2-8-2018

The Grizzly, February 8, 2018

Valerie Osborne
Sophia DiBattista
Kevin Leon
Ana DerSimonian
Emily Jolly

See next page for additional authors

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

Part of the Cultural History Commons, Higher Education Commons, Liberal Studies Commons, Social History Commons, and the United States History Commons

Click here to let us know how access to this document benefits you.
Authors
Valerie Osborne, Sophia DiBattista, Kevin Leon, Ana DerSimonian, Emily Jolly, Johnny Myers, Danielle Jordan, and Gabriela Howell
Jim Sciutto, CNN’s Chief National Security Correspondent, gave a talk on national security Jan. 29 in Olin Auditorium. Sciutto spoke about his work as a journalist and gave a current threat assessment of national security.

Sciutto’s talk was sponsored by the Arts and Lecture series, the Politics and International Relations and Media and Communication Studies departments, as well as The Melrose Center.

According to Sciutto, the major threats that U.S. national security face today include nuclear war, China, cyber-attacks, terrorism, space warfare and artificial intelligence.

He highlighted key “hacking incidences,” some of which were seen during the 2016 election with Wikileaks and U.S. satellites. According to Sciutto, Russia and China have stolen U.S. information such as business transactions and locations of military troops through these satellites.

“If you target U.S. satellites, you have our entire population under control. Russia uses a ‘kamikaze satellite,’ a device that orbits one of our satellites and makes it disappear from radars. China uses grappling hooks, and now Russia, China, and North Korea use laser weapons to destroy or hack into our systems.”

Citing an interview with Air Force Lieutenant General James Clapper, Sciutto noted that the amount of threats today to U.S. national security is greater than any Clapper has seen throughout his years of working for military intelligence. “It’s never been like this before,” Clapper had pointed out.

Sciutto compared the U.S.’s current relations with Russia, China, and North Korea with the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis during the Cold War. “[The Cuban Missile Crisis] may seem like a million years ago,” he said, “but if you’ve been watching, there are threats of nuclear war from North Korea, a different adversary, and Russia has thousands of nuclear warheads. They are both potentially dangerous threats.”

He added that North Korea has made “enormous progress in the last year” with making ballistic missiles and hiding the locations of those missiles. Russia has also rebuilt itself since the Cold War, and has improved their weaponry and submarine power.

Sciutto said that Russian President Vladimir Putin is “the king of the oligarchy [in Russia]. If you cross the king...” Well, you don’t want to. The truth about Russia is that they don’t want to go to war, but they’re showing that they can take risks.”

“Students report, and I agree, that Sciutto made concrete both national security challenges we had read about and some that we had not considered,” said politics professor Jonathan Marks.

“Sciutto’s presentation was sobering because it suggested that, at least as far as some of our rivals are concerned, we are engaged in a permanent state of warfare.”

When asked about “fake news,” Sciutto commented, “[President] Trump uses the words ‘fake news,’ but it’s actually real and it is weaponized. [Fake news] stirs the pot and gets us punching each other. [Fake news] is a real threat: it’s damaging regardless of what your political party is, and it’s inexcusable. It’s really a self-inflicted wound.”

He added that the stakes have been raised for news sources to deliver correct information to the public and to provide people with the most accurate facts available.

Shanya Kushner, an international relations major who attended Sciutto’s talk, said, “Once Trump tweets something, we, as Americans, could be dragged into a war.”

Living in the technological era gives social media a huge influence over us, and saying that we are watching ‘fake news’ is hurtful and adds doubt to what we read no matter where the news comes from.” She added that in spite of what Trump says, she stays up to date on current events by reading articles on international relations from different news sources.

Paying attention to current affairs is necessary for being a productive citizen, Sciutto expressed. He advised college students in the “academic and social bubble” of campus to “use social media to [their] advantage. Develop a wide range of [information] sources on Twitter, for example, that way you can see different perspectives on events and get the true facts.”

When asked about which news sources were the most reliable, Sciutto cited Foreign Policy Magazine, The Atlantic, The Council on Foreign Relations, Steve Clemons, Evan Osnos, CNN’s Fareed Zakaria, and even himself.

Sciutto refers to himself as the “bad news correspondent” for CNN—explaining that he reports on topics ranging from “terror attacks to war and conflicts, Russia, China, the Ukraine, and Syria.” He added, “As much as I’m a ‘bad news correspondent,’ I still feel privileged that I can do this with my life. I can travel the world, meet people, and I’m just very lucky to have this as my job. It’s a lot of fun.”
SUN shines on Black History Month

The student organization is hosting a series of events in February

Valerie Osborne
vaosborne@ursinus.edu

Ursinus’ Sankofa Umoja Nia (SUN) has announced a series of events throughout the month of February that the student-run cultural organization will be offering in celebration of Black History Month.

The programming ranges from events such as an excursion to see the premiere of “Black Panther” at The Movie Tavern in Provincial Town Center to an on-campus discussion on civil discourse in the recently opened Institute of Inclusion and Equity. The planned events will serve as a means for the Ursinus community to come together in honoring prominent figures in black history while also celebrating African American culture and its community on campus.

SUN president Temi Olufunmiloye ’18 touched on two events in particular that reflect this aim to celebrate black leaders in both a historical and local context. The Speaking on the Legacy of James Baldwin event that will be held Feb. 11 and a black women’s group that meets bi-weekly on Friday evenings in the Institute of Inclusion and Equity.

“Events like Speaking on the Legacy of James Baldwin allow us to further understand the impact that the leaders of the civil rights have on black life today, and how their struggles still reflect race-related issues today,” Olufunmiloye said.

“Other events, like the black women’s group, meet regularly, providing a space for black women to celebrate themselves and share their thoughts and ideas.”

“Observing Black History Month is important because black life and history is so largely ignored by the dominant culture.”
—Temi Olufunmiloye, Senior, President of SUN

Olufunmiloye was especially happy to promote the Taste of Afroculture event that will take place on Feb. 24 at 8:30 p.m. in Lower Wismer.

“Taste of Afroculture [will celebrate] the beauty of the African diaspora, and will feature Caribbean and African food along with several students’ performances where [students will] present pieces from their own cultures.”

Olufunmiloye was also excited to be able to plan a campus visit by Collegeville mayor Aisaid ‘Ace’ Wright-Riggins scheduled for Feb. 22.

“Wright-Riggins, who was recently elected to the position of mayor in Collegeville’s November 2017 elections, will be giving a talk on his experiences in the Civil Rights Movement. “[We’re] excited to be able to get our newly elected mayor more involved with our campus community,” said Olufunmiloye.

She hopes that the events planned for Black History Month will encourage students in the Ursinus community to become more active in the organization’s future events and discussions.

Olufunmiloye stressed the importance of student participation in Black History Month, explaining, “[Observing Black History Month] is important because black life and history is so largely ignored by the dominant culture.

“Black History Month is a time to be able to bring that life and history to the forefront of the conversation. When we understand history, we can understand the implications and meanings behind racism in America today. Only then can we begin to work towards true equality.”

A full calendar of SUN’s Black History Month events can be found in a recent email sent out by the organization to students. However, celebrating black history and culture will not end with the month of February.

Ursinus students can look forward to several SUN events this semester, including SUN’s annual formal scheduled for April 6 and a possible trip to the National Museum of African American History in Washington D.C. in collaboration with the Student Activities Offices.

Students interested in learning more about SUN may contact the organization at sun@ursinus.edu.

Diversity Monologues now accepting submissions

The Diversity Monologues gives students a chance to share their stories with others

Kevin Leon
keleon@ursinus.edu

Organizers of the annual Diversity Monologues are currently accepting student submissions for the CIE event, which will be held Feb. 27 and 28 at 7 p.m in the Lenfest Theatre. The monologues offer an open and uncensored opportunity for diverse members of the Ursinus community to freely express their experiences through minority perspectives, according to the college website. The Monologues are a collaborative effort organized by the Ursinus Center for Advocacy, Responsibility, and Engagement (UCARE), Bonner Leaders, CIE Fellows, and professors.

Each monologue is performed either by the writer, or anonymously by another person. This year marks the eighth consecutive year of the monologues. The Diversity Monologues are meant to encourage the cultivation of a more tight-knit community by exposing students to different backgrounds. This is the fourth year that the event has been made mandatory for all first-year students to attend as a part of the CIE curriculum. In past years, the Diversity Monologues has covered a wide range of topics such as gender and sexuality, socioeconomic class, disability, race, and mental health. According to Rachael Carter ’18, a Bonner Leader, it is still too soon to say which topics will be addressed this year. The Grizzly reported last year that students voiced a desire for more monologues focusing on race.

Sophy Gamber ’18, a Bonner Leader, explained that the structure of the Diversity Monologues will remain the same as last year, but there has been additional programming to encourage dialogue and reflection. This year, prior to the monologues, CIE students will be able to take part in a Step-in Workshop: an activity meant to encourage understanding of different kinds of diversity present in the community.

“During the step-in workshop, students form a circle while a facilitator asks a series of identity-based questions,” Gamber explained. “If you identify with a question, you step into the circle. Your identity within the group is then made visible, and you’re...
Breakaway seeking student one-acts

Breakaway Student Productions is now accepting submissions for original one-act plays to be written, directed and produced by students for inaugural spring show.

Ana DerSimonian
andersimonian@ursinus.edu

Breakaway Student Productions had their first meeting of the semester on Feb 2. Breakaway is an all student-run organization, in which students write, star in, and direct their own material.

Claire Hughes ’20, secretary, explained that when Breakaway was first founded around 15 years ago, the students in charge “broke away from the traditional plays and musicals the school produced to give their classmates creative liberty to choose what they wanted to do.”

Skye Gailing, a senior and this year’s president of Breakaway, gave further insight on what to expect from the organization this semester – emphasizing that Breakaway’s ultimate goal is to put on a set of one-acts.

The advisors give their permission to let the group put on events, and provide them with advice on how to make the shows a success. All other aspects of production are left to the students, Gailing said.

Domenick Scudera and Meghan Brodie, professors in the theater department, advise the club. However, treasurer Henry Gustafson explained that the students on the board “are the ones who are producing the show and are responsible for getting the work accomplished.”

“We have a great time, and we love what we do and work hard [to produce] the best shows we can.”

—Skye Gailing
Senior, BSP President

The one act plays should be original—written by Ursinus students. Mya Flood ’18, vice president and artistic director of Breakaway, explained that students may take inspiration for the monologues from certain works already produced if needed, but “the group wants to focus on letting their members be creative.”

The members of Breakaway are setting up writing workshops, which they call ‘word-play workshops,’ to churn out more student-produced work. These workshops are used for students to workshop their one-acts, during which they will receive constructive feedback from their peers.

Students will be able to submit their original one-acts to Breakaway until Feb. 9. Students whose pieces are chosen will have the opportunity to see their work performed in the inaugural One-Acts Festival, which will take place near the end of April. Admission for the one-acts show will be free.

“You absolutely do not want to miss out!”

—Claire Hughes
Sophomore, BSP Secretary

“The Breakaway show] is a very popular event on campus, so you absolutely do not want to miss out!” said Hughes.

Gailing is hoping for nice weather, so “everyone can enjoy a picnic and a show.”

Current members of Breakaway encourage interested students to get involved. “Our group welcomes all students, whether [they have] experience with showbiz or not, to come be a part of the group and see what it’s about,” said Flood. “It’s really fun, but we also take what we do seriously. We definitely [see] ourselves as professionals in the theater company,” said Gailing. “We have a great time, and we love what we do and work hard [to produce] the best shows we can. We’re just doing theater and loving it.”

Students interested in submitting their one-act plays to Breakaway should email the group at bsp@ursinus.edu by Feb. 9. Last semester, the group put on Argos Burning, a show written by former president of Breakaway, Arthur Robinson ’17.
Major setback requires minor improvisation

Even without the friends, the Hubbs and Friends Faculty Recital never lost a beat

Dr. Holly Hubbs of the Ursinus Music Department exhibited some of her flexibility and quick-thinking skills on the afternoon of Feb. 4 when her Hubbs and Friends Faculty Recital was forced to proceed without her friends.

Hubbs explained that she found out around 1:30 p.m. the day of that her friends would not be able to make it to the recital scheduled for 4 p.m. The musicians were traveling from the Gettysburg area, which unfortunately had become the victim of a Pennsylvania snowstorm, and they were having difficulty with road conditions and accidents. Hubbs made the decision that it wasn’t worth the risk.

“After months of planning, [I was given] a couple of hours in my mind to figure out what we were going to do instead,” said Hubbs.

“Sometimes you have to adapt on the fly. It can be an interesting facet of live performance,” Hubbs added.

The original program was supposed to feature the saxophone quartet. Hubbs is a part of, with a performance focus on French music.

Hubbs explained, “A lot of quartet repertoire is French pieces, so I wanted to try to see whether people could hear that as I was explaining it, this very melodic and sort of light, happy, sort of vivacious music that’s also sort of technically difficult at the same time, so we hear that especially in the French quartet piece that we didn’t hear. It’s tremendously difficult. But, it doesn’t sound difficult. It needs to sound easy and tossed off.”

Because the program lost several of its expected performers, and therefore the quartet pieces, the original French focus had to be scrapped. Hubbs decided to convert the original program into a mix of French, German, and English music, in order to show the contrasts and similarities between the styles.

Hubbs thought, “Let’s contrast some of that [French] music with some...from other countries and see if people can hear [that] Germanic music sounds different than French music does, and English music sounds different [than both].”

While the missing members of the quartet decreased the number of performers, Hubbs was still accompanied by Seth Trumbore and Dr. John French of the Ursinus Music Department. Trumbore played the piano for the first piece, while French featured on the harpsichord, piano, and even the organ for the rest of the program.

Hubbs ended up playing five different instruments throughout the recital, beginning with the soprano saxophone on Fantaisie by Denis Béard, the alto recorder for Jean Baptiste Loeillet de Gant’s 12 Recorder Sonatas, the alto saxophone in “Enfach Innig” from Three Romances by Robert Schumann, the tenor saxophone in Six Studies in English Folk Song by Ralph Vaughan Williams, and a solo on the piano to show off the Jazz style with “Old Folks.” She ended the night back on the soprano saxophone with Fantaisie by Jean Baptiste Singelée.

The change from the original concert order allowed Hubbs to play music she wouldn’t normally have chosen. “I never would have played a piano piece. That was very random, to just decide to do that. I would never normally play piano on a recital of any kind here.”

It also gave her a chance to go back to some past favorites. “I thought it was really good. Dr. Hubbs is an amazing professor, and you could see the passion as she was playing, and she’s really talented,” said Lauren Feldman, a junior at Ursinus.

Another junior, Indira Joell, summed up the performance as “a super educational and enjoyable concert.”

It was really important for Hubbs to have the opportunity to perform on the Ursinus campus.

Hubbs explained, “The Vaughan Williams that we played, the English folk songs, that’s like a homecoming in some ways for [me and French], just as a duet, because we played that probably like eight or ten years ago, so that makes it fun and these things that you didn’t know were going to happen happened.”

To pay homage to the Super Bowl, set to begin just a few hours after the recital, French led the audience in a rendition of “Fly Eagles, Fly” on the organ in Bomberger Auditorium.

“Sometimes you have to adapt on the fly. It can be an interesting facet of live performance.” — Dr. Holly Hubbs

“I don’t always see student faces when I give a recital so that made me very happy.” — Dr. Holly Hubbs

Around 40 people attended the recital, including community members, faculty of the music department, and students. Hubbs was extremely pleased with the turnout.

“It’s a dreary day and of course, Superbowl Sunday, so [the turnout] very much surprised me. I loved seeing students’ faces. I don’t always see student faces when I give a recital so that made me very happy. I saw community members, and students, so [I totally couldn’t have asked for a better turnout].”

The students in attendance appeared to be just as pleased to be there as Hubbs was to see them.

According to sophomore Julian Schwartz, “It was great, it showed the technical virtuosity of Dr. Hubbs and Dr. French. Good catalogue, good programs, good theme, good improvisatory feel.”

“Sometimes you have to adapt on the fly. It can be an interesting facet of live performance.” — Dr. Holly Hubbs

“I don’t always see student faces when I give a recital so that made me very happy.” — Dr. Holly Hubbs

Around 40 people attended the recital, including community members, faculty of the music department, and students. Hubbs was extremely pleased with the turnout.

“It’s a dreary day and of course, Superbowl Sunday, so [the turnout] very much surprised me. I loved seeing students’ faces. I don’t always see student faces when I give a recital so that made me very happy. I saw community members, and students, so [I totally couldn’t have asked for a better turnout].”

The students in attendance appeared to be just as pleased to be there as Hubbs was to see them.

According to sophomore Julian Schwartz, “It was great, it showed the technical virtuosity of Dr. Hubbs and Dr. French. Good catalogue, good programs, good theme, good improvisatory feel.”

“I thought it was really good. Dr. Hubbs is an amazing professor, and you could see the passion as she was playing, and she’s really talented.” — Lauren Feldman, a junior at Ursinus.

Another junior, Indira Joell, summed up the performance as “a super educational and enjoyable concert.”

It was really important for Hubbs to have the opportunity to perform on the Ursinus campus.

Hubbs explained, “[My] professional life . . . as a musician is not on campus, so sometimes, or all the time, I feel like students don’t have an ability to see me as a working musician, even though that’s like completely who I am as a person and who I’ve always been as a person. So, it’s very important for me to do this because it’s at least . . . an opportunity . . . for the people that are here to see that ‘oh, that’s what [she] actually does[,]’ and otherwise you would never know.”

Dr. Holly Hubbs serenades the audience with one of the five instruments she played in her recital.
In remembrance of Gary Hodgson

The Ursinus community celebrates the life of Gary Hodgson, Campus Safety Officer of 27 years

Johnny Myers
jmmyers@ursinus.edu

Gary I. Hodgson Sr. died at the age of 80 on Tuesday, Jan. 9, 2018 at his home in Upper Providence Twp. Over the course of his life, Hodgson served as a patrolman, police officer, actor, detective, bodyguard for three previous presidents, broadcaster for CBS Radio and ABC TV, golfer, football announcer, professional baseball player, and of course, as a beloved Ursinus Campus Safety Officer.

After graduating from Girard College in 1956 with a degree in business, Hodgson attained degrees from Temple and St. Joseph’s University in communications and criminal justice. Following college, Hodgson worked as a detective with the Philadelphia Police Department, investigating missing children’s cases. Working his way up from there, he was eventually assigned to the Intelligence Unit and, alongside the Secret Service, guarded Presidents Lyndon B. Johnson, Jimmy Carter, and Richard Nixon.

After his work in criminal justice, Hodgson was approached about his great radio voice, and by chance, moved into radio as a broadcaster for CBS. His show climbed to the #1 position in its time-slot. In Sept. of 1990, Hodgson joined the Ursinus community as a Campus Safety Officer, where he stayed for the next 27 years.

Hodgson was known for his long conversations with students. Despite the generational difference, he always knew how to make students laugh. For Alyse Brewer ‘17, Hodgson was a best friend. Hodgson walked Alyse Brewer across the stage for her graduation.

Brewer talked about how seeing Hodgson always made her happier. “He was probably one of my best friends, and his death was very difficult for me. It didn’t matter if you knew him for 10 minutes or for 10 years, he always made people feel special.”

For Hodgson, “nothing was too serious. He had a way of making things light and funny,” added Brewer.

Hodgson was known for his charismatic, personable, and humorous storytelling. Brewer still remembers the story of how Hodgson got the golf cart stuck in the mud past the abandoned lot behind New in April. Hodgson came back from New covered in mud and told everyone what had happened. Or how, on multiple occasions, Hodgson accidentally deleted the entire Campus Safety drive off of the computer, something not even Tech Support could recover.

And the one Halloween when Hodgson dyed his hair brown, making a mess of a hotel room. He later claimed “It looks like I murdered someone in there.” Hodgson’s storytelling and adventures are remembered by many students.

Hodgson was a close friend to Lindsay Budnick, recent Ursinus alumna of the class of 2011. A video posted by Ursinus College Campus Safety shows the two of them riding on a tandem bicycle in Olin Plaza. Budnick passed away in a car accident after graduation, but her memory was carried on by Hodgson and the Campus Safety team.

“That bike got thrown out in the dumpster,” said Anthony Bruno, a Campus Safety officer and dear friend to Hodgson. “That bike was special, so I ended up refurbishing it. I still have it in my house, to this day. Just to have it for the memories.”

Hodgson and Bruno had worked side-by-side for 10 years.

“[We were like] Jerry Lewis and Dean Martin,” said Bruno, “As soon as we met in the interview, we hit it off. We never had any disagreements. We were like brothers. You would never have known the age difference.”

Hodgson was a quintessential member of the Ursinus community. As the Ursinus webpage proudly boasts, most of us are a little bit of, well, everything—including the hardworking faculty, staff, and Campus Safety officers that work here. His expansive career, deep relationships with students, and passion for everything that he did made him a perfect fit for the Ursinus Community—a community which he called home. He will be dearly missed.

Happening on Campus

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Call of Public Scholarship</td>
<td>Vagina Monologues 7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Canvas Painting! 8 - 10 p.m.</td>
<td>Ursinus Society for Electronic Concert 4 p.m.</td>
<td>Road Map for Graduate School 7 - 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Ursinus Dining Valentine’s Day Dinner 6 p.m.</td>
<td>Lower Wismer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chenjerai Kumanyika 7:30 - 9 p.m. Black Box Theater</td>
<td>Bomberger Auditorium</td>
<td>Lower Wismer</td>
<td>&amp; Dance Music Blackbox</td>
<td>Musser Auditorium Lower Wismer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Women in music don’t need to ‘step up’ to earn Grammys

Danielle Jordan
dajordan1@ursinus.edu

On Sunday, Jan. 28, the 60th annual Grammy Awards ceremony was broadcast live from Madison Square Garden in New York City. According to the official Grammy website, the Recording Academy is an organization made up of musicians, songwriters, producers, engineers, and other recording professionals, that comes together each year to decide who wins the award for each category. This organization was established in 1957, with the sole purpose of improving the lives of musical artists and highlighting their impact on society. In doing so, the Recording Academy presents Grammy awards to artists who they’ve deemed have made exceptional achievements in the music industry.

This year’s Grammy’s were given to artists Bruno Mars, Kendrick Lamar, The Weeknd and Ed Sheeran, just to name a few. Although many fans were pleased to see that at least one of their favorite artists won an award, many were shocked to see few female artists receiving any awards that evening. Noted on bbc.com, only 17 out of 86 awards were given to women this year. Within the last five years (2013-2018), 90% of all nominees were men, making only 10% women.

The only woman to win a category televised at this year’s Grammy’s was Alessia Cara for Best New Artist. The other awards were given to men. In 2018, I was shocked to see these results when women have practically taken over the music industry, making history and selling out platinum records.

When the president of the Recording Academy, Neil Portnow, was asked why there was a lack of female representation, he responded “women needed to step up.” His comment started an uproar amongst many artists in the music industry. Pink shared a letter she wrote to Portnow, via Twitter, expressing her concerns: "Women in music don’t need to ‘step up.’ Women have been stepping since the beginning of time. Stepping up, and also stepping aside. Women owned music this year. They’ve been killing it and every year before this. When we celebrate, and honor the talent and accomplishments of women and how much women ‘step up’ every year, against all odds. We show the next generation of women and girls and boys and men what it means to be equal and what it looks like to be fair.”

Women in music don’t need to ‘step up.’ Women have been stepping since the beginning of time… When we celebrate, and honor the talent and accomplishments of women and how much women ‘step up’ every year, against all odds. We show the next generation of women and girls and boys and men what it means to be equal and what it looks like to be fair.

Women in music don’t need to ‘step up.’

Many female record executives have even called for Portnow’s resignation. Since the dispute, the Recording Academy has stated it will “identify where we can do more to overcome the explicit barriers and unconscious biases that impede female advancement in the music community.”

This year many female artists have not only created hit after hit, but have broken records while doing so. While watching the awards show, I was certainly I would see new artist Cardi B take the stage and give an amazing acceptance speech. Sadly, the Recording Academy felt as though it was not her time. According to the Huffington Post, Cardi B is the first rapper and woman to have her first three singles on the Billboard Hot 100’s top 10 simultaneously. Back in Sept., she became the first female rapper in 20 years to reach number 1 on the Billboard’s Hot 100 chart without a featured artist. If these achievements are not worthy of a Grammy, I am unsure exactly what is. As a woman, Cardi B broke records in the music industry.

Another female artist SZA, was nominated for five categories: Best new artist, Best R&B song, Best Rap/sung collaboration, Best urban contemporary and Best R&B performance. She is one of 2017’s breakout stars, according to forbes.com. She has four simultaneous singles on Billboard Hot 100 chart. She is an amazing singer with catchy lyrics. Having been nominated for not one but five categories, she should have at least walked away with one in hand. And yet, SZA didn’t receive any awards.

Female rapper Remy Ma made a huge comeback from her hiatus. She shook up the music industry when she and rapper Lil Kim, collaborated on her single “Touk us a Break.” Having two female rappers on the same song without there being any conflicts is unheard of in Hip-Hop. Female rappers are known to ‘hate’ on another, just because they are women. However, Remy Ma and Lil Kim took that stereotype and threw it out the window. I was shocked to see that she was not nominated for an award.

The gender bias that took place last week was very disappointing: Many hard-working artists were robbed of their well deserving Grammy award just because they’re female and the Recording Academy thinks they need to ‘step up’ their game.
and their record is now 11-11 overall. Ursinus is currently in 7th out of the 11 teams in the CC as they make their playoff push without Suler.

Suler remains hopeful in anticipation for the 2018-19 season: “I hope to be back by next season, but that all depends on how well physical therapy goes.”

The Bears will go to Dickinson College to face the Red Devils on Saturday, Feb. 10 at 2 p.m.

**Bermudez makes UC proud at SBLII**

Sophia DiBattista
sodibattista@ursinus.edu

Start up the Rocky theme because the Lombardi Trophy has finally come to Philadelphia. The Eagles have won Super Bowl LII behind quarterback and Super Bowl MVP, Nick Foles, the first Super Bowl victory in the Eagles’ colorful history.

This year the Super Bowl had a special Ursinus connection. Shammah Bermudez, Director of Disability Services at Ursinus College, worked at the much-anticipated event as a Mobility Assistant. The Super Bowl was held on Sunday, Feb. 4 at the U.S. Bank Stadium in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and ended with the Philadelphia Eagles defeating the New England Patriots 41-33.

After Eagles’ quarterback Carson Wentz tore his ACL, many fans and critics doubted the possibility of the team going further and advancing to the Super Bowl, especially with Foles, the previous backup quarterback, taking over for Wentz. After winning a whopping 13 games, losing only three, and gaining the NFC Conference title, the Eagles were carried to the Super Bowl and became the official “underdogs” and champions of the NFL.

Bermudez commended the Eagles, but when it came down to which side to cheer for, Bermudez admitted to sticking with his home team, the New York Giants, even though they were not in the Super Bowl.

“Truth be told, as a native New Yorker, I am a Giants fan. So I couldn’t root for either team. However, the Eagles’ season has been a great story this year and they have played incredibly, despite the odds,” said Bermudez.

Bermudez was able to enjoy the action in Minneapolis because of some close connections. Bermudez explained, “The opportunity came through a colleague of mine who holds a similar role as I do at a college in Minneapolis. They were looking for a team of people who had experience working with individuals with disabilities and addressing issues of accessibility. After submitting information about my professional experience and going through a series of FBI and Homeland Security background checks, I was chosen.”

An opportunity like this does not occur often, and Bermudez was lucky enough to participate. Thankfully, he is a fan of football.

Bermudez said, “I was very excited! It’s a great opportunity personally and professionally. I am a big football fan, both at the college and professional level.”

“I was very excited! It’s a great opportunity personally and professionally.”

— Shammah Bermudez
Director of Disability Services

He added that the chance to work there “will also allow [him] to expand [his] professional experience into a new area of working with individuals with disabilities.”

Bermudez went into greater detail regarding his job and position at the game. He said, “The official title of the position will be ‘Mobility Assistant,’ and I will be working with individuals attending the game who have various types of disabilities to ensure that they have equal access to the game and are able to enjoy it without any barriers. I will also help to address any accessibility issues for attendees that may arise during the game.”

Bermudez job at the Super Bowl is an extension of his duties here at Ursinus where he has worked diligently to help and accommodate all members of the community since the start of his job here a little over two years ago. He said, “I have a couple of roles here at Ursinus. My primary role is the Director of Disability Services, which is part of the Ursinus Institute for Student Success. I am also a part of the Crisis Response Team and on-call director for Student Affairs.”

He continued, “As part of my role as Director of Disability Services, I collaborate with different departments and offices across the college to ensure equity and inclusion for students with disabilities and raise awareness.”

Prior to Ursinus, Bermudez was the Coordinator for Disability Services at Delaware County Community College for seven years, and previously, he worked for 10 years in a rehabilitation center for post-acute brain injury. Long before he saw Ursinus in his future, Bermudez was assisting individuals and providing comfort to them. Dilly dilly, Shammah! To contact Bermudez, you can email him at sbermudez@ursinus.edu or visit his office in Room 033B in Myrin Library.
Suler out for season with knee injury

Gabriela Howell
gahowell@ursinus.edu

Sophomore women’s basketball forward Toni Suler recently suffered from a season-ending knee injury in Ursinus’ game versus Dickinson on Jan. 11. The Lady Bears will definitely miss her during the remainder of their season.

As a freshman last season, Suler started in all 27 games as forward, averaging 5.2 points, 7.0 rebounds, and 3.8 blocks per game. She also led the Centennial Conference (CC) and ranked 9th in Division III in blocks per game. Not only that, Suler set a new single-season school record with 95 rejections and posted the first triple-double in school history with 13 points, 14 rebounds, and a CC-record 11 blocks in the Bears’ game at Swarthmore on Feb. 7, 2017.

Suler played a very important role on the court. During the women’s basketball team’s game against Dickinson on Jan. 11, Suler’s knee gave out and popped while she was playing defense. Suler’s prognosis is a torn ACL, MCL, and possibly a partially torn meniscus.

An injury like this can definitely take a toll on an athlete mentally. Suler admits she is no exception, “Being injured [prevents me from] playing next to my teammates, but I still am able to motivate them, even if it is from the sidelines. Mentally, this injury is really tough. It’s not something that gets better overnight.”

Luckily, Suler has a coaching staff and teammates that have been extremely supportive. Said Suler, “My coaches and teammates [have helped me through every step of the process. [They] help me [maintain] a positive outlook on the whole situation.”

Suler will not be back on the court this season, as a torn ACL/MCL typically requires surgery and rehabilitation. Suler underwent her surgery on Feb. 2 and will be beginning rehab and physical therapy later this month.

The Bears have certainly noticed Suler’s absence. Against CC opponents she still leads the team in shooting percentage (50 percent) and blocks (4.0 per game) and her 8.1 rebounds and 9.0 points per game are second on the team in each category behind her frontcourt partner, Lydia Konstanzer.

With Suler’s absence, the Bears lose one of their biggest interior scoring threats, as well as one of their strongest defenders and rim-protectors. They have turned to a four-guard lineup alongside Konstanzer in Suler’s absence.

The new lineup has helped the Bears tread water. They have gone 3-5 since Suler went down...