The Grizzly, February 27, 2020

Kevin Leon
Skylar Haas
Abigail Peabody
Gillian McComeskey
Ian Abrahams

See next page for additional authors

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Authors
Kevin Leon, Skylar Haas, Abigail Peabody, Gillian McComeskey, Ian Abrahams, Colleen Murphy, Jenna Lozzi, Jake Supran, and Rosalia Murphy
UC introduces new diversity recruiter

Skylar Haas
skyhaas@ursinus.edu

The Ursinus College Admissions Office recently hired a new Assistant Director of Admission. Her name is Diana Deoki, but she usually just goes by “D.” The specific role that D will take on is that of the Diversity Recruiter.

According to the Ursinus website, D attended the University of Rochester Warner School where she received an M.S. in Higher Education Administration. She then attended Kenyon College where she received a B.A. in English Literature. She says her “reason for earning a masters in Higher Education Administration was always focused around Admission work and creating access to [an] excellent college education for students.”

According to the Ursinus website, D comes from a distinct background where she was able to work with youths from all walks of life. This included working in the world of non-profit, for-profit, student affairs and administration. D states that she “worked at a non-profit in New York City, creating a wide range of service learning opportunities for public high school youths.”

Latin American and Spanish film festival

Abigail Peabody
abpeabody@ursinus.edu

This semester the Latin American Studies Program introduces the International Film Festival: Films from Latin America and Spain series.

The IFF is a well-known event that takes place during the Fall Semester. According to the Ursinus website the event “screens movies in one of the six languages that are taught at Ursinus.”

This series, however, has a focus on movies from Latin America and Spain. The idea came to be from Latin American Studies professor, Dr. Chisu Teresa Ko who wrote, “from the student groups, the Association of Latinos Motivated to Achieve (A.L.M.A.) and Latin X (L.A.X.), who thought it would be a great way to showcase the diversity of the Latinx, Latin American, and Hispanic worlds, as well as generate new and different conversations in our community.”

The message around the film series is to create a conversation about different experiences and expressions that exist throughout the world.

Ko says these films can help Ursinus students answer some of our Quest questions, such as, “How can we understand the world?” and “How can we live together?” Although we seem to have endless film options on Netflix and other such platforms, there are many voices and expressions that are not included.” It is a way to create a space to give marginalized voices a platform, to share their experience.

“Everyone is welcome. The International Film Festival is a relaxed, fun and engaging way to bring different perspectives, experiences, and stories from around the world to our college community.”

-Dr. Chisu Theresa Ko
Professor of Latin American Studies

They received funding from the Arts and Lecture Grant which has been a huge supporter.
Additionally, D states that after working for the non-profit in New York City, she “moved onto Student Affairs, where [she] mainly [worked] on Student Leadership Programs and Implicit Bias Training.”

“I am excited to join the Ursinus Community,” said D. According to the Ursinus website, D is from a family of small liberal arts college-goers. She values the human and global impact that these types of institutions promote.

“I will cover a number of territories in Admission, some of those being Philadelphia, NYC, and Texas. This semester, one of my focus areas is Access Ursinus, formerly known as Prospective Students Fly-In. Access Ursinus is on April 1st and 2nd, which leads into Admitted Students Day on April 3rd,” said D.

D states that her “plans for encouraging students from underrepresented backgrounds to attend Access Ursinus is by demonstrating, through several forms of communications, that no matter your walk of life there is a place at Ursinus that celebrates you. We welcome and value a strong community of inclusion.”

She says that, “We wish to welcome students from underrepresented backgrounds, be it race, sexuality, gender, first gen status, religion, and/or nationality, to strongly consider Ursinus College and to perhaps make it their home away from home for the next four years of their lives / educational career.

“T
his semester, one of my focus areas is Access Ursinus, formerly known as Prospective Students Fly-In.”

-Diana Deoki
Assistant Director of Admission

The next film is “Carga sellada/ Sealed Cargo” from Bolivia on March 17th at 7 pm. The other films are “Asier eta biik/on April 1st at 6 pm and “NN” from Peru on April 16 at 7 pm.

Letters to the Editor

All letters submitted to The Grizzly must not exceed 250 words in length, must be emailed, and must be accompanied by a full name and phone number to verify content. The Grizzly reserves the right to edit all material for length, content, spelling and grammar, as well as the right to refuse publication of any material submitted. All material submitted to The Grizzly becomes property of The Grizzly.

Staff Positions at The Grizzly are open to students of all majors. Contact adviser for details.

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February is Black History Month, an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans and a time for recognizing the central role of blacks in U.S. history.

There are many ways that Ursinus College observes the occasion. Several events took place during the beginning of the month, some of which will continue throughout the rest of the semester. Upcoming events include Soulful Sunday Service Event-song, the second annual Colors of Africa: Sankofa on February 27th, and Sankofa Umoja Nia (SUN), the student club focused on Carribean, Afro-Latino, and all African diasporic cultures will host ‘Appreciating Our Roots’ on February 28th, both located at the Bears Den.

Assistant Director of Inclusion and Equity Ashley Henderson discussed how MLK Week and Black History Month create a forum and space to share experiences and discuss ideas.

Hendersen also expressed the importance of being involved in this month.

“All students should take part in celebrating this month, as black history is American and world history. African-Americans and descendants of the African diaspora have advanced society through innovations, artforms, and groundbreaking research. There was a time when this information was not easily accessible and blacks were considered the inferior race with second class citizenship no matter how hard they worked, served or fought for this country. There are countless stories not featured in history books,” she said.

She continued,”This is the very reason why people like Carter G. Woodson and Arturo Schomburg sought to uncover our histories so that we could be informed and empowered. It is also important for the traditions, connections, and customs that were stolen and lost to be relearned…. This is a time for reflection and to honor the ancestors, practices that should extend beyond the month of February.”

“All students should part take in celebrating this month, as black history American and world history. African-Americans and descendants of the African diaspora have advanced society through innovations artforms, and groundbreaking research. -Ashley Henderson Assistant Director of Inclusion and Equity

This month plays such a big role in many people’s lives, and to be able to celebrate together shows the power of unity here on campus. This is also a great example of how we can address Ursinus’s four core questions: What should matter to me? How should we live together? How can we understand the world? And what will I do?“
BAPS prepares ambitious One-Acts Fest

Ian Abrahams
iaabrahams@ursinus.edu

Earlier in the semester, Break Away Student Productions closed submissions for their annual One-Acts Festival, open to all current students and alumni. This year, however, BAPS is encountering a unique situation compared to past years with their One-Acts Festival. According to Donovan Erskine, president of BAPS, “typically we choose 4 or 5 short plays and showcase them for three nights [but] this year we are partnering with Domenick Scudera’s directing class. This is different than usual... Now we have to accommodate 11 short plays.” And it looks like you won’t want to miss a night of the festival, because they will be putting on different shows each night! It appears the Breakaway members will have a lot on their plates this year, but it certainly should be worthwhile for them and for anyone interested in witnessing a vast array of theatrical performances written and directed by students.

Erskine seems optimistic, seeing the new lengths as a positive thing. He states, “My expectation is that this year’s festival will be bigger than ever. We will have more shows, more people, and we will have assistance from the department.” As the shows name indicates, Breakaway Student Productions originated from the very idea of being independent of the faculty and theatre department, but such a large influx of plays and connections with Domenick Scudera’s directing class is giving them avenues for collaboration once again with the department in order to pull off this grand feat. Such intense changes were likely surreal for the actors, writers, directors, and president alike. Erskine states that “We are about to send the shows ... to the directors, so now it’s becoming more real.” It appears the production is slowly coming together piece by piece. As they select from apparently 15 shows, the directors will begin to cumulatively construct perhaps the largest One-Acts production Ursinus College has ever seen. All of this amplification and growth, however, appears to once again be leaving president Erskine feeling hopeful and optimistic about what this means for the near future of the company.

“I’m hoping that this year’s festival encourages more people to witness and be a part of theater by and for the students,” says Erskine in anticipation of the expansion coming with this year’s events. Not only will there be a much higher quantity of shows than normal, but this year also hopes to bring an increased diversity of plays to the production with all of the different directors and writers being brought to the table. Erskine is “excited to see how the directors decode to take these diverse and incredibly creative short plays.” While the plays may be short, they will be full of individuality and creativity beyond what the production has seen in the past.

It seems extremely promising that this historic event will be an occasion worth attending, even if you can’t make every night, just one cluster of these One-Act shows will leave your mouth watering for more, as we anticipate what these changes mean for years to come within the realm of the Breakaway Student Productions. You can follow them on Instagram @uc_bsp and get additional updates.
Colleen Murphy
comurphy2@ursinus.edu

College students are commonly labeled several ways: incredibly stressed out, sleep-deprived, and emotionally scattered. The worst part is that, for most of us, that’s all true. A new club on campus is actively trying to have conversations about good mental health while simultaneously bringing tea lovers from all over campus together to enjoy it. Bahali Club, formed by Hiyab Hiruy and Athena Gainley, aims to “provide a safe haven for students to meet, grow as individuals invested in their communities and decompress as the semester progresses,” according to Hiyab. “Athena and I cofounded this club to foster a sense of community among the students through a shared interest in tea and health,” Hiruy said. Bahali club had its first meeting on Thursday, Feb. 13, and students who were interested could learn about the health benefits of tea and talk with other tea enthusiasts on campus. During the meeting, members could also get a tea plant to take care of for the semester. Meeting every other Thursday, club members of Bahali gather to enjoy a selected herbal tea while learning about its health benefits and cultural roots. “The tea discussed will be provided for the night in addition to showing students how to make the tea in question,” Hiruy explained.

Throughout these meetings, Bahali club aims to educate students on not only personal growth, but societal growth as well. Conversations in the meetings can range from social issues such as prison reform, to diversity importance, to mental health awareness. Hiruy also stated that in the future, the club hopes to “bring in specialists to lead discussions and various workshops,” meaning that there is an incredible amount of opportunity for Bahali Club to grow.

On Feb. 20, Bahali club partnered with Wismer on Wheels to host a film screening of “Just Eat It,” a documentary created by filmmakers Grant Baldwin and Jenny Rustemeyer that centers around food waste and how they challenged themselves to change their food waste habits. After the screening, Bahali offered a talkback with tea.

Other members of Bahali Club include Chase Opperman (Vice President) Jacob Kang (Secretary), Michael Anthony (Treasurer), Kelsey Blake (Social Media Chair) and Max Stout (Guest Outreach Liaison), all of whom have contributed heavily to the forming of the club. If you are interested in learning more about Bahali Club or joining in on the next meeting, watch out for club announcements or email hihiruy@ursinus.edu.
**Coronavirus paranoia rooted in cultural insensitivity**

Kevin Leon  
kleon@ursinus.edu

This weekend, Italy cancelled multiple large-gathering events due to a recent outbreak of the Coronavirus in its northern region of Lombardy. Venice had its famous Carnival cancelled, while multiple soccer games were postponed. Over 200 people have been confirmed to be infected in Italy, while five people have died in that same country.

The Coronavirus has been in the news for all of 2020. The outbreak originated in the city of Wuhan, China and quickly spread due to the large number of travelers for Chinese New Years. There are now almost 2,600 coronavirus-deaths in China and over 77,000 confirmed cases.

What quickly circulated was anti-Asian rhetoric wherein people found ways to pin the outbreak on the cultural differences between China and the global West.

A video showing "bat soup" surfaced on social media as the cause of the outbreak. The virus was blamed on this strange dish because it fits the long-standing narrative that Asian people eat "weird" things. This led to a large-scale antagonism where people rationalized their racist opinions under the guise of them being right to not eat non-traditional food animals.

The video has been labeled a hoax by some, but whether it’s real or not is beyond the point. Even if the bat soup is real and brought about the coronavirus, that doesn’t mean it’s acceptable to be overtly racist towards Chinese people and East Asians in general.

The Coronavirus is just the latest way for Westerners to feel holier than others by patting themselves on the back for only eating "normal" animals, like chickens that are ethically factory-farmed en masse. Bat is a ridiculous animal to consume but foie gras, the liver of a duck or goose that’s been force fed with a tube, is a delicacy. It continues to otherize different cultures, while ignoring the fact that more than 61,000 people died from the flu in the 2018-2019 flu season.

The Coronavirus is primarily dangerous for people with compromised immune systems. Meaning, it’s mostly dangerous for people who would also have a hard time with something like the flu.

The virus being new means that it’s able to spread fast because people have not been exposed to it before and there is no vaccine for it yet. And with the planet growing more interconnected, its spread was made faster.

Still though, the Coronavirus is not an excuse to be racist against Asian people. Caring about your health and stopping the spread of the virus does not require negative biases and stigmas against people of a different race. If the coronavirus is to become a pandemic, blindly blaming it on cultural differences helps no one.

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**“The Two Popes” is a miraculously good movie**

Jenna Lozzi  
jlozzi@ursinus.edu

Out of all the movies of 2019, none were quite as surprising as “The Two Popes,” written by Anthony McCarten and directed by Fernando Meirelles. The film explores the interactions between Pope Benedict XVI, formerly known as Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, and Pope Francis, played by Sir Anthony Hopkins, and Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio, who would later become Pope Francis, played by Jonathan Pryce. Hopkins embodies the traditional and conservative Pope Benedict, which Pryce expertly contrasts with a more liberal Cardinal Bergoglio. The film quickly makes its goals very clear: it is not trying to convert the audience, rather it is trying to show the papacy navigating a rapidly changing world without getting left behind.

“The Two Popes” masterfully transitions between humor and serious subject matter. Near the beginning of the film, we see Cardinal Bergoglio humoring the tune of ABBA’s “Dancing Queen,” a surprisingly humanizing moment that showed how much he was with the people. Later on, we see Bergoglio in a bar watching soccer with patrons in his formal Cardinal attire. Pope Benedict appears to be vehemently against everything Bergoglio stands for, but in reality, Benedict is feeling the Argentinian Cardinal out, and trying to see if he would make a worthy replacement.

The debate extends to how each of the two men lived their lives and how they saw their relationship with God. Pope Benedict’s view of Christianity was much more methodical and academic, a theologian through and through. Bergoglio’s life was quite the opposite; he spent much of it out in the world, while still having the same level of comprehension of the Church’s teachings.

My criticism of the film lies in how it touches on certain subjects. I wish that the audience would have gotten a flashback to Benedict’s younger days like the film does for Bergoglio. It would have provided for better understanding as to where the more conservative and by-the-book Pope was coming from. The film touches upon the darker aspects of the Church, including the abuses and alleged corruption, albeit very briefly as much of the film is dedicated to exploring how the two pontiffs saw each other. When Benedict gave his confession to Bergoglio about his inaction in dealing with the Church’s problems, we do get a sort of balance with the flashbacks of Bergoglio during the "Dirty War" in Argentina in which the Cardinal felt he did not do enough to help.

Despite some of his shortcomings, Pope Benedict’s virtue shines through when he realizes that while he may never be able to contextualize his beliefs with the masses in the way Bergoglio can, he understands that Bergoglio must be his successor if the Church is to move forward. The ending of the film is powerful and moving; as Bergoglio, now Pope Francis, named for Saint Francis of Assisi, leads the Church in a new direction.
Wrestling cont. from pg. 8

finals at the Centennial Conference meet.
Along with these three placing in finals, Ray Calderaio was able to show his opponents what he had to offer. He was able to pin his Gettysburg opponent in the first round, followed by a rematch with one of his previous opponents in the consolation final. Calderaio’s performance helped keep the team motivated as well.

The Ursinus men’s wrestling team is not done with their season just yet. Now, with the CC meet over, their eyes are set on a much bigger meet, which is regionals. This is the team’s most important meet of the year, and we wish this men’s team nothing but the best of luck. Go Bears!

Correction: Last week’s gymnastics photo was incorrectly attributed. The actual photographer was Sam Aguirre.

Softball cont. from pg. 8

On the defensive side of the softball field, they return all 4 of their pitchers. With senior Jennifer Hammons, sophomore Kayla McTamney, and junior Morgan Comfort leading the charge, they are poised for a solid season on the mound. Hammons, who finished 7th in the Centennial Conference in strikeouts, believes, “The pitchers need to throw strikes, get ahead of batters, and pitch with confidence.” Hammons deems focus as an important team quality this year, “We should focus on one batter at a time and stay focused for three outs an inning for seven innings.”

McTamney and Hammons were an effective 1-2 punch for the Bears last season, pitching 175.2 of the team’s 260.2 innings. They had 31 combined appearances, 13 of which were complete games. McTamney is confident in the team’s ability to put wins together, “We just need to make the routine plays and continue to have timely hitting.”

Morgan Comfort is a true utility player. On the offensive side, she batted .346 with 21 runs batted in and a team-leading 10 doubles. While on the defensive side she came up big when the team needed her most, posting a 5-3 record in 15 appearances. The All-Centennial Conference Honorable mention explained her success this way: “Being pushed by my teammates helps me bring my game to the next level.” She trusts her team can make a similar run to last year’s: “We just need to be aggressive and keep taking advantage of teams’ weaknesses. Just play Ursinus Softball.”

The Bears also return sophomore sensation Mackenzie Brennan and junior captain Megan Hasulak. Brennan hit an astounding .371 with a team-leading 39 hits, while Hasulak hit a solid .298 with 34 hits. The duo combined for an incredible 9 strikeouts in 219 at-bats. Brennan is ready for her sophomore campaign to showcase her talents. “Putting in extra work goes a long way and I’m very excited to help my team win this year.” The second team All-Centennial Conference honoree adds, “We have a lot of young talent and team chemistry that will hopefully lead to a deep run in this year’s playoffs.”

The Bears open with Becker College on their spring training trip in Clermont, Florida on March 7th. Women’s softball breaks open their Centennial Conference schedule on March 28th against defending conference champs Dickinson College.

Scores as of Monday, February 24th

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<th>M. Basketball</th>
<th>W. Basketball</th>
<th>Wrestling</th>
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<th>Women’s Lax</th>
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<td>Women’s 9</td>
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<td>at Alvernia 12</td>
<td>at Mary Washington 10</td>
<td>at Cabrini 12</td>
<td>vs. Arcadia 0</td>
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Photo Courtesy of David Morgan

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Lend your voice to The Grizzly
Join us for our weekly news meeting
Thursdays, 4:45 p.m.
Ritter 141

www.ursinusgrizzly.com
**UC Wrestling team focused on regionals**

Ro Murphy  
romurphy@ursinus.edu

The Ursinus wrestling team made a remarkable impression during their conference meet on Saturday February 15th. Freshman Terry Adams started the day off right by placing first in his weight class, and this set a motivational tone for the rest of the team to follow. Fred Corradetti, Jason Carter and Ben Maack also made a lasting impression on the conference by making it to finals in each of their weight classes. The day was ultimately followed by a lot of tough matches for this men’s wrestling team.

Adams was one of the main features to watch this weekend as he was able to place first in his weight class. Prior to Adams’ first overall win, he was able to finish in fourth place during one of the matches, which allowed him to grab 60.5 points for the team. This made room for the rest of the team to stay motivated.

While Adams was busy in the 125-pound class, Freddy Corradetti, Jason Carter and Ben Maack all made marks in each of their classes. Corradetti opened up his matches with two back-to-back pins, which allowed him to move toward the podium. Carter was able to come out with that same motivation and pin his opponent, allowing him to move right up to the finals. Finally, Maack was able to grasp another pin, putting himself into the semi-finals round. All three of these wrestlers were able to reach weight class. The team was one of the main features to watch this weekend as they were able to place first in their weight class. This was a big deal for this men’s wrestling team because he was the second freshman consecu-tively to grab the gold medal in the 125-pound weight class. Prior to Adams’ first overall win, he was able to finish in fourth place during one of the matches, which allowed him to grab 60.5 points for the team. This made room for the rest of the team to stay motivated.

UC Softball eyes back-to-back playoff runs

Jake Supran  
jasupran@ursinus.edu

Ursinus College women’s softball is ranked 3rd in the Centennial Conference preseason poll after a solid playoff run last season. They finished in 3rd place in the regular season standings last year with a 10-6 record, only to be eliminated after their first two playoff games. This was their first playoff appearance in seven years. This year, they are once again a playoff hopeful and will be led by captains Heather Lazer, Megan Hasulak, and Jennifer Hammons.

The team lost a few everyday starters in Gabrielle Manto, Kayla Quinn, and Sammi Donato. The trio had a combined 101 hits, almost one-third of the team’s hit total. The Bears will aim to survive with strong leadership and great team chemistry. The team has many young bats that are ready to shine in the spotlight come spring.

Heather Lazer is poised to help lead this team to their second playoff berth in eight years. Her solid play at second base included an impressive .961 fielding percentage. Lazer batted a reliable .298 with a team-high 29 runs scored. The junior leader has high expectations for this year’s squad, “As long as we focus on one game at a time, we will put ourselves in a good spot.” She believes not focusing on mistakes will benefit the squad, “We take 30 seconds for ourselves and 14 innings for the team. 30 seconds to reset yourself and play a full 14 innings.”

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**See Wrestling on pg. 7**

**See Softball on pg. 7**

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**Upcoming Games**

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<th>Saturday 2/29</th>
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<td>Gymnastics at Kent State (With Brockport and Bowling Green)</td>
<td>#9 Men’s Lax vs. #20 Christopher Newport</td>
<td>Men’s and Women’s Track &amp; Field at Centennial Conference Championships</td>
<td>Men’s and Women’s Track &amp; Field at Centennial Conference Championships</td>
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<td>Wrestling at NCAA Mideast Regional</td>
<td>Women’s Lax vs. Stockton</td>
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**Photo Courtesy of David Morgan**