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Immigration panel will allow students to express their experience with political issue

UCARE is organizing the panel with immigrant students to share their real life experience with campus next week

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In light of the recent political climate about immigration, Ursinus will have an immigration panel to allow students to discuss the experiences and challenges of being an immigrant. The event will include a panel of students who will discuss real-world implications of the “travel ban” set forth by the Trump administration, along with several other important immigration issues.

The panel will be hosted by the Ursinus Center for Advocacy, Responsibility, and Engagement, or UCARE. According to their Ursinus webpage, “UCARE’s goal is to help Ursinus College students develop as thoughtful and responsible civic leaders, attuned to the context, strengths, and needs of the communities in which they serve.” UCARE provides students the opportunity to lead projects and events on campus, while getting guidance from the center itself.

Katie Turek, the assistant director for UCARE, discussed the importance of holding the panel for the Ursinus community, which includes immigrants and international students.

“Our current political climate and proposed policy changes such as the ‘travel ban’ have a real emotional and practical effect on members of our community and their family members,” she said.

The panel will shed light on possible issues with immigration to the United States from this point forward, and will help students who are not immigrants understand as well.

“I see the immigration panel as a starting point for continuing dialogue and civic action around this issue,” Turek said. “So far, we have seen a lot of interest and excitement around the event, and we are very much looking forward to a rich conversation around the timely topic of immigration.”

This event was organized by Min Son, a UCARE service fellow who has worked diligently on recruiting people to speak on the panel and reaching out to the campus to spread the word. Son believes this panel is very important to the community, not just immigrants.

“Immigrants today have to deal with public stigma, and there are people who might judge immigrants without hearing their full stories,” she said. “That’s why I wanted to have an immigration panel here at Ursinus to give the opportunity for our Ursinus immigrants to share their stories, and to increase respect for our prospective immigrant peers.”

Members of the panel will include students Thanh Phan, Joon Son, and Ace Melendez. There are also members of the faculty that will be speaking at the panel, including Dr. Bladimir Garcia, Dr. Yvon Kennon, and Dr. Ellen Dawley.

The panel will provide students on campus with an in-depth and interesting point of view from immigrants sharing their own personal stories.

See Panel on pg. 2

Ursinus’ campus was covered in snow after a snow storm last week, causing many professors to cancel classes due to inclement weather.
International Perspective: Reflections on adjusting to campus culture in the fall

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After living in America for four weeks, I realized that everything here is really different from what I thought before. There are several people who know that I came to this school because I missed my dream school deadline. Honestly, I didn’t have many expectations before I came to this school. But now I really like Ursinus College and how it makes me feel warm and safe.

In the first few weeks, I joined lots of activities, all of them interesting and meaningful. But there is one activity that makes me more receptive to the American culture. Because my friend is a Christian, she joined the Intervarsity Christian group. She told me it is really interesting and the people there are really nice. Honestly, I really wanted to know more about the American religious culture too, so I joined with her.

In a group activity, we read a passage of the Bible, which was named the “Prodigal Son.” This story talks about a son who gives up evil and returns to good. Before he returns, he hurts his father’s heart, but his father is still willing to accept him and forgive him. After reading it, everyone shared their opinions with each other. They also connected their opinions to their own experience; it’s really different from what I expected. Previously, I had always thought that the only thing the Bible talked about was how to pray to God. Apparently, my view was wrong. Some stories in the Bible are more like fables, which can guide people to do the right things.

A lot of people told me that Ursinus College is a diverse school. I think this is true because in this place I can come into contact with many cultures and religions I never knew before. As an international student, I really want American students to know my country’s culture as well, and this is also a reason why I came here. I hope I can learn about more different cultures in the future, so then I can share these cultures with my Chinese friends.

Luximei Wang is a freshman international student from Beijing, China.

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“I think immigrant stories are fascinating, and they deserve to be shared,” Son said. “They are the ones that came to the U.S. for the ‘American Dream’ and faced harsh realities to achieve that dream.”

The panel will also offer a good platform for immigrant students to share stories to immigrant peers who may be looking for something to relate to and discover new information that may help guide them in the future.

“I think immigrant stories are fascinating, and they deserve to be shared.”
— Min Son
UCARE Service Fellow

The immigration panel will be held in the Bear’s Den on Monday, March 27.

Photo Courtesy of Brian Thomas
Prospective residents of the Writing and Arts House participate in SPIINT Fest by making a mural in Zwingli Hall last week.

Photo Courtesy of Suzanne Angermeier
The snow storm buried statues on campus last week, including this sculpture, “Getting Involved VIII” near Corson Hall.
Tech Support updates outdated login service

Over Spring Break, Okta was implemented as the new authentication service for online tools like webmail and Canvas

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Logging into vital online tools is now a little easier for the Ursinus community.

Over spring break, the campus transitioned to Okta, an authentication service meant to streamline web-usage across the board for Ursinus students and faculty. Essentially, it helps you avoid having to enter and re-enter your email and password every time you open a new tool.

In its initial stages, it only functions for webmail, Canvas, and Grizzly Gateway, according to a campus-wide email.

Okta replaces the former system, which was crafted by Ursinus staff using a free software from Microsoft, according to Chief Information Officer Gene Spencer. That system had become pretty outdated for students accustomed to more modern approaches.

“The [old approach] did not have the features that people have become used to with modern apps … do-it-yourself password changes, security questions/answers, and verification of good ‘strong’ passwords,” said Spencer in an email. “Okta improves all of these areas and helps provide a modern connection to our digital tools.”

The transition, which occurred while students were away for spring break, went pretty smoothly, according to Spencer. It required students to log into webmail on a computer and go through some steps, such as selecting a security picture and through some steps, such as selecting a security picture and verifying it.

Still, some students felt that the change happened too abruptly, and without ample warning. Junior Brandon Carey said that he would have appreciated more heads up.

“I feel like it was sprung especially because there was no warning — this is the kind of thing you should give a couple weeks’ notice on, just so people know in time,” he said. The initial email was sent one week prior to the transition. “At the end of the day, I know there’s not much the student body or professors can do about these changes, but just springing things on us like this makes it feel like we have less of a say.”

Despite this, Carey finds the new login to be “cleaner” and “more streamlined.”

Spencer also said that there were some other reasons for the change. One was that it allowed the school to engage with incoming students more quickly.

“In the old system, Spencer explained in an interview, incoming students would have to wait for months to get their UC login information. Now, that information can be distributed immediately after the student makes their initial deposit. In the interview, Spencer said that a large number of students coming in next year already have access to their Ursinus email accounts.

“The old approach could not handle that requirement of immediate processing,” said Spencer, in an email.

Another reason for the change, according to Spencer, is that new classes will no longer receive the same laptops upon enrolling. As The Grizzly previously reported, next year’s incoming class will be the first in over a decade to bring their own laptops to school as Ursinus phases out the laptop program.

“Vastly expanding number of devices … is another compelling reason for the change,” said Spencer in an email. “Preparing a better BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) environment was critical for us now that the laptop program is ending.”

The initial email announcing the switch alluded to more services eventually being integrated into the Okta login framework.

According to Spencer, most of the applications used by students, faculty, and staff can be integrated.

“There are many applications that require users to supply a password; all of those can be integrated into Okta,” said Spencer, in an email. “For students, Handshake, the Idea Exchange, and EMS (event scheduling) will be connected. Faculty and staff use a significant number of other applications to run the business of the college and they too can be connected seamlessly.”

Students and faculty who experience issues with Okta or any other technology-related issue should contact Tech Support.

Important Housing Lottery dates and advice from Residence Life

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If you are overwhelmed by information about housing for Fall 2017, here are some important dates and advice from residence life.

March 29 — The SPINT and Special Application lottery will be held at 7 p.m. in Olin Auditorium.

March 31 — The Available Room List will be sent out via email including building, room number, and capacity of rooms available for selection at lottery. Residence Life staff will send updated lists at least one day prior to each lottery process.

April 2 — RA’s will provide a tour of Main Street houses and rooms for the Classes of 2018 & 2019.

April 4 — Class of 2018 lottery will be held in Olin Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. Doors will open at 7 p.m., and you should arrive with your prospective roommates and Ursinus ID by 7:15 p.m.

April 6 — Class of 2019 lottery will be held in Olin Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. Doors will open at 7 p.m. as well, and you should arrive with your prospective roommates and Ursinus ID by 7:15 p.m.

Other Tips from residence life:

• Class year and lottery number determine the order in which you choose rooms during each housing selection process. Class year is determined by the year you entered college, not by course credits. Lottery numbers cannot be traded, sold, exchanged, or given to another student.

• Decide with whom you want to live, and what buildings and rooms are your preferences. Floor plans are available on the website. You must fill a room to take a room, so it’s each student’s responsibility to find a roommate prior to the lottery.

• If you’re looking for a new roommate, email residenlife@ursinus.edu to join the Roommate Match Group on Facebook to communicate with other students seeking roommates. Watch for more information to be sent about attending a Roommate Mixer as well.

• You should attend the housing lottery of your class or your intended roommate’s class if their class year is higher than your own.

• Select a proxy if you cannot attend your lottery. A proxy chooses your room for you, and their choice is final. Your proxy must bring a printed copy of an email from your UC account to theirs, indicating permission to choose the room in your absence. Professional staff can also proxy for you.

See more information about Fall 2017 housing in the document sent via email by residence life.

Richter North and New Hall are residence halls available for upperclassmen for Fall 2017.
From taxes to spaghetti, Nerd Camp helps students navigate the real world

According to oxforddictionaries.com, “adulting” made the shortlist for Oxford Dictionaries Word of the Year in 2016. The website, which catalogues the evolving nature of language and its practical use, defines the word as “the practice of behaving in a way characteristic of a responsible adult, especially the accomplishment of mundane but necessary tasks.” However, many students use it as a way to describe the unique feeling of having to take on adult tasks while still feeling unsure of how to navigate the adult world. Ursinus theater professor Dr. Meghan Brodie hopes to alleviate this anxiety through her Nerd Camp sessions.

The sessions, which have been taking place on Fridays at 2 p.m. throughout the semester, are meant to help students with professional development and prepare them for life after college. Brodie described them as “a series of what I affectionately call ‘adulting’ sessions.”

In each Nerd Camp session, she teaches students a variety of practical skills – some theater-based, some not – that the college curriculum doesn’t necessarily include, such as how to build a resume, write a cover letter, apply for a credit card, complete tax forms, prepare for an audition, or even boil pasta.

Brodie started Nerd Camp as a no-shame way for students to come together informally and learn skills that they may not have been taught.

“I don’t want anyone to be embarrassed to have to say, ‘No I don’t have a checkbook, or know how to balance a checkbook,’” she said. “It’s a totally safe space for students to admit that they don’t know how to boil water to make spaghetti.”

Some of Brodie’s inspiration for the sessions came from her own life.

“I remember when I was applying to graduate school it was a daunting task and it’s scary, but I had advisors that helped me through it,” Brodie said. “I had a lot of folks who helped me when I was both an undergrad at Ursinus and a graduate at Cornell,” she said. Brodie graduated from Ursinus in 2000 as the college’s first theater major.

Junior David Walters has attended several of Dr. Brodie’s Nerd Camp sessions this semester.

“Initially, I went because I had to for Theater 100, but then I just kept going because they were really fun and informative,” he said. Walters has picked up several new skills from the sessions.

“I kind of learned how to do taxes. I learned more specific rules for auditions, like how you should dress, how you should act, what you should say. I learned about a few theater graduate schools.”

The sessions are held each Friday throughout the semester on a rotating basis. In the past Brodie has held a resume building session, an audition workshop, a lesson about academic and theater etiquette and many other topics. Although Brodie is a theater professor, each of the sessions—even the theater-themed ones—are designed to be accessible to all students.

“Even though we talk about how ‘My parents want to know what I’m going to do with a theater degree,’ we also talk about how much your major matters versus your degree, what a liberal arts degree means in the current marketplace, and how to market yourself and your skills regardless of your major to expand the opportunities for jobs,” she said.

Brodie is also open to student ideas for future sessions.

“I’m on it. I will make a hand out,” she said. “I will research it. I will put it together.”

Brodie’s favorite session is titled “Post College Life Hacks.”

“I never know what students are going to ask, so it’s exciting and it’s not even as academically-oriented, which is fun,” she said.

Walters agreed that the “Post College Life Hacks” session was valuable.

“You should absolutely attend that session. It was really helpful and eye-opening for me when I went,” he said. “You shouldn’t be afraid to go because everyone there is just as lost as you are.”

He remembered having a positive time with the other students at the event as well.

“I remember having a good laugh over how much everybody didn’t know about life after college, especially taxes,” he said.

The talks are a casual and informal.

Walters said, “You can ask whatever questions you want and you’ll learn a lot, but it’s not very high stakes.”

Post College Life Hacks, the final Nerd Camp Session for this semester, will be held on Friday, March 31 at 2 p.m. in Kaleidoscope 215. Dr. Brodie encourages all students to attend and to watch out for future Nerd Camp sessions. She also wants everyone to know that there is candy available at every Nerd Camp session.
First-person perspective: student reflects on class trip to Chicago

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Students from Rev. Charles Rice’s African American Religious Experience class spent their spring break in Chicago, exploring the role of churches as social, cultural and political institutions in the city’s African American community. Between 1910 and 1970, around six million African Americans migrated from the south to cities like Chicago, and the students sought to experience firsthand how this Great Migration continues to affect the community today. Over six days, the students visited churches, community organizations and landmarks, and even made time for some deep dish pizza. Jada Grice ‘19 shares her reflection on the trip.

The trip to Chicago started off with my first time ever on an airplane. I was so excited to get to Chicago that I didn’t anticipate the anxiety about the flight. As soon as we started to lift-off I had to grab the hand of a classmate in order to endure the turbulence. The five students who boarded the plane, Professor Rice (Rev), and Dean Williams (Terrence) rented vans and met up with Ursinus alumna Chanelle Houston. Then, we were off to the suburbs of Elmhurst to the Springhill Suites. When we finally got to the hotel we were met by another student who had taken a separate plane. After a couple of hours the rest of the students from our class arrived and we were able to rest up before a deep dish pizza dinner and itinerary check. Afterwards we rested and then boarded the hotel shuttle to downtown Elmhurst where we discovered a small treasure, an ice cream shop named Kilwin’s. We sampled and scooped various flavors from Praline Butter Pecan to Banana Pie. This is the first time the group was out together and we cemented a familial bond that first night.

“We learned through that sermon that there is no greater principle than love and that there is no greater action than love.” — Jada Grice
Ursinus sophomore

The next morning we were up early, and after having a hearty hotel breakfast we ventured to the Lawndale community in order to attend a worship service at the Lawndale Christian Community Church. We were greeted by a warm and loving church and were able to hear the words of the church’s senior pastor, Rev. Dr. Wayne Gordon. Wayne Gordon is a white man who moved to the Lawndale community in order to live among his parishioners.

Lawndale is one of the poorest and most violence-stricken neighborhoods in Chicago, but the Pastor made the move because he felt the calling towards the marginalized black community. Lawndale Christian Community Church has health centers equipped with a healthy café, exercise rooms, and doctor offices for the community of Lawndale. We were able to help the church celebrate their 40th anniversary and heard Gordon, or “Coach,” as everyone refers to him, speak on love; the love of the community and for others. There is a Bible verse, 1 Corinthians 13:13 which says, “And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.” We learned through that sermon that there is no greater principle than love and that there is no greater action than love.

We scooped up some anniversary cake and made our way expeditiously to Trinity United Church of Christ in the Washington Heights section of Chicago’s south side where Pastor Otis Moss presides. There was a choir which contained hundreds of people and Pastor Moss spoke on self-love. Trinity United Church of Christ was not as involved in their community as the Lawndale Church – they seemed to focus more internally.

Later in the week we got the opportunity to meet and talk with Pastor Wayne Gordon. I told him that I was reading his book “Real Hope in Chicago” highlighting the community members he has mentored and helped. When he asked me to read the title of the first chapter which was “Jojo: Release the Oppressed” and proceeded to tell me Jojo was actually Pastor Joe from the church, I squealed. It was like meeting your favorite character from a book, Coach signed the book for me.

We toured museums such as the History Museum of Chicago and the Dusable Museum for African American History, but my favorite part of the trip was one morning when I was typing away at the hotel computers in the lower lobby and a hotel resident approached my friend and me. He was an African American male from the community named Ali. He talked with us about his entire life and Chicago. I could tell Ali had been holding onto his story for quite some time and needed someone to talk with, so we let him talk about everything he needed to. This encounter was especially important because we had yet to talk to community members outside of the churches. His raw perspective from having been a shooter, drug dealer, and stealer was intriguing and mind opening. This helped show me that one has to be in close proximity with the marginalized and impoverished if they are going to begin to work against their oppression.

It was an amazing six-day educational seminar with my classmates. We laughed, screamed, meditated, ran, functioned, took photographs of everything – sometimes without a care and at other times with the spirit of Him and social justice. I would not have wanted to spend my spring break with another group of people. This past week I learned what Maya Angelou meant when she said life loves the liver of it. We lived up every inch of Heaven and Earth that week!
Does U.S. happiness affect UC happiness?

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Not only was March 20 the first day of spring, but it also marked the International Day of Happiness, which is celebrated by the United Nations (U.N.). As a way to commemorate this day, the U.N. also revealed the results of their recently instituted World Happiness Report which, as the report’s website states, “is a landmark survey of the state of global happiness.”

While happiness can be measured and understood in a number of ways, it is interesting to see how the report ranks each country and encourages nations to be pit against each other instead of working together to create a happier world. To me, this seems to counteract the structure of the U.N. which brings countries together to address issues of humanity.

According to the 2017 World Happiness Report, the categories which impact a country’s rating are: the gross domestic product (GDP) per capita, social support, healthy life expectancy, freedom to make life choices, generosity, perceptions of corruption, and dys- topia.

Based on this criteria, CNN reported that Norway, a country that was previously fourth in the report, is now ranked the happiest country in the world. This upsets the streak that was previously held by Denmark, which is now ranked second.

And the Guardian, which has similar coverage to CNN, reported that the United States has dropped in the rankings again moving from 13th to 14th continuing its recent pattern of decline.

Perhaps what is even more fascinating in the conversation of happiness are the responses from U.S. journalists and citizens who complain or explain why people in the U.S. are still unhappy according to the World Happiness Report’s standards. While this is a blow to the ideology of America being the best country in the world or our ongoing quest to be the best, for some this is not a surprise but a reflection of what we need to change.

In an article for the New York Times, Niraj Chodoshkhi quotes Dr. Jeffery Sachs, one of the editors of the report, and an economist at Columbia University, who offered an analysis of the U.S.’s declining ranking. According to Chodoshkhi’s article, Sachs states that economic growth is the not the problem, but rather it is current crisis of our social infrastructure and programs.

The timing of this report and analysis of the U.S. arrives at a very crucial time in our country. Right now, our government officials are preparing to vote on the future of foundational structures within our society, such as the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of Education. Their votes could also implement budget cuts which could decrease funding to programs such as the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Not only can I see the potential for unhappiness across the country, but I can especially foresee unhappiness at an institution like Ursinus. Ursinus is a college where students can pursue a variety of majors, and as stated on its website, offers both Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees. A future lack of governmental investment can be cause for concern for students, staff, and faculty.

The crisis of social infrastructure that is causing Americans to be unhappy can also be seen through the localized activity (or inactivity) here at school. As the years have progressed it seems that involvement at the social level is dwindling, especially for clubs and organizations that seek to bring our engagement as students back up to levels where we can be happy as a whole community again.

If we are unhappy with our unhappiness, it seems that we need to fight against our desire to give up. And while we may not be standing in Congress we can start by restoring the culture of happiness right here at Ursinus. While this might sound like an overly optimistic position, happiness ties back to how we cope with sadness and what concrete steps we take to move on.

If Sachs is right about our country’s need to invest in social programs and stability then this is certainly not the time to lose faith in our clubs, organizations, and community. And unlike the ranking system for the World Happiness Report, we need to work together rather than against each other until we get back on track.

Trappe Beer and Soda or Austin’s Beverages?

A student weighs the pros and cons of shopping at two local beverage businesses

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This country has produced some hardcore rivalries, but none compare to a more unknown rivalry in the small towns of Trappe and Collegville. The competition for business is fueled by students of age choosing between two stores, Trappe Beer and Soda and Austin’s Beverages. For years, the students of Ursinus College have had their pick at which store to go to almost all of them having their own personal reasons as to why they go to a certain one over the other.

When asked which store he preferred, junior Travis Kozak said, “I go to Austin’s because the Natty Light is cheaper, there’s a bigger selection, and they just have nicer people.”

Another junior, Pierce Greenleaf, weighed in as well stating, “It’s kind of a toss-up, deciding which way you want to drive basically … I have to say Trappe Beer and Soda is a nice place to go.”

While these comments are helpful, more factors need to go into the decision than one store just having “nice people.” We need to look at the pros and cons of going to each store which should include distance, prices, and customer service.

**PROS FOR TRAPPE BEER AND SODA:**

If you leave Ursinus and take a right on Main St., Trappe Beer and Soda is only 1.3 miles away, which is perfect if you’re in a huge time crunch and need to find cheap beer on a budget.

Speaking of prices, they can be hard to beat on any given week. Just two weeks ago, Trappe Beer and Soda was selling a case of Pabst Blue Ribbon (PBR) for only $10. I’m not a genius, but I am a stingy college student and I can say for a fact that 30 beers for $10 is a no-brainer. I don’t even care if you don’t like PBR. Even if I hated it, consider me a buyer.

As a buyer, I value customer service when I am shopping for beer. And since I’ve started shopping at Trappe Beer and Soda, I’ve personally had a great relationship with the guy hooks me up with free products all the time, ranging anywhere from different beer samples, to Jon Gruden cut-outs. Yes, you read that correctly; he gave me a life-sized cutout of Jon Gruden holding a Corona. That type of relationship is what keeps customers coming back for more. He also gave me a Frank’s Hot Sauce beer from his personal collection. If that’s not friendship, I’m not sure what is. Making customers feel special is a huge key to running a successful business.

While we are talking about perks and convenience, I must also mention their hours and days of operation. According to their website, Trappe Beer and Soda is open all year round, even on holidays, which can be helpful if you are on your way to visit friends and family. However, we must talk about the cons as well.

**CONS:**

If you’ve ever been there during rush hour, you know what I’m about to say. Making that left turn out of the parking lot is nearly impossible. You can’t really fault the store for that as much as you can fault other drivers who are also in a rush. However, it does keep customers from travelling to the store, so we must take it into account.

Another issue I have is the steep price of Mexican beer. Paci- fico and Tecate are great beers but I can’t really condone spending over $30 for a 24 pack of Paci- fico. Other than those two factors, I don’t have anything negative to say about Trappe Beer and Soda.

**PROS FOR AUSTIN’S BEVERAGES:**

If you take a left out of Ursinus on Main Street, Austin’s is also 1.3 miles away, which is also conducive if you’re in a time crunch.

Like Trappe Beer and Soda, Austin’s is open seven days a week, however, their website does not specify their holiday policy. Their website does state that “Austin’s Beverages has been a family-owned business for over 60 years.” So if you are looking for a store that is preserving a family’s legacy in the Collegville area, then Austin’s Beverages may be for you.

In addition to having friendly staff, Austin’s provides a great experience for customers in a different way than Trappe Beer and Soda. They raffle off desired items to their customers, who can enter to win when they visit the store. Every time I walk in there, it seems like they are giving away a TV or some other big ticket item.

The thrill of throwing my name and number in the box to win a TV is second to none and can make a customer feel like he’s number one. Other than that, I don’t believe the cost of cases compared to Trappe Beer and Soda makes that much of a difference when choosing between the two stores.

**CONS:**

In my visits to Austin’s Beverages, I have found it hard to find the deals that I can find at Trappe Beer and Soda. I acknowledge that I’m not a regular of their establishment, so that may be why I had trouble with their deals.

And once again, the placement of the store isn’t exactly favorable if you’re caught in traffic, because trying to make that right turn out of the parking lot at rush hour is just as much of a pain as making the left out of Trappe Beer and Soda.

**THE VERDICT:**

After weighing out the pros and cons of each, I’m a ride-or-die Trappe Beer and Soda guy. For me, having an “in” makes everything better in the world of Trappe Beer and Soda. As with any rivalry, it comes down to what each customer is looking for from their local beer store. Both businesses are from our community and deserve our loyalty as customers.

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Math and computer science department chair Dr. Nick Scoville. Scoville was an amateur wrestler, wrestling in the “bush league” before he became a professor.

From amateur wrestler to college professor: Nick Scoville does it all

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“I don’t need to know how to read because I’m going to be a wrestler,” Professor Nick Scoville told his father when he was in first grade. His father replied that he might have to learn in order to read his contract.

Scoville’s brother was the smart one. He scored a five out of five on his A.P. math exam and was told by his professor that he had the best mind for physics he had ever seen. Armed with his academic aptitude, Scoville’s younger brother was destined to follow in the footsteps of their father and become a lawyer. In fact, had his brother pursued it further, he would have become a third-generation attorney.

“My father] was a lawyer, too,” Scoville explained. “His father came from nothing. An Italian immigrant, orphaned, raised by his older sisters, [who] made his way through college and through law school . . . It [came] down to me [to become a lawyer], and I was very disappointing.”

In Scoville’s own words, he “was not an academic by any stretch of the imagination.” He admits to earning mostly Ds and C minuses all throughout grade school and high school in math. Still, he said that he wouldn’t diagnosis himself as having struggled in school. “To struggle would imply that I tried to do something,” he said.

This also did not deter him from pursuing an advanced degree. He earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Western Michigan University, then furthered his education by receiving a second master’s and ultimately his Ph.D. from Dartmouth College.

Scoville knew he was an entertainer, but he struggled in high school to be the class clown he wanted to be. He wasn’t worried, though. Unlike most who shared his childhood aspiration, he was able to realize his dream of becoming a wrestler. When he was 17, he started training at a wrestling school very close to where he lived. He learned how to wrestle, how to develop a character, and how to play to a crowd.

He then moved to competing in “bush league,” or minor league, places around Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Illinois and Wisconsin. The events were mostly held in bingo halls and high school gyms.

“They draw twelve people and they pay you in hotdogs because they don’t have enough money,” he said.

Scoville went by several names. At the very start of his wrestling career he was known as the Blitzkrieg Kid. Scoville admitted that was quite young looking and quite skinny at the beginning of his career, so his idea for a character was one who was over-the-top in order to compensate for his stature.

Another title was The Evil Doctor Numbers, which he adopted while he was enrolled in graduate school. His character wore tights with pi on the back and spouted taunts that would have made Pythagoras proud.

One example? “I am going to divide you by zero.”

Being an amateur wrestler does not offer the most fruitful employment in the world, so after earning his Ph.D. Scoville transitioned from wrestling star to professor. A classroom and a wrestling ring are both squares, and both places Scoville felt right at home.

When asked if being a professor and wrestler have anything in common, he made the connection.

“My persona in front of the classroom,” he said, “Being a wrestler you learn how to read a crowd, how to sell to a crowd, how to change things when you know they are not responding the way you want them to.”

Scoville said that teaching still feels like a performance. He doesn’t use trash talk and he doesn’t have to wear spandex anymore. However, he still likes to dress up in three-piece suits. He believes that being a professor is exactly what you would think it would be like. He enjoys working with students one-on-one, especially when he can watch them experience a break-through moment.

When describing his acquired affinity for math, Scoville supposed that, it mostly came from hard work.

“Math is something that I just really love, have worked at, and became very familiar with.”

—Nick Scoville

UC math and CS department chair

“I don’t have that much raw talent for math,” he said. “It is something that I just really love, have worked at, and became very familiar with. So I maybe have a little ability, but mostly I think it comes from just the beauty I see in it and the desire to learn more and share it with students.”

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Scores as of Monday, March 20, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>M. Lax (5-1)</th>
<th>W. Lax (3-3)</th>
<th>M. &amp; W. Track (0-0)</th>
<th>Baseball (8-2)</th>
<th>Softball (4-8)</th>
<th>M. &amp; W. Tennis (5-1)</th>
<th>Gymnastics (1-4)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 12;</td>
<td>March 9;</td>
<td>March 10;</td>
<td>March 12;</td>
<td>March 18;</td>
<td>March 19;</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ursinus 15 -</td>
<td>Ursinus 13 -</td>
<td>Ursinus 6 -</td>
<td>Lynchburg 11 -</td>
<td>Men</td>
<td>Ursinus vs. NY</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabethtown 10</td>
<td>Emerson 9</td>
<td>Muskingum 3</td>
<td>Ursinus 1</td>
<td>York 2</td>
<td>Ursinus vs. NY</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>March 18;</td>
<td>March 18;</td>
<td>March 10;</td>
<td>March 12;</td>
<td>March 18;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabrini 14 -</td>
<td>Babson 9 -</td>
<td>Ursinus 8 -</td>
<td>Lynchburg 6 -</td>
<td>Women</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ursinus 9</td>
<td>Ursinus 6</td>
<td>Muskingum 0</td>
<td>Ursinus 2</td>
<td>Ursinus 8 -</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>York 1</td>
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Follow us on Twitter! @ursinusgrizzly
Fun in the sun: Five Ursinus teams traveled cross country to compete during spring break

Andrew Simoncini
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While the students of Ursinus spent their spring break tanning, vacationing, or catching up on some extra sleep, the spring athletes of Ursinus took their talents all over the country to compete and work on their craft. Nearly all of the teams found great success wherever they traveled to, being very competitive in all of their games or matches.

The baseball team had a rather impressive outing in Florida, and if it’s a sign of anything to come, the Bears could be in for a solid season. In 10 games, the Bears went 8-2, including a 9-8 win against SUNY Poly in which the Bears scored all nine runs in the final inning of the game. Down 6-0 in the top of the seventh inning (teams only played seven-inning games), the Bears had scored three runs and were also down to their final out, but Greg Petorak stepped up to the plate with the bases loaded and sent a moon shot grand slam over the fence to capture the first lead of the game for the Bears. Alex Campbell also added a two-run homer later in the inning for good measure. Out of all the great performances, Carter Usowski had arguably the most impressive one, which gave him Ursinus male athlete of the week honors. The sophomore middle infielder is batting an unprecedented .516, driving in eight runs and scoring another six.

The softball team took a trip to Myrtle Beach, S.C. to showcase their talent, where they picked up three wins in eight games. They opened strong with a 2-0 start, defeating Medaille College and Eureka College before dropping four straight to Eastern Mennonite University, Wesley College, Randolph College, and University of Mary Washington. They proceeded to beat Penn College, and ended the trip on a loss to Wilkes University. The team had impressive individual performances from Sammi Donato and Renee LeClerc. Donato is batting .395 with a homerun and nine RBI, while LeClerc is batting an astounding .421 with four RBI.

The women’s lacrosse team trekked across the country to Colorado Springs, Colo. to play two games. In the first game, the Bears took on Colorado College and fought hard in a close loss that ended at 14-11. It was a game of runs that saw the Bears jump out to an early lead, then go down three in the first half before coming back and tying it up before halftime at six in a piece. Colorado College was able to outscore Ursinus by three in the second half, in a game that looked like it was being played in the arctic layer. Emily DiGiorgio put up a hat trick in the first game; Amy Kohout scored four goals; Franny Liberatoscioli had two goals; and Abby Goldstein and Bridget Sherry added one each. The second game was much more successful, as the team defeated Emerson 13-9. In that game, DiGiorgio was cash from the field, putting up another hat trick, while Goldstein, Sherry, Kohout, and Liberatoscioli all added two goals each; Lindsey Grabell and Haley O’Malley each had one goal as well. Aside from playing lacrosse, the girls explored the Garden of the Gods and visited the Olympic training center. According to DiGiorgio the team really meshed during the trip.

“I think in Colorado something clicked mentally in us all and we worked really well as a team together. We made better connections on the field, and the flow of our game was better also,” she said. “I want to continue that by taking it a step further, executing and finishing. Less turn overs, better communication on the field, working hard for each other on the transitions.”

DiGiorgio also notes the trip out west really prepared them to play conference foes in the coming weeks.

The men’s and women’s tennis teams went down to Florida to take part in matches in Kissimmee and Orlando. The men finished the week 4-1 overall, defeating Piedmont College and Oglethorpe University 6-3 each. In the third match, they dominated King’s College 9-0 before losing a close one to Clark 5-4. They ended the week on a high note by defeating Monmouth (Illinois) 7-2. Impressive performances for the men include Henry Burke and Paul Vecchio, who each won multiple matches in singles play. The women also went 4-1, and won their four in an even more dominating performance than the men. They beat Piedmont 9-0 before losing their lone match of the week to Oglethorpe 5-4. They finished strong by beating Alvernia University 7-2, King’s 9-0, and St. Vincent 8-1. Notable performances for the women include Caitlyn Sorelle, who also won Ursinus College female athlete of the week. Sorelle won each of her singles matches, dominating all of her opponents in straight sets: five matches, 10 sets, all victories. Another solid performance came from Aileen Brevard, who went a perfect 6-0 between singles matches and doubles matches.

As we reach the middle of March, spring sports are in full swing and all of the teams have started their seasons. Strong individual and team performances on the spring trips hope to make a meaningful impact for each of the teams as they begin their journey into conference play.

Upcoming Games

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>Sat. Cont.</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Sun. Cont.</th>
<th>Monday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Softball vs. Moravian @ Maplezone Sports Institute 3 &amp; 5 p.m.</td>
<td>M. &amp; W. Track and Field vs. Ursinus College Invitational</td>
<td>M. Lax @ Gettysburg 1 p.m.</td>
<td>W. Golf vs. Battle at the Bay 9 a.m.</td>
<td>M. &amp; W. Tennis vs. Moravian 12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>W. Golf vs. Battle at the Bay 9 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baseball @ TCNJ 3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Baseball vs. SUNY- Canton 12:30 &amp; 3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>M. &amp; W. Tennis @ Franklin and Marshall 1 p.m.</td>
<td>Baseball vs. SUNY- Canton 12 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>W. Lax @ Gettysburg 3 p.m.</td>
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