:08 set by Everett Jackson at the 2008 SLIAC Conference Meet. Todd Schulte, a sophomore, now lays claim to the top university with a 5-mile time of 26:42, accentuating his record setting performance by running the last mile in a blistering time of 4:48. Zach Kassman, a junior, crossed the finish line right behind his teammate Schulte with a time of 26:45. Mike Horn, a sophomore, rounded out the top three with a performance time of 27:06. Mike Horn says that the men's and women's team both are expecting to win conference in November.

Ian Lindquist, a sophomore, set a new personal record time of 27:23. Finishing fourth on the team, Lindquist now stands 8th on the all Time Fontbonne record board. Closing out the Fontbonne pack, with a

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After a hard fought loss to new conference rival Spalding, which went to five games, the team seemed to be just about to pull everything together and start playing to their potential. Spalding is the newest team in the Griffin's conference and was considered a talented team to beat. The team's five games battle appears to be the turning point of the season. The Griffin's next games, which were a double header at home against Blackburn College and Westminster College, resulted in the teams first and second wins of the season.

In front of a shoulder-to-shoulder packed student section the team lost the first two games by 11 and 10

time of 27:40, Sophomore Ethan Blakley. "The continuing development of the team's depth was highlighted by Schulte becoming the third Griffin to lead," says head coach Dave Almany.

Bill Boxdorfer continues to improve as he comes off an injury plagued from freshman year, but he is not there yet. He still has high expectations and goals for this year pushing through his injuries. "I want to help our team at the SLIAC Championship race on October 31. The recruits that Coach Almany brought in this year are in for both the Men and Women teams are a great addition and are hard working individuals as well, they will help out the team in the long run," says Boxdorfer.

The women also turned in an eye catching performance as Junior Rachel Hanson shattered her own school record in the 5000 meters by 19 seconds, turning in a finish time of 19:38. Setting a new personal record and finishing second for the Griffins was Kaitlin Titsworth, a sophomore, turning in a time of 20:34. Titsworth placed fourth on the all time Record Board at the University. Anita Kren, running a time of 21:31, earned her the rank of number nine of the board. Erica Garcia

points. The third game definitely gave the crowd a chance to display their school spirit. The team came back to tie Washington University and push them into a war to win by two points. The crowd roared with enthusiasm and cheers of encouragement. A costly foot fault and a magnificent spike from Washington University cost the Griffins the game, final score of 27 to 25. It was a tough loss, but the ladies kept positive attitudes. After losing the first two games, Seniors Alyssa Brocco and Megan Simon's radiant smiles could be seen in the pre-game huddle by anyone in the crowd. The team's optimistic outlook showed in the last game in which Fontbonne almost pulled off a



Men and Women's teams gather for a group picture at the Regional Race in Oskkosj, Wisconsin.

and Kelia Hamilton rounded out the Griffin top five, with finishing times of 21:39 and 21:42.

Marcey Cox says that the recruited freshmen are improving the team quickly. "Allie, Katie, Kelia, Erica, and Anita are all very sweet and so easy to get along with. They are great additions to the team and will do big things in their four years at Fontbonne." Cox was once again a solid 6th runner with a place of 21st in a field of 56 runners at the Maryville invitational. Cox is also the team captain and says, "I love being the captain, and there isn't much responsibility because the team is great! I don't have to worry about our team breaking windows or drinking on trips. I love this group and we have yet to have any problems." Cox mentioned that she loves running because it is something most people won't even try; it's difficult physically and mentally. "When I run I get into a trance like, I can keep running for

days and never stop. At the end of a good run my legs may be dead but I feel amazing." Senior Monica Ellebracht set a new personal record time by almost 50 seconds, turning in a performance 24:56.

Horn and Hanson also received SLIAC Runner of the Week Honors on September 14, 2009. Head Coach Dave Almany says that while the final results recorded by both teams were very good, there is still much work to be done. "Encouraged, but not satisfied is what we take from Saturday's races. Both teams have a shot at winning conference championships in November, but we have to continue to improve," Almany says. Fontbonne Men's and Women's Cross Country teams had an excellent wrap up to their season. The Regionals this year were held in Wisconsin on November 14th. The Griffin's team average time was 36 seconds faster than last year's time at Regionals.

"This is quite an improvement and testifies to our team's depth" said Coach Almany. On the women's side, Rachel Hanson, Kaitlin Titsworth, and Erica Garcia were all awarded 1st team All-Conference in the SLIAC. Kelia Hanilton and Marcey

Cox were awarded 2nd team All-Conference. During Regionals, out of the women's team, Kaitlin Titsworth had the fastest performance in the 6000 at 25:06, followed closely by Erica Garcia with a time of 25:59. Kaitlin's performance was enough to win the school 6th place. Unfortunately, the Griffin's ran without their three time All-SLIAC runner Rachel Hanson.

"I was really proud of how well our women responded without Rachel. She has been our #1 finisher in every race for three years; our average time was 9 seconds faster than last year" says Almany. At the SLIAC Championship, the women's team was ranked 2nd place out of 6 teams.

On the men's side, Ethan Blakely, Todd Schulte, and Zack Kassman were awarded 1st team All-Conference. Mike Horn and Ian Lindquist were awarded 2nd team All-Conference. Ethan Blakely crossed the finish line with a time of 26:54 which places him 4th on the Fontbonne All-Time Record board. Junior Zack Kassman was next to finish with a time of 27:08 and places him on the Fontbonne All-Time Record as well for 6th place.

"The times were fast, but I feel as though we could have run better. Our average time has improved over 2 minutes from two years ago, so we're getting better, we just need to keep on doing what we are doing" said Almany.

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season recognition as well. Midfielder, Mike Utley and defender, Chad McBride received First Team All-Conference awards. Striker, Kevin Vonarx received Second Team honors. Defender, Daniel Laurie and Goalkeeper, Zach Will received honorable mention. And Vonarx and fellow Striker, Steven Blincoe were both named to the conference's All-Tournament Team.

"It was a disappointing end to a otherwise exciting season," Vonarx says. "I will miss the guys and being able to play for Fontbonne, seeing as it was my last season. My advice to the squad next year is to be sure to work hard in the offseason and continue that work ethic into the season."

huge upset.

The team has won two of their last three matches raising their record to 4 and 10. The talent on the team is seen on every play. Lindsey leads the team with 83 kills, while Stephan leads the team with 173 sets. Defensive Specialist Megan Simon leads the team with a miraculous number of 184 digs. Serving has been a strong point for the team with first year student Jessica Wilmes contributing five service aces, one behind team leader Brocco who has six. Blocking leaders consist of Brocco, who leads the team with 25 blocks followed by Lindsey with 19.