10-25-2012

The Grizzly, October 25, 2012

Jessica Orbon
Sara Sherr
Rayleen Rivera-Harbach
Austin Fox
Chris Rountree

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
Jessica Orbon, Sara Sherr, Rayleen Rivera-Harbach, Austin Fox, Chris Rountree, Amanda Frekot, Rachel Brown, Keith Miles, Samantha Salomon, Marcus Foster, John Parry, Larissa Coyne, Michael Klazas, and Michael D'Amico
Sophomores Isabella Esser Munera and Jamie Faselt package leftovers for Wismer on Wheels, a campus community service initiative that serves food-insecure families and individuals.

Austin Fox
aufox@ursinus.edu

Ursinus College Community Week, which began Saturday, Oct. 20, will include numerous activities to get students and faculty involved on campus and in neighboring communities.

Community Week is directed by Ursinus Center for Advocacy, Responsibility and Engagement (UCARE), but a few other Ursinus organizations are aiding in the service initiatives. Hobson Hall, the community service special interest house, along with Greek organizations and Ursinus sports clubs have partnered with UCARE for this year’s Community Week.

Elizabeth Cannon, co-founder and assistant director of UCARE, has been an integral part of Community Week since its beginning.

“Our purpose for starting it was to have this one week where we have a bunch of different service opportunities to engage the entire campus,” Cannon said. “It’s a chance for some groups outside of the normal volunteers to get involved in service.”

The week’s events started in collaboration with the non-profit Urban Tree Connection, in an effort that assisted urban communities in revitalizing their neighborhoods, and continued with a visit to Longview Center for Agriculture to assist the field crew in the harvest and to help out in the orchard. Visits to Longview Center for Agriculture will continue on Friday from 9 a.m. - noon and 2-3:30 p.m.

Events continued on Sunday, with a Main Street clean up that included members of Phi Kappa Sigma fraternity and Tri Sigma sorority. On Monday, volunteers from the Ursinus community helped tutor children at ACLAMO Family Center, a community service organization that provides services for low-income families in Norristown. The ACLAMO initiative continues through Friday, with daily visits from 3:30-7 p.m.

Although Cannon is excited for the entire week, she said the Columbia Cottage project will be especially great for the community because it offers a different way to get involved and is in walking distance of Ursinus’ campus.

Community Week will also include a food drive on Friday from noon to 5 p.m., Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Students interested in donating canned goods are encouraged to stop by Wismer Dining Hall at any of the aforementioned times.

This week, volunteers also visited Columbia Cottage, a senior living community in Collegeville, to play bingo, carve pumpkins and assemble trick-or-treat bags with the residents. Visits to Columbia Cottage will continue on Thursday and Friday from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Although Cannon is excited for the entire week, she said the Columbia Cottage project will be especially great for the community because it offers a different way to get involved and is in walking distance of Ursinus’ campus.

Community Week will also include a food drive on Friday from noon to 5 p.m., Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Students interested in donating canned goods are encouraged to stop by Wismer Dining Hall at any of the aforementioned times.

Community Week will conclude on Sunday at 5 p.m. with a celebration intended to recognize those involved.

Cannon said one of the best aspects of Community Week is the "UCARE" continued on pg. 3.
Report on grads’ successes

Chris Rountree
chrountree@ursinus.edu

The market may be tough for recent graduates, but Ursinus students are successfully entering the real world, according to the college’s 2011 outcome report.

With events like Ursinus College’s Annual Job, Internship and Networking Fair, hosted by Career Services, students have many opportunities to show employers their resumes and skill sets.

Last year, 463 students attended the Ursinus College Annual Job, Internship and Networking Fair, and 39.6 percent of them were seniors," said Sharon Hansen Powers, the associate director for employer relations.

According to the outcome report, 331 of 381 students responded to the graduate self-report survey. Last year, 61 percent of the graduating class was employed after graduation. Out of the 61 percent of employed graduates, 44 percent work at full-time jobs, 15.1 percent are part-time workers and 2.1 percent of the graduates are full-time workers who also attend graduate school. This information was obtained for 87 percent of the class. Only 1.8 percent of graduates were unemployed.

Current seniors may be interested in knowing how much money Ursinus graduates are earning. In the 2011 outcome report, 32.7 percent of graduates were making between 30,000 and 40,000 dollars. Ten percent of these graduates made over 50,000 dollars in their first year of working.

Graduate schools are another option for graduating students. In 2011, 28.7 percent of graduates went on to attend graduate school. Out of these students, 47.1 percent attended graduate programs in Pennsylvania. The next highest attendance is New Jersey at 10.8 percent, with New York and Virginia following at 7.8 percent.

Joe Henry, a 2012 graduate and business and economic major, found a job right after college. His story illustrates how life after graduation can be full of twists of turns.

“I first entered the casino industry, in which I had a lot of success very early. I made a ton of money, but I was also beat up pretty quickly with extremely long hours and constantly on call. Although it was a great experience, I ended up leaving the industry for many different reasons," Henry said. “Now, I currently work as an account manager for the world’s largest privately-owned fleet leasing and management company.”

Mike D’Amico, a senior business and economics major, plans to attend the career fair in hopes of entering the job market when he graduates.

“I’d like a job basically anywhere I can get, but I’d like one doing something in the front offices of a major sports organization,” D’Amico said. “I have an opportunity to work for a life insurance company in West Chester but we will see where everything goes after graduation.”

Senior business and economics major Tony Rosa believes getting a job after graduation is important.

“It’s really important getting a job to have a great start in my career,” Rosa said. “Working in the staffing industry, I saw that a year or two out of your industry causes you to be undesirable to employers. I am applying to jobs for the financial analyst position.”

Over the past five years, the number of graduate students getting jobs has remained well over 60 percent and the percentage of students unemployed is under 2.5 percent. According to this data trend, it can be safely predicted that more than half of the class of 2013 will end up employed right after graduation.

“Homecoming” continued from pg. 1

ing everyone safe.”

The festivities for Homecoming start Friday night.

Due to a great response at President Bobby Feng’s Inaugural Ball last year, this Friday, Oct. 26 at 8 p.m., Ursinus will be holding the Grizzly Gala, a semiformal held in the Floy Lewis Bakes Center for alumni, students and faculty. The Grizzly Gala will feature the Slippery Band along with signature “beartinis” and “claw-mopolitans.” For students over 21, three cocktails are included in their registration fee of $5.

“It is really important to have events like this to bring the Ursinus community together, so we all can connect. Not to mention, I cannot wait to get dressed up, have some great cocktails and see friends I haven’t seen for a while,” alumni Elizabeth Burns said. “It should be a great night.”

One of the most anticipated events of Homecoming is the Bears’ Brews and Bites, sponsored by the Bruins Club. Alumni, students and faculty are welcomed to reunite with friends while enjoying beer and snacks. Organizations such as Alpha Phi Epsilon, Beta Sigma Lambda, Pi Omega Delta, Omega Chi, Upilon Phi Delta, basketball, track and field, choir and ministry, Sankofa Umoja Nia (SUN) and the LGBTQ+ Connection will all have their own areas under several designated tents. This tailgate event will be held in the Kaledi scope plaza starting at noon on Saturday.

Taylor said that it is at events like Bears’ Brews and Bites “when people start drinking early” and the situation “can get out of hand.”

Backup is called in from the outside community in order to keep students and guests safe on Homecoming weekend.

“We will bring some outside reinforcement just to help with crowd control because there is going to be so many people. The police and some outside security will be here. Whenever you have crowds that big, there is always going to be a built-in potential for accidents and danger. We really just want to make sure we have a presence. We hope it is just a great day of fun, but we want to be there as a resource,” Taylor said.

Saturday evening, the Young Alumni Council has sponsored a Bears’ Trap afterparty at Trappe Tavern at 5 p.m. All are welcome to celebrate the big game along with some unique UC cocktails and complimentary appetizers.

Taylor and the Campus Safety office hope students and alumni remember to stay safe while enjoying the Homecoming celebrations.

Want to be published?
Submit your poems, stories, essays, dramatic works, photos and artwork to The Lantern

DEADLINE: Thursday, Nov. 1 at midnight

For submission guidelines go to: Homepage > Gateway > Culture & Community/Student Publications > The Lantern

Cash prizes and awards!

Letters to the Editor (grizzly@ursinus.edu)

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.

Each member of the campus community is permitted one copy of The Grizzly. Additional copies may be purchased for $1.

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

All content Copyright © 2012 The Grizzly.

THE GRIZZLY
THEGRIZZLY | THURSDAY, OCT. 25, 2012

VOLUME 37, ISSUE 7

The Grizzly is a weekly student-run publication that serves the Ursinus community. Views expressed in The Grizzly do not necessarily reflect the views of the staff or college.

Ursinus Grizzly
601 E. Main Street
Collegeville, PA 19426

EDITORIAL STAFF

JESSICA ORBON
Co Editor in Chief
SARA SHERR
Co Editor in Chief
ROSEMARY CLARK
News Editor
SARA HOURWITZ
Co Features Editor
SABRINA McGETTIGAN
Opinion Editor
DAVID MUOIO
Sports Editor
AL WEAVER
Photo Editor
JILLIAN GOLDSTEIN
Staff Photographer
HEIDI JENSEN
Web Editor
JACQUELYN HEIKEL
Copy Editor
CECELIA MARGUEZ
Layout Editor
CHELSEA CALLAHAN
Social Media Editor
SAMANTHA SALOMON
Adviser
DR. KIRSTIE HETTINGA

WWW.URSINUSGRIZZLY.COM
ability to spread awareness about the community service projects around campus.

"Whether it's a sports team or any other organization, this is a chance to do something different with groups that were not usually involved," Cannon said. Students who are interested in volunteering during Ursinus College Community Week or in other community service opportunities are encouraged to visit the UCARE office in Lower Wismer.

Have feedback on this story? Visit The Grizzly on Facebook!

Top stories from around the globe

Amanda Frekot
amfrekot@ursinus.edu

Cuban exit permits end

On Oct. 16, BBC reported that Cuba is ending the requirement of an exit permit in order to leave the country.

Prior to this decision, residents of Cuba had to obtain special permission through paperwork and pay fees costing more than $300 in order to travel abroad. Now Cubans only need a visa and passport to visit another country.

The Cuban government hopes that Cubans will go abroad and gain economic wealth and bring that prosperity back to Cuba upon their return, BBC stated.

Nike drops Lance Armstrong

The contract between Nike and famed cyclist Lance Armstrong has been terminated after doping charges surfaced, BBC reported on Oct. 17.

After a court ruling that revoked the last 15 years of his career, Armstrong evacuated his position as chairman of his organization Livestrong. According to BBC, Armstrong said he resigned "to spare the foundation any negative effects as a result of controversy surrounding my cycling career."

Armstrong will remain on Livestrong's board, but his position will be taken over by Vice Chairman Jeff Garvey.

U.S. Postal Service reaches borrowing limit

The U.S. Postal Service hit the $15 million borrowing limit from the government for the first time in history, according to an Oct. 17 article in the Huffington Post.

The Post reported that the agency will now have to depend on the sale of stamps rather than government funding. Increased use of the internet and email has lost the postal service billions of dollars, as it caused Americans to become less dependent on snail mail.

According to the Post, an important piece of legislation that will help the U.S. Postal Service in its financial struggle has been left untouched because Congress is not in session until after the presidential election.

Planet with four suns discovered

CNN reported that two amateur scientists discovered a planet with four suns and presented their findings on Monday, Oct. 15.

Slightly bigger than Neptune, the planet orbits two suns, a rare occurrence on its own, according to CNN. However, this planet also has two stars in its own orbit, making it the first planetary system with four suns.

"Citizen scientists" Robert Gagliano and Kian Jek confirmed the system's existence by noticing incongruences in observations from NASA's Kepler telescope. Its images were made available online, and this discovery is "the first heavenly body found by the online citizen science project," CNN reported.

Meningitis outbreak

A recent meningitis outbreak that has affected more than 200 people and killed 16 in at least 15 states was traced to a pharmaceutical manufacturer in Massachusetts, BBC reported on Oct. 17.

Almost all of the cases are linked to the manufacturer's steroid injections, which were administered to patients in their backs and joints. According to BBC, over 14,000 Americans have received these injections. The Food and Drug Administration raised concerns about the cleanliness and sterility of the company and urged doctors not to prescribe its products.
Grizzly Gala: food, drinks and music

Rachel Brown
rabrown@ursinus.edu

The Grizzly Gala is an event that will be held on October 26 from 8 p.m. to midnight. It is open to all Ursinus students, faculty, staff, and alumni. The event will provide an opportunity for students and faculty to interact, according to Kelly Sakmar, assistant director of alumni relations at Ursinus.

Tickets for alumni, faculty, and staff are on sale for $30. Alumni who have graduated in the past 10 years can buy tickets for $25. CABS agreed to subsidize student tickets, lowering the student ticket price to $5.00. All food and beverages are included in the price of the ticket.

The Grizzly Gala will feature food and drinks, and students who are of age. "As much as possible, we're trying to make it a high-class event," Sakmar said. "We're decking out the Field House like you've never seen it before." People will not be allowed to go to the Field House if they've never seen it before.

"People will not be for want of food," Cichowski said. Food options include sushi, Tuscan flatbread, a hamburger and chicken slider bar, and a candy bar. The "claws-mopotitan" will be the featured spirit cocktail of the evening.

The Slippery Band, who performed at President Fong's inaugural celebration in April, will provide the musical accompaniment to the evening.

"This event came out of feedback that we got from last year's inaugural celebration event," Sakmar said. "It's nice to have an opportunity to dress up."

The event's planning committee is hoping that students will be as enthusiastic towards the Grizzly Gala as they were for the inaugural celebration last April. "It was fun to see teachers and President Fong having fun and mingling with the students at the inaugural ball," Erica Goreenberg, a sophomore at Ursinus said. "I'm going to the Grizzly Gala because it seems like it's going to be a similar event."

Semiformal attire is suggested for the event. Sakmar said that men should wear button-down shirts, and women are encouraged to wear a cocktail dress or formal slacks.

Sakmar noted that there are "some special performances lined up." President Fong will say a few words and the Ursinus Bear will be in attendance.

Sakmar and Cichowski are excited for alumni to return to campus to participate in this portion of homecoming weekend. Sakmar said that the Grizzly Gala is a good way to reconnect alumni with faculty and staff, as well as current students.

"There are so few times when all of [Ursinus'] constituency groups can get together," Cichowski said.

Sakmar said that the Field House can hold up to 300-400 people. However, Campus Activities Board has agreed to subsidize 200 student tickets. Tickets will remain on sale in the Student Activities Office until the event.

"Get your tickets before they sell out," Sakmar said.

For more information about the Grizzly Gala and homecoming weekend, visit www.ursinus.edu/grizzlygala.

Word on the Street

"Do you feel safe on campus? Why or why not?"

"I feel very safe on campus. I feel like Campus Safety does a great job at protecting us. Pete and Pete, and Chris, Tony, and Anthony and Gary are all wonderful. I walk down to Wawa at 2 a.m. and I don't feel threatened in any way." - Anna Lorine, Senior

"Yes, because I've never had any unsafe event occur. I feel like there is enough lighting on campus to keep you safe." - Neil Shukla, Senior

"I feel safe on campus because it's Collegeville." - Rachel Brown, Sophomore

"For the most part, but I live on Main Street, so when I walk home at night I sometimes call for a ride or an escort, especially if it's later, just because people are really bad at stopping at the crosswalk and I've had a bad experience there before. Someone tried to pick me up my sophomore year. Other than that, I usually go anywhere at night, I just keep my phone on me." - Mary Barbagono, Senior

"I definitely feel safe on campus. There's never really anything threatening. You know all the people on campus." - Emma Natale

"I do. I don't think anyone here are really trouble makers for the most part and Campus Safety seems to have control over what goes on." - Elisha Gaylor, Junior

"Absolutely. I feel like everyone is nice here. I've never heard of any incidents." - Trevor Nortan, Freshman

"Yes I do. I feel like it's nicer campus in a smaller residential area." - Justin Sciamanna, Senior

"I feel safe, but sometimes walking around at night makes me nervous. It's probably just all the Criminal Minds I watch, though." - Brooke Haley, Senior

Teach for America

Chris Rountree
chrountree@ursinus.edu

Moving our country in the right direction is our nation's number-one priority, but it is definitely easier said than done. There are many elements that have to go into this process to make it work. Education is one of these elements that are vital in this moving forward process.

Teach for America is a program that provides necessary education that will help this society thrive. "Teach for America is an organization that strives to affect change and improve the educational quality for children throughout the country," Sharon Hansen Powers, the associate director for employer relations said. "They really like to hire bright, motivated students who have leadership skills, and that's why they target students at Ursinus."

Teach for America's mission is to build a movement to eliminate educational inequity by developing leaders. "The current statistics state that eight percent of kids growing up in low-income communities will graduate from college by the time they are 24 years old, and this is compared to literally minutes away from those low-income communities, their higher income peers having an 80 percent chance of graduating."

Haley spent his first two years in the program teaching at a Philadelphia school. "I taught in West Philadelphia, about 10 blocks off of the University of Pennsylvania's campus, where I went to my undergraduate. Taking 50 steps off of this campus of immense wealth, opportunity and resource were schools in which ninth graders are entering the public schools and have a 45 percent chance of even graduating from high school."

"It's as simple as this sentence: poverty limits educational opportunity. We are all in the position we are in today because we have been giving a lot of opportunity as a result of very sound education," Healey said. "The bottom line is that there are 16 million children who are growing up in low-income communities for which this is not necessarily the case."

Teach for America began in 1990. During its first year, the program had fewer than 1,000 members teaching 10,000 students. This school year, Teach for America will have more than 10,000 members who will teach 750,000 students.

Teach for America hopefuls must apply through the online application. "Basically, you have to apply online," Hansen Powers said. "It's only a day application and then there are several rounds of interviews. They also offer webinars." Each member teaches in a specific region for two years, and afterward he or she decides whether to stay teaching or to pursue another career.

Nearly two-thirds of Teach for America corps members will continue to teach children after their first two years in the program.
Homecoming nominations

Samantha Salomon
ssalomon@ursinus.edu

On Oct. 27, 2012 Ursinus College will call into reign a new royal duo. The homecoming king and queen will be announced during halftime of the football game in front of students, families and alumni.

All Activities Fee Allocation Committee-funded clubs, Greek organizations and sports teams can nominate one female (queen) and one male (king), according to an email sent out from the USGA. One requirement of suggesting a nomination is a $100 donation per club, team or organization, per nominee.

Most students learn which of their peers were nominated by walking into Wismer, because all organizations that nominate a senior for homecoming king or queen must design a banner to hang in Wismer.

Fellow students are very excited to see who will be voted for king and queen and have started Facebook campaigns for their favorite contenders. Junior Mercy Gambrah started a group on Facebook dedicated to encouraging students to vote for Zach Bruckner. Those who are nominated are expected to dress nicely and parade around the track on the day of Homecoming.

The nominees said that they are excited about their nominations. Senior Alyse Reid has been nominated by the Campus Activities Board for homecoming queen. “I feel confident that Ursinus will always play a significant role in my life. This nomination makes me feel as if I, even in a small way, may also be leaving my own mark on this campus,” Reid said.

But winning is not everything to Reid, who said, “Honestly, I’m not very concerned with winning homecoming queen. Obviously, it would be wonderful to represent Ursinus as the homecoming queen...but I believe Homecoming is so much more than just homecoming king and queen.”

Tim Duke, a brother of APES fraternity, was nominated for homecoming king by the sisters of Tau Sigma Gamma sorority. Duke said one of the reasons he would be excited to win is because “it would be pretty awesome to wear the crown around Reimert later that night.”

When Duke found out he had been nominated for king, he said, “I was utterly jubilant and almost passed out on-spot ‘cause Tau Sig are the coolest girls in the world.”

Duke and Reid both show that it is not all about winning, but also about the memory of Homecoming.

Reid also said that not winning the title of queen is alright with her. She said, “I’ll be honest, 10 years from now, we may not remember our homecoming queen was or who was nominated. But we’re all going to remember Homecoming as the day when our Ursinus family, both past and present, came together to celebrate being a part of just that: the Ursinus family,” Reid said.

Voting for homecoming king and queen takes place Oct. 23 and Oct. 24. Students vote for their favorite nominations via Blackboard. The winners are announced during halftime of the homecoming football game.

Headphone disco

Imagine a dance party where one half of the crowd is going wild to “tough electro beats” while the other half is getting down to “floor-shaking rock ‘n’ roll” — all occurring on the same dance floor.

Headphone Disco is coming to Ursinus College’s campus, and is an experience that is being described on the Ursinus event page as nothing less than “surreal, bizarre, outrageous, but most of all hugely enjoyable.”

The Headphone Disco will take place on Saturday, Oct. 27 from 8 p.m. to midnight in Lower Wismer, free of charge.

This year will be the first in which a dance event of this type will take place at Ursinus. The members of the Campus Activities Board, the group running the event, describe the upcoming disc jockey show as an Ursinus event “that has to be seen to be believed.”

But more importantly than being seen, the Headphone Disco will be an event that has to be heard to be believed, as well.

According to Samantha Salomon, sophomore and president of CAB, the concept of the Headphone Disco is that “each student will be given their own pair of headphones to listen to music throughout the entirety of the dance.”

As if the idea of a room full of people with headphones on their ears at a dance party sounds strange enough, the Headphone Disco only gets more interesting. “The twist of the Headphone Disco is that it will boast not only one, but two DJs, both from Neon Entertainment.”

“Headphone Disco is a group that describes itself as ‘the silent party people.’ It originated back in 2007, when it thrived in the dance clubs of Ireland and the United Kingdom. Increased popularity of this unique style of show over the last few years has turned it into a ‘silent party sensation [that] is now available globally’ (headphonedisco.com).”

CAB encourages all students to come out to the Headphone Disco, “one of the most exciting clubbing experiences to emerge in years.”

“It will be like nothing you have ever been to before, [but] this silent rave will only work if you guys show up,” Salomon said.

Prizes will be given to the students who have the best Halloween costume to emerge.

Salomon went on to say that if you attend the Headphone Disco, “There may even be a surprise in it for you.”

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>Tutor kids in Norristown - Community Week, 3:30 - 7 p.m.</td>
<td>Shabbat Dinner, in Hillel House, 7 - 9 p.m.</td>
<td>Homecoming, All day</td>
<td>End of Community Week Celebration, in Wismer Lower Lounge, 5 - 6 p.m.</td>
<td>Lecture on ‘The Tarim Mummmies: Recent Researches,’ in Berman Museum, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Townhall Meeting with Senator Ralph Fawley &amp; Representative Vereb, in Pfahler 109, 6 - 7 p.m.</td>
<td>First Annual Gender and Sexuality Monographs, in Olín Plaza 12 - 1 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melon Salon: ‘Disseminating Scholarship’ in Arts, in Olín 104, 3:45 - 5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Ursinus College Jazz Ensemble, in Kleidoscope, 7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Ursinus College String Ensemble, in Bomberger Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Voices in Praise, in Bomberger Basement, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Center for the Science &amp; Common Good: Theoretical Physicist Matt Strasser, in Kleidoscope, 7 p.m.</td>
<td>‘Late’ Night Cravings with Dr. Stevenson, in New Hall, 10 - 11 p.m.</td>
<td>Photography Club Meeting, in Olín 103, 7 - 8 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Escape Velocity Dance Troupe, 7 - 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Grizzly Gala, 8 p.m. - 12 a.m.</td>
<td>Headphone Disco, in Wismer Lower Lounge, 8 p.m. - 12 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Senior Halloween Party, at Club 212, 8:30 - 11:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ursinus sports teams need more support

Marcus Foster
mfoster@ursinus.edu

As the Ursinus College football team makes its way down the walkway on Saturdays in the fall, a certain passion and drive follows them as they approach Patterson Field. The energy that the fans create throughout a game certainly plays a role in the team success.

That being said, the Bears have played three home contests to a half empty, unenthusiastic, and relatively quiet student section.

The issue of weak attendance and participation from the student body is not a problem that the football team faces alone. Throughout the year, a majority of sports teams — basketball, field hockey and lacrosse, to name a few — play to a semi-filled stadium with mostly parents and other family members in attendance.

I understand that this is a competitive academic institution and the coursework can be overwhelming at times. I understand that studying for biology labs and reading for CIE takes a great deal of time throughout the day. As a student-athlete, I personally understand that free time is at a premium to any college student.

All that being said, I still do not think it’s asking too much for a student to take a few hours out of his or her weekend to support one of the various athletic teams.

What I don’t understand, and what I think is most disheartening, is how a campus of roughly 1700 students can be so united with support in some aspects but greatly separated in others. Tickets to AIRBAND and the various plays performed throughout the year sell out within hours, yet only a handful of students support a field hockey team that has made the national Final Four five years in a row.

Take a second to let that sink in. Five consecutive trips to the national Final Four. We have been blessed with one of the best field hockey teams in the country, but we still can’t take the two-minute walk from New or North to show our support and appreciation.

There are various sports games and activities that go on throughout the year. If you make the effort, I am sure you will find one sport or another that suits your liking. The next time you have the opportunity, go check out a sporting event, even if it is for 20 minutes. Know that your attendance does not go unnoticed to the players out there on the field.

As hard as it may be for some to admit it, the truth is we all love Ursinus — otherwise we wouldn’t be at this school. So why not make the most out of your four years and appreciate the opportunities you have to be an actively engaged student?

Don’t wait until your 20th class reunion to attend your first football game during the Homecoming festivities.

Varisty teams and athletes overvalued at Ursinus

John Parry
joparry@ursinus.edu

President Fong expressed in the Nov. 2011 President’s Perspective newsletter that Ursinus athletes are “students first.”

In my experience, this couldn’t be farther from the truth, and I believe the athletes are doing themselves a great disservice.

For the skeptics out there, let’s look at Ursinus’ sports obsession by the numbers.

Two of the eight pages in The Grizzly, including one of two color pages, are dedicated to sports.

Ursinus Athletics (@UcAthletics) has 676 Twitter followers. Compare that with 14 for The Grizzly (@UrsinusGrizzly), 13 for the admissions office (@UC_ADMISSION) and 65 for To Write Love on Her Arms Ursinus U Chapter (@UrsinusTWLOHA).

Heck, the school itself barely has more Twitter followers — 732 for @UrsinusCollege.

The yearbook featured a two-page spread for each varsity sport. Greek organizations got one page each. In contrast, clubs were squeezed three to a page and occupied a total of four pages. Academic departments were squeezed four to a page.

All told, sports action appeared on 38 percent of The Ruby’s pages.

That number is commensurate with last year’s estimate from Laura Moliken, which was cited by President Fong in the same President’s Perspective email, suggesting that roughly 34 percent of Ursinus students participate in varsity athletics.

On that note, the tuition money of these students can’t be ignored. While some receive financial aid, I believe there are more than enough bench-warriors to cover that cost, and with donors thrown in, the school is likely coming out ahead.

When President Fong cited the field hockey player with a 3.6 GPA in his newsletter, he unintentionally highlighting how abnormal that is for an athlete.

It’s a point of contention I often hold with my dad, who’s worked as an athletic director for decades. He once texted me, “Just got back from a banquet honoring athletes with 3.2 GPAs.”

It was his way of justifying the presence of athletes at academic institutions. I shot back, “I have a 3.7 and nobody’s throwing a banquet for me.”

I feel bad for these students on some levels. Many of them neglect to plan out their next step after athletics. Sometimes it seems like they don’t think about anything else.

Anyone who’s been in classes outside of the science department knows that whenever a new project is announced, the inevitable question that follows is, “Can we do sports?”

On the other hand, maybe I should smile and nod. After all, those 34 percent are like a freebie. The non-sports types like me don’t have to worry one bit about landing in the bottom third of the class, and we’re at a “prestigious” private school.

Solutions to this dilemma are plenty. I’m in favor of institutions of higher education, especially smaller colleges, working on an agreement to eliminate varsity athletics altogether.

I’m not advocating that college students should abandon sports entirely. Intramural sports are wonderful — they present the same competition and learning opportunities with none of the cost associated with travel.

Intramural sports at Ursinus receive a miniscule budget when compared to the varsity teams, and most of the intramural budget probably goes to the jocks who “referee” (read: do nothing) during the matches.

The student-athletes must take some responsibility, but the culture at the top must also change.

It’s not an accident that multiple photos of the football team are perennial fixtures on the front page of the school’s website.

When President Fong signs each email with “Go Bears!,” he might be trying to express his support for all Ursinus students unilaterally, but he can’t help but say it in sports terminology.

Before an away game at Juniata, Ursinus football players were let out of class at 11:30 a.m. My understanding is that the professors were told that doing so would allow the football players to eat and practice at home, thus saving money.

I have a new cost-cutting idea: how ‘bout we all don’t go to class at all? I’ll save us each roughly $50,000 a year!

Ursinus is a school for the students—or, at least, 34 percent of them.
Senior spotlight: Kristin Hanratty, UC volleyball

Mike Klazas
miklazas@ursinus.edu

This fall has been a very memorable one for senior Kristin Hanratty, a co-captain and key cog for the Ursinus volleyball team. The senior middle blocker is nearing the end of her senior campaign, which is highlighted thus far by her team leading 234 kills and by her being named Centennial Conference Player of the Week for her efforts during the week of Sept. 23-29, 2012. Hanratty's Sept. 29 performance versus McDaniel resulted in 28 kills in 36 attempts with just one error in the Bears 3-1 victory over the conference foe. Hanratty also played a pivotal role in the Bears first conference victory of the year in a five-set match against Bryn Mawr. She recorded 15 kills in that game and led the Bears throughout.

First-year head coach Joseph Groff thinks highly of Hanratty.

"She is very intense during practice and leads by example," Groff said. "She doesn't just talk the game, she walks it. I will never forget [the McDaniel match]. After the final point, I knew from all the games I've seen that probably won't be repeated."

Senior Erica Dickey also agrees with her coach about Kristin's role as a teammate. Dickey and Hanratty serve the team as co-captains.

"Her ability to work together with the entire team and drive the team makes her successful both as a captain and as a player," Dickey said.

In addition Hanratty is a member of the sorority Alpha Sigma Nu. She also tutors middle school students and students in Norristown at ACLAMO (Latin American Action Committee of Montgomery County), volunteers in various community service projects and enjoys scrapbooking. Meanwhile, the pride of Cinnaminson, N.J. maintains a 3.8 GPA.

Though humble in describing herself, Hanratty believes she is able to help the team in ways that aren't measured by statistics.

"We have a very talented team with a lot of potential, so I like to motivate girls and push them to do their best all the time," Hanratty said.

So far this season, the Bears sit at 7-16 overall and 2-7 in Centennial Conference matches. The Bears are coming off a tough 3-1 home loss to Dickinson.

"On and off the court Kristin is a very constant person. You can always depend on her. You know she is going to play consistently on the court and off the court. You know she is always going to be there to support you," Dickey said. "I didn't play my freshman year, but she was one that made me feel the most comfortable my sophomore year. Of all the girls that have been there all three years, she has been the one that I've depended on the most and trusted the most."

She is currently interning at Axiom Data Corporation, which is a pharmaceutical company located in King of Prussia. Hanratty also plans to student teach in the Collegeville area during the spring semester. Once she is done at Ursinus she hopes to become a math teacher and volleyball coach.

Hanratty and the Bears finish off their season this Saturday as part of homecoming weekend against Muhlenberg. Game time is slated for 1 p.m.
Homecoming special for class of ‘13

Michael D’Amico
midamico@ursinus.edu

Homecoming festivities usually highlight the school calendar and get students excited, as graduates from year past come back to see how some of their friends are doing. But what does it mean to some seniors that this is going to be their last Homecoming ever?

As a freshman, Homecoming was a fun time during the school year—the big game, the big parties. But you never really appreciate it until you’ve experienced a couple with your classmates and you get to see people you knew come back to see you succeed.

“Homecoming is an important event to me every year, but this year it’s a little more special and significant” Chris Rountree, a senior captain on the football team said. “I can still remember coming in as a freshman and playing the game for the sake of playing it. But now that I am a senior, I feel as though I cherish every game, knowing that this is the last time I get to strap up with my teammates.”

Having these experiences is something that you can’t have in any other atmosphere. The buzz of the campus during Homecoming is something that you rarely experience anywhere else in your life.

“I can’t explain it. Homecoming is just an amazing atmosphere.” Greg Fontania, senior captain on the football team said. “I feel like its special because it’s going to be the last time that I will be able to play in front of the alumni.”

When the alumni come back, the players feel that they really have to step their game up. It’s a feeling that can’t be explained to anyone because it just isn’t felt during the games, but its felt throughout the entire weekend whenever you are around the people that you shared previous Homecomings with.

“I definitely view this homecoming game as one of the most important games I will every play in my college career,” Rountree said. “It’s the last time you get to play at home during such a big event in front of your own fans.”

The Homecoming buzz isn’t just felt by the football team, but by other sports teams as well. men’s and women’s soccer, to cross country and volleyball, even by players who had to stop playing because of injuries.

“The homecoming game means the end of my 16-year career of playing competitive soccer” Lisa Pan, a senior on the women’s soccer team said. “On the surface I view it as another game, but in the scheme of things it signifies the end of my career and moving on from being a kid to being an adult.”

“It is another game in the fact that I will put on my socks and uniform the same way as I have the past 16 years and see my teammates,” Pan said. “But I am pretty sure that I will remember this game for the rest of my life because this is the game that I end my career with.”

Chris Urban, a senior who used to play football but retired early due to repeated shoulder and knee injuries, shares a different perspective on the festivities.

“I feel as though Homecoming should just be renamed ‘party day with alumni,’” Urban said. “Everyone is excited for Homecoming solely because of friends from graduating years return to party.”

Homecoming seems to have different meanings to every person you talk to, but one thing that can be said is that no matter what that meaning is, Homecoming still is important to most everyone involved in the Ursinus community.

UC Homecoming Sports Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10/27</td>
<td>Men’s and Women’s XC Conference Championships vs. Dickinson</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/27</td>
<td>Men’s Swimming vs. Muhlenberg</td>
<td>12 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/27</td>
<td>Football vs. Johns Hopkins</td>
<td>1 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/27</td>
<td>Volleyball vs. Muhlenberg</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/27</td>
<td>Men’s Soccer vs. Muhlenberg</td>
<td>5 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/27</td>
<td>Women’s Soccer vs. Muhlenberg</td>
<td>1 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>