The Grizzly, December 6, 2012

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Dean addresses new faculty rumors

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Earlier this semester, a rumor spread through faculty and students that the college is placing a moratorium on hiring new professors. Dean and Vice President for Academic Affairs Terry Winegar discredited this rumor and said that while Ursinus is trying to reduce its reliance on part-time, adjunct professors, there will not be a moratorium on hiring new, full-time faculty members.

Winegar said the ratio of full-time to adjunct professors affects the quality of individual academic departments. When considering the amount of adjuncts at Ursinus, Winegar said it is important to note not that total percentage or number of adjuncts on campus, but rather where the adjuncts are concentrated, which, according to Winegar, is in small departments.

With this in mind, Winegar said the administration is always working to improve all departments.

Winegar said this process of external reviewing is a part of the Strategic Plan, which states one of its goals as the examination of "departmental strengths and weaknesses with other institutions is accomplished partly through an evaluation of "the deployment of adjuncts and how their teaching performance affects rehiring."

Winegar said external reviews of departments should illustrate how Ursinus’ employment of adjunct professors compares with other colleges and universities across the country.

According to a 2009 survey conducted by the Coalition on the Academic Workforce, there were approximately 1.8 million faculty members in two- and four-year American institutions of higher education. Of those 1.8 million, more than 1.3 million, or 75.5%, were employed in contingent positions as part-time or adjunct faculty members, full-time non-tenure-track faculty members or graduate student teaching assistants.

According to the Chronicle for Higher Education reported that, on a national level, adjuncts are paid less, which means less tuition for students. The Chronicle reported that median pay per course for adjuncts and other contingently employed professors was $2,700 in 2010.

While college students are concerned about the cost of tuition, they also, according to the Chronicle, tend to find adjuncts less connected to the college and less experienced in the subject matter of their fields, potentially decreasing the quality of instruction students receive.

Adjunct professors are valuable in that they fill a need at Ursinus and some become long-term faculty in their academic departments. Even so, the factors the Chronicles lists can provide a tension for colleges in determining an adequate ratio between tenured, full-time professors and part-time adjuncts.

Main Street accident raises crosswalk safety concerns

On Thursday, Nov. 29, a vehicle struck a student crossing Main Street from the corner of Sixth Avenue.

Senior Jacob Hope witnessed the accident from his dorm.

"I heard the screech of car tires and turned around to look out my window to see what was going on," Hope said. "I watched a car on Main Street, heading towards Trappe, screech to a stop as a girl who was crossing the street walked in front of the car."

Hope said a second vehicle rear-ended the car, causing it to collide with the student, who rolled over its hood. Hope said an ambulance was called to the scene and the student and two passengers were taken to the hospital.

"In regards to the implications for Main Street safety, I hope something will be done to make the area safer for pedestrians and for cars," Hope said. "The question is, though, what should be done?"

Infonet’s future still uncertain

In response to the “hot” and “crazy” ratings website, howimetreinusinz.com, student access to student ID photos via UC Infonet was suspended. Professors retained access through a separate program available only to faculty.

"This action was taken until we could hold discussions with student government and the administration about the usefulness of the photo applications and availability of ID photos through UC Infonet prior to the recent abuse."

While Shuttlesworth could not comment on which policies were violated — that was determined by a Judiciary Board hearing — he did say that "the UC ID photos are copyrighted material of Ursinus College and cannot legally be used for any purpose without the consent of the college."
New director plans art exhibits

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This semester, the college board of trustees appointed Charles Stainback as the new director of the Berman Museum of Art.

As the director of the Berman, Stainback will set the direction and vision for the museum, manage the staff, find and refine the Berman's role in the Ursinus community and solidify its place in the Collegeville area. Stainback will start work at the Berman in April 2013.

"Things will happen organically," Stainback said, regarding his arrival on campus.

Stainback said his goals include engaging students that are not currently involved in the Berman and broadening student utilization of the museum.

Stainback said that the Berman is "great and has had a wonderful series of exhibitions, including regional photographers and international artists. It is a superb museum in the region."

UCARE grants kids' wishes

Rayleen Rivera-Harbach
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It can be easy to get caught up in the commercialism of the holiday season and forget about those who are less fortunate. But the return of UCARE's annual Giving Tree initiative gives the Ursinus community an opportunity to give back.

The goal of this annual service project, which began a few years ago, is to provide local children who are underprivileged families with a happy holiday.

Students, faculty and staff members who choose to participate in the Giving Tree symbolically adopt local children from families in need and make their holiday wish lists come true.

Elizabeth Cannon, the assistant director of UCARE and the Bonner Leaders coordinator, said the Ursinus community gets more involved with the project every year. Cannon said that last year, more than 100 students adopted children from the Giving Tree, raising the bar for this year.

"This program is such a great and easy way to give back. Plus, it is such a nice way to bring the whole campus together. Last year we even had faculty and department members at Ursinus contributing to the Giving Tree," Cannon said.

Once a year, local community centers contact Ursinus' UCARE office and provide wish lists of underprivileged children from the area.

Then the children's names are written on ornaments that decorate the Giving Tree housed in the UCARE office. Each ornament lists the age, gender and wish list written of each child.

There is a sign-up sheet underneath the tree. Campus organization officers and members who want to adopt a child may sign up for it. The decorated ornaments are then placed underneath the tree.

"This section of Main Street gets very congested during peak times between Fifth and Ninth avenues," Ursinus Campus Safety Officer Chris Wilcox said.

Wilcox said things like "disttracted motorists using cell phones and multi-tasking, students in a hurry to cross the road" are factors that can make Main Street problematic.

"Everybody is so stressed today," Campus Safety Officer Tony Salvo said, "I think that a lot of the time our minds just aren't always focused on what we're doing because we're worrying about other things."

Ursinus has taken several measures in order to maintain a safe environment and improve safety for students, Collegeville residents and commuters alike.

"Ursinus partnered with the Collegeville Borough to request that the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation reduce the speed limit on Main Street from 35 to 30 miles per hour," Wilcox said.

In order to make the road safer, Wilcox said, "Ursinus College has installed energy efficient LED lights along Main Street to illuminate the sidewalks and crosswalks."

According to official Pennsylvania law, pedestrians have the right of way at crosswalks and intersections where there are no traffic signals. This means that students walking on Main Street must yield to motorists unless walking along a designated crosswalk on Main Street.

"But regardless of whether you have the right of way or not, it won't matter if a driver doesn't stop for you," Salvo said.

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tions and individuals need only to sign their name and the name of their adopted child to participate.

Cannon said volunteers can bring their purchased gifts to the UCARE office. From there, the gifts will be delivered back to the community centers, which will distribute them to the families.

Anyone who is interested can stop by the UCARE office in Lower Wismer, sign up and pick an ornament off the tree. Cannon said the Giving Tree wraps up during finals, so students should stop by the office sooner rather than later.

Cannon said that UCARE wants as many people as possible to volunteer because when there are lots of volunteers, there are lots of happy local children. There is no limit to the number of children volunteers can “adopt”.

UCARE is encouraging not only individuals but also fraternities, sororities, departments, athletic teams and any other groups around campus to come together and make some children’s holiday wishes come true. Cannon said she knows that most of the time, the volunteers are college students who do not have a lot of extra cash to spend. This is why participation in groups is encouraged.

Students can “adopt” a child from UCARE’s Giving Tree until Dec. 7.

“My sorority picked two kids off the tree,” Ashley Benedict, a sophomore and member of Tau Sigma Gamma, said. “We only had to put in a couple dollars each, and it really is going to make a difference for them. It is just nice to know that a small contribution really makes a big difference.”

“[A form to have this information withheld is available from the registrar upon request and is provided to all students when they enroll in the college],” Shuttlesworth said.

Information Technology is not requesting any changes to the school’s tech policy at this time, according to Shuttlesworth.

Students were ambivalent about the level of access that should be granted to the photos, and to whom.

“I’m an RA... When I get my roster I have a comprised list of faces to go with names. I’m horrible at remembering names. I have really good facial recognition, so it helps me because the face comes up with their name individually,” senior Kayla McLeod said.

“It has a lot of positives to it. I think that we’re old enough to make reasonable decisions. I don’t see why not,” McLeod said. “I think we just need to have better ethics in how we use it.”

“I would register my initial skepticism of having those photos available, because they could be manipulated in ways that we’ve recently seen,” senior Alex Niedmann said.

“The only previous exposure I’ve had to it was people occasionally seeing someone’s name and not knowing who it was, and they weren’t on Facebook so they would look them up. It was sort of just a source of data for some people, social data,” Niedmann said.

“I know a lot of writing fellows use it to make sure they know who they’re meeting with, before they meet, just to make it less awkward,” junior Eilish Bennett said.

“I think it makes sense to restrict it, just because obviously it was taken advantage of,” Bennett said. “Most people that I know that use it just use it to stalk people or try to find people, and obviously some people don’t want that to be done, but I think it is a valuable resource for people who do have legitimate reasons for needing to know what people look like before they meet them.”

Online exclusives
Visit ursinusgrizzly.com for exclusive coverage of:
• Ursinus’ new grant to promote service on campus
• Myrin Library resources for finals week
• Where to get vaccinated against the flu

Top stories from around the globe

Jordan Demcher
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U.N. recognizes Palestine
According to the Huffington Post, the United Nations endorsed Palestine as an independent state on Nov. 29.

The Palestinians believe their status as an independent state will “strengthen their hand in any future talks with Israel, which has attacked the Palestinian move as an attempt to bypass such negotiations,” according to the Post.

The Post reported that Palestine hopes to negotiate the borders shared with Israel in the West Bank, East Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip. As of now, these territories, which are occupied by 4.3 million Palestinians, have not been granted independence. But for other Palestinians, the vote sparked hope for change.

According to the Post, civil servant Mohammed Srour said, “The most beautiful dream of any man is to have an independent state, particularly for us Palestinians who have lived under occupation for a long time.”

North Korea makes nuclear advances
North Korea has been constructing a new atomic reactor that “may extend the country’s capacity to produce materials for nuclear bombs,” according to Reuters.

Reuters reported that North Korea has been telling the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) that the nuclear power will be used for energy. Recently, North Korea has traded nuclear technology with Syria, Libya, and “probably Pakistan,” according to Reuters.

In 2003, North Korea withdrew from the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. Since then, according to Reuters, the IAEA has not been granted access to atomic sites in North Korea.

Satellite images have been used to monitor the nuclear programs in North Korea. Reuters reported that Yukito Amano, director of the IAEA, said he is “seriously concerned” about the nuclear site.

Afghanistan wants Taliban members freed

The Associated Press reported that Afghanistan wants Pakistan to free Taliban detainees from the past 11 years to “jumpstart the peace process.” Pakistan has been using the detainees for negotiation advantages over Afghanistan.

According to AP, Afghanistan is particularly interested in the releasing of former Taliban deputy leader, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar.

Nine Taliban leaders were released earlier in the month. According to AP, Kabul said this “was a positive step toward finding a way to reconcile with the militias.”

Largest Powerball jackpot won

On Thursday, Nov. 29, the Wall Street Journal reported that the second largest United States lottery prize was won. The $587.5 million jackpot was the largest in Powerball history.

The numbers drawn last Wednesday night were five, 16, 22, 23, and 29. The Powerball was six.

According to the Journal, lottery tickets were selling at a rate of 130,000 per minute nationwide.

The Journal reported that the two winning tickets are both worth around $293.7 million. The tickets were sold at a Trex Mart in Dearborn, Miss. and at a 4 Sons Food Store in Fountain Hills, Ariz.

The Powerball winners in Missouri are husband and wife, Mark and Cindy Hill.
The Ruby tradition continues

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With the end of the first semester quickly approaching, Ruby staff members are doing everything they can to get material from the first semester together. The Ruby has been a staple here at Ursinus since 1897 and this year’s edition is going to be new and improved incorporating some new technology, but still keeping the same tradition alive.

Elizabeth Burns, who graduated last year, works in the Advancement office as the Advancement Program Coordinator and is also the lead editor for the Ruby. Burns has been working on the Ruby staff for about four years now and loves every minute of it.

“It’s a website where any student can go on and upload personal pictures of themselves and friends to be used in the Ruby,” Burns said. “This makes it more personal to the students and gives a better representation of what the students are like.”

Another person that closely works with Burns and the rest of the Ruby staff is Christine Dobisch, who is also a member of the Ruby staff.

“I first began working for the Ruby as a junior” Dobisch said. “When I served as a co-editor.”

“I love designing the layouts and making sure that a consistent artistic theme flows throughout the book,” Dobisch said. “The editors are responsible for designing the cover and the layout of the yearbook, and they, along with the other staff members, place the photographs and write appropriate captions.”

“There will be no real major changes to the yearbook” Burns said. “There is still going to be a staff section, a few Senior sections, Greek life sections, and then some candid sections.”

Compared to previous versions of the book, this year’s book will have a unique theme instead of just going with the base idea of using our school colors to determine it.

“In previous years,” Dobisch said, “the Ruby has not featured any unique themes diverting from a traditional emphasis on our school colors. However, this year we decided to have a mascot-themed yearbook titled ‘Welcome to Bear Country.’”

The Ruby Shares with More Than 2,000 Students

Kaitlyn Cherry, said, “I served as a co-editor.” Another person that closely shares with more than 2,000 students is Rayleen Rivera-Harback.

Rayleen Rivera-Harback
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On Ursinus’ campus, there are a plethora of groups and organizations that allow students to give back to the community. One of these organizations is Best Buddies.

Best Buddies is a program at Ursinus that shares with more than 1,400 colleges, high schools, and middle schools worldwide.

The president of Best Buddies, Kaitlyn Cherry, said, “Best Buddies creates one-to-one friendship match for individuals with intellectual disabilities. By being a part of Best Buddies, the buddies are able to have a social outlet and they may not otherwise have.”

Cherry said most of the reasons that Best Buddies students are partnered with are from the local area. Students can be partnered with buddies who are anywhere from 22 to 50 years old. The buddies are really the program, and they really count on their student from the area together. There are awards given out, prizes, and lots of dancing. The buddies seem to really enjoy the event.

“Not procrastinating, Time organization is important. Being organized is important.” - Darya Batok, Freshman

“What study tips do you have for your fellow students?”

“Try to work ahead and make sure you’re taking good notes and try to review them more than once because it takes at least three times for information to process.” - Jo Warren, Senior

“Coffee and gradual studying.” - John Mazzio, Senior

“If you can, get your work done early because in the long run it will help you and you won’t be all frazzled that last week.” - Marina McCann, Junior

“Always prepare before the exam, meaning not the day before. Study in long durations.” - Jane Lee, Freshman

“Start from the bottom of your notebook and read it like a book. If certain pages are easy, then you don’t have to study those very hard. If, when reading other pages you have no idea what’s going on, post it note those pages to come back and study.” - Rachel Polinski, Junior

Best Buddies gives back to the community

Rayleen Rivera-Harback
rariveraharback@ursinus.edu

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There are limited amounts of buddies, so it is hard to get a lot of students involved. However, Ursinus’ chapter does things a little different than other chapters.

“Always prepare before the exam, meaning not the day before. Study in long durations.” - Jane Lee, Freshman

“Start from the bottom of your notebook and read it like a book. If certain pages are easy, then you don’t have to study those very hard. If, when reading other pages you have no idea what’s going on, post it note those pages to come back and study.” - Rachel Polinski, Junior

Best Buddies are continuing from high school.

Cherry said, “I’ve been involved in Best Buddies for 10 years now. I was the president of my high school chapter and have been the president of the Ursinus chapter for three years now.”

Cherry really enjoys her work with Best Buddies and finds it to be rewarding. She said, “Knowing that I’m making a difference in so many people’s lives has kept me involved with the program for so long. All of the buddies I’ve ever worked with have really taught me so much about life. They all have such positive attitudes about life and are just generally happy people. It makes me appreciate everything I have in my own life.”
The 75th anniversary of the “Messiah” at Ursinus

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Bondegger Auditorium was filled with music last weekend as Ursinus held its 75th annual performance of George Frideric Handel’s “Messiah.”

Both the Saturday night and Sunday matinee performances had packed audiences as faculty, students, alumni, and community members gathered to enjoy the concert.

The piece was sung by the College Choir and Meistersingers and was accompanied by an orchestra comprised of members of the Ursinus community as well as visiting players. It also featured soloists Leslie Johnson, soprano, and Kenneth Pindell, bass. Professor John French, holder of the Heefner Chair of Music, directed the performance. A member of the Ursinus faculty since 1979, he conducted his 51st performance of the Handel piece this year.

French made the end of the performance particularly memorable. At the end of the show, he reappeared in front of the audience in an 18th century wig and directed an encore of the famous “Hallelujah Chorus.”

By the end of the second performance, those involved were tired, but proud of their work. “I enjoyed it. It’s a really beautiful piece – just when everything comes together it sounds spectacular,” said Michael Heimbaugh, a freshman member of the Meistersingers.

Dennis Krasnokutsky, principle viola chair of the Philadelphia Virtuosi Chamber Orchestra, performed as a guest violinist. “It’s a monumental piece of music,” he said. “Doing it once a year, it feels good.”

Composed in 1741, Handel’s “Messiah” is one of the most popular classical pieces, particularly around the holidays. The words were taken directly from the bible, telling the story of Christ. The most famous part of the two-hour piece is the “Hallelujah Chorus.”

There is also a tradition of standing during the song. According to the Boston Globe, this tradition began when King George II of England stood during a royal performance of the piece, though it has never been proven.

What is certain is that the planning that has already started for next year’s 76th performance has begun.

Sarah Huang, a junior at Ursinus, was recently awarded the Environmental Protection Agency’s Greater Research Opportunities Fellowship. Huang is one of 38 students nationally to be granted the $48,900 award.

The award recognizes Huang’s commitment to facing pressing environmental challenges by eventually pursuing a career in the environmental field, and will go toward her education and research throughout her undergraduate studies.

In addition to the financial award, the fellowship also offers Huang a paid internship with the EPA over the summer heading into her senior year.

Huang, who is an Environmental Studies and Sociology double major, said the most exciting part of her experience will be the opportunity to work with the EPA.

“Just being able to work with the EPA and see how everything works after learning about them for so long is going to be really exciting,” Huang said.

For Huang, the only thing that is perhaps as exciting as the internship will be the ability to choose where she will be working for the duration of the summer.

“My top three choices are San Francisco, Seattle, and Denver … I can’t wait to live somewhere new to study something I’m so interested in,” Huang said.

Huang hopes to work either in the justice department of the EPA, which deals with enforcement of environmental laws, or in the Clean Water Act department, which regulates pollutants in the waters of the United States.

Dr. Richard Wallace, chair of the environmental studies department at Ursinus, believes that Huang’s credentials as a stellar environmental student, coupled with her interest in the justice aspect of the EPA, is what sets her apart from other environmental researchers.

“The EPA is looking for someone who is doing work in the environmental field that is innovative in the sense that it crosses disciplines, it is broad minded and is problem oriented,” Wallace said. “She does all of those things in ways that integrate not just science and policy, but also justice and ethics.”

Aside from awarding academic achievement, the fellowship is applauds students who implement innovative techniques and polices on their own campuses, and Huang is no exception.

As a UC Green Fellow, Huang spearheaded a program via the Office of Sustainability titled “Take Back the Tap.” The program, which is present at over 60 colleges nationwide, advocates the use of tap water over bottled water on college campuses.

“As a sociology major, I’m really interested in [Take Back the Tap] from the social aspect,” Huang said. “I thought it would be really great to implement at Ursinus,” Huang said.

Huang will be the fifth Ursinus student to receive the award, but as her professor and mentor, Wallace believes Huang is anything but another face in the crowd of award winners.

“Sarah’s ability to encompass a strong scientific approach as well as her interest in the justice department is what’s going to set her apart,” Wallace said. “She’s just bound to have an impact on wherever office she’s working in.”

Huang wins a prestigious environmental award

Austin Fox
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"Sarah's ability to encompass a strong scientific approach as well as her interest in the justice department is what's going to set her apart," Wallace said. "She's just bound to have an impact on wherever office she's working in."
Consider others when considering vandalism

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The weekend of Nov. 17 was particularly difficult for me. I was driving past campus, going north on Main Street between fifth and sixth, and swerved to go around some wood in the road. I was close enough to the wood to see it was remnants of the new, teak wood bench we had just installed on the Myrin walk to replace the one that was vandalized and destroyed earlier this semester.

The bench cost over $900. Throw in the labor to assemble and install it and we can call it an even $1,000. If we replace the bench again it will be $2,000 wasted.

Couple that smashed bench with the broken Shreiner toilet. Perpetrators when the vandal is a student with blackface at the senior Halloween party and the article criticizing the academic rigor of athletes.

I occasionally hear this same, fundamental misunderstanding about the fiscal impact of the senseless damage. Sure, repair and replacement costs are passed on to the interest and the generosity of alumni and college friends who want to pay for wasted electricity. We have spent to replace and the money we spend for standing about the fiscal impact than tuition and room and board provides — by a long shot. The gap is made up by endowment interest and the generosity of alumni and college friends who believe in what we do.

The $1,000 spent to replace the damaged bench is not profit. It is money that would otherwise be spent on improving something for the campus community that is instead spent replacing something vandalized — not to mention the labor that the maintenance, grounds and cleaning staff spend clearing up vandalism and damage that could be spent on maintaining the campus nicer.

I occasionally hear this same, fundamental, lack of understanding when students say they are not going to bother turning off their TV or room light when they leave because they already paid their room and board. They are entitled to use as much electricity as they can.

Like anyone’s family, the college has to pay its electricity bill when it is issued. We have to pay for what we use. We have to pay for wasted electricity. Wasted electricity has no value, and the money we spend for wasted electricity could be much more beneficial to the campus community if it were directed to programming instead of the utility.

Vandalism and waste can neither be stopped by Campus Safety nor the college administration. It can only be curbed by a caring community and someone saying to someone else: “Don’t do that. It’s wasteful and nobody should have to clean up after you.”

So, next time you see one of your friends getting ready to smash an exit sign, stand up and say, “Dude, that’s not cool.”

Andrew Feick is the Director of Facilities and Community Relations at Ursinus College.

Recent events an opportunity to grow

Campus controversies provide the Ursinus community a chance to address issues

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As a small liberal arts school, Ursinus has always stressed the importance of learning both inside and outside of the classroom. Learning about new people has allowed many of us to develop new perspectives. I came to Ursinus because of the warm feeling I received from the students, faculty and staff members when my tour guide showed me around campus.

Unfortunately, after the many controversial events that have occurred at Ursinus this semester, a significant number of students have doubted the strength of the Ursinus community. These occurrences include the recent website where one could rate the hotness or craziness of a student based off of their ID photos, the student with blackface at the senior Halloween party and the article criticizing the academic rigor of athletes.

It is absolutely unfortunate that these events occurred, but I was much more saddened by the student body’s response than the individual students acting out. I attended the open forum held by USGA regarding the website incident a few weeks ago, when many students were quick to ask what repercussions the administration will be giving the offended student. Rather than ask what actions the administration was taking, I believe we should be asking what we, the students, can do to prevent future conflict and stop a problem within its tracks.

It is concerning that a student found it acceptable to create a site like that, but what is more concerning is the fact that so many students were eager to participate in rating their peers. Why did so many students, myself included, see the student in black face at the senior Halloween party, acknowledge it, and simply turn away?

I also felt athletes were poorly represented in the previous opinion article written for The Grizzly, but did feeling misrepresented justify the death threats and cyber bullying the student received? We can continue to ask how the administration will respond when these issues arise, but I think that students, as the majority of the Ursinus community, can hold ourselves much more accountable to react strategically and respectfully. We will never be able to control others’ opinions or how they act on them, but we can control our response — which is just as meaningful as the initial action.

I urge all of my peers to continue to challenge others and speak out, but when you do speak, find the appropriate outlet and the appropriate audience. Facebook has seemed to substitute constructive conversations with other students, faculty (including administrators) and staff.

Speaking in anger or hatred will only spark more anger and hatred. Do you think venting in anger or hatred will only spark more anger and hatred. Do you think venting in Facebook actually resolved a conflict you had with another student or a policy? As responsible young adults, we can be much more proactive than that.

Be the student to respond to a Grizzly article in either conversation or a responding article, be the student to contact the administration when a demeaning website is created and encourage others to not participate, and be the student to approach a student with a disrespectful costume.

We have all made mistakes, some more publicly than others, and we will continue to make mistakes, but as a proud student of Ursinus, I hope that we can take each challenge and mistake as an opportunity to grow as a community. Continue to learn from those around you and begin to take responsibility for the environment we create.

Want to read more? These articles along with other online exclusives, are available at ursinusgrizzly.com

We also welcome your feedback on Twitter & Facebook @ursinusgrizzly

See you next semester!
Behind the Scenes: Nienius and Peck

Jordan Demcher  
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There are 23 varsity sports teams at Ursinus College, which means there are 23 team-fuls of student athletes who at one point or another went through the recruiting process through the Athletic Department. Kathy Peck and Carole Nienius play a major, but often overlooked, role in this process.

Most people are only able to witness what happens on the fields and courts for Ursinus sports. But within the athletic department, Nienius said, “There’s always something going on.” It is apparent what the student-athletes and coaches accomplish. We see it on the field and in the newspapers. But the ability to complete the daily tasks for any Ursinus team would be much more difficult without Peck and Nienius.

The Athletic Department Assistants work closely with Director of Athletics, Laura Moliken.

They also are continuously in contact with coaches, student-athletes, and the business office. Peck said she goes back and forth from her office to Corson Hall multiple times a week. This is one of the major components to getting financial backing for the varsity programs.

“There’s a lot of paperwork and coordination with other departments with everything we do,” Peck said. This forces her to make sure everything done within the athletic department is filed with the school.

For every athletic event, there is money involved. Kathy Peck is in charge of filing and keeping the financials for the varsity programs.

When keeping track of any funds the coaches need, she said, “If they have any left over money, I have to do a report or reconciliation for that.” It is an important aspect for the athletic teams that often goes unnoticed.

While Peck is coordinating the business office, Carole Nienius is gathering most of the recruiting information that is necessary to bring in new athletes each year.

Nienius said, “I work with the admissions software and I input any recruiting forms that come online.” This also includes keeping all of the recruiting packets up to dates for any visiting recruits.

Along with sending out the recruiting forms, Nienius also keeps track of the recruitment schedule. On a daily basis, she said, “I check my calendar to see what visitors are coming in for that day and what coaches they are coming in to see.”

The two athletic department assistants said their strong relationship with the coaches and other members of the athletic department make the job easier to do. Peck and Nienius said their daily routines are heavily based on what the coaches need.

“It’s pretty diverse,” Peck said. “Coaches come in and out all day long and need something.”

A lot of the tasks both Peck and Nienius are responsible for can be viewed as minor details, but without Kathy and Carole, these tasks would keep the coaches from doing what they need to do most.

“Carole and I try to let them coach. That’s what they’re here for, and we can help them with the other things,” said Peck.

Without any doubt, the athletic department would not function as smoothly as it does now without Kathy Peck and Carole Nienius. Though they probably will never take the credit they deserve, Peck and Nienius take a lot of weight off the shoulders of the other athletic department members.

“The other faculty members] have so many different things that they need to handle, that with us being here to take care of things for them, it gives them more time to concentrate on more important jobs,” said Nienius.

Both Peck and Nienius said they enjoy their job primarily because of the people they are surrounded with.

“I love my job,” said Peck. “Being able to see the student-athletes all the time is great.”

Since Peck and Nienius are involved with contacting the student-athletes before they even get to Ursinus, they said it is rewarding to see them grow-up through the years.

Nienius said, “It’s interesting to watch them grow. You see year after year, they develop into these remarkable people.”

Recap: Basketball teams strong start

Al Weaver  
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Though both the season and the team are young, the Ursinus Women’s basketball is off to a strong start, with this past week as indication of just that.

The Bears (3-2, 2-1 Centennial) capped off a 2-1 week in Centennial Conference games with an overtime loss to Johns Hopkins, 106-101. Johns Hopkins was picked second behind reigning champ Shippensburg in the preseason poll.

The Bears were paced by the backcourt tandem of junior Jesse Krasna and freshman Malik Draper. Draper totaled 17 points and 6 rebounds in the loss to F&M, and Krasna scored 20 points while racked up 6 rebounds and 5 assists in the win over Swarthmore.

Wrestling

The Ursinus College wrestling team finished sixth with a team score of 93 at the two-day Petroleum Invitational.

The highest place finish for the Bears was sophomore Richard Jasinski. He finished second overall at 157 pounds at the meet. Second-seeded sophomore Christopher Donaldson finished in third place at 125 pounds for the Bears.

Swimming

The Ursinus College men’s swimming team finished second with 342 points at the Golden Ram Classic at West Chester University.

Leading the way for the men were first place finishers Scott Paine and Jacob Paine. Scott Paine, a senior, finished first in the 200 free in 1:46.92, while Robinson won the 100 back in 54.62.

Meanwhile, the women’s team followed suit by finishing second at the meet, ranking up 606 points.

The Bears were paced by the 200 yard medley relay team of Malena Lair Ferrari, Sarah Kosisky, Corinne Capodanno and Micenna Lyons, who won with a time of 1:49.65.

Lair Ferrari also won the 100 back in 58.47, while Capodanno won the 100 fly in 59.40.

Track and Field

The Ursinus Track and Field team hosted the Bow-Tie Classic this past weekend, with the women and men taking first and second respectively at the event.

The women, who totaled 124.5 points, were led by Amanda Laurito, who finished first in the 55 dash in 7.89.

The men were led by Yhosua Gomez, who was second in the 200 dash with a time of 23.67. The Bears totaled 71 points at the event.

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Freshman Caroline Shimrock drains the deciding shot last Tuesday in the Bears 48-45 win over F&M. The Bears are 3-2 this season.
Men's Basketball falls to No. 9 F&M

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Ursinus Men's Basketball had no answer for a dominant performance from senior forward Hayk Gyokchyan.

Gyokchyan, who was named a preseason All-American by d3hoops.com, scored 36 points and led the No. 9 ranked Franklin & Marshall to a 68-63 victory over the Bears. The game was officiated very tightly with both teams reaching the penalty early in the first half limiting the flow of play.

After a low scoring half of only 26-25 in favor of F&M, the game opened up in the second half with more physicality and better offensive play from the diplomats, especially Gyokchyan tallying 26 points in the second half.

Although F&M lead wire to wire, Ursinus brought the game to a deadlock twice and a late rally of clutch shooting and rebounding from the Bears pushed the diplomats to their limits in the final minutes.

The Bears closed the gap to 2 points with 14 seconds left and after a converted foul shot from F&M, Ursinus junior guard Pat Vasturia barely missed on a long-range three with a chance to send the game into overtime.

Ursinus was led by the freshman Malik Draper with 17 points and four steals. Draper's alertness, quickness, and breakup skill was the offensive highlight of the game for the Bears.

Mark Wonderling, also a freshman, came off the bench with 11 points and his timely offensive rebounds and energy initiated the late half comeback. The freshmen carried the majority of the scoring load with the remaining points evenly distributed throughout the team.

"They've been playing great basketball for us and they really helped us against F&M," said senior Kevin Janowski. "Malik and Mark have great work ethics. They're always in the gym getting shots up, or in the fitness center working out."

Throughout the game Ursinus showed short spurts of the type of team defense and execution necessary to play at a high level but to succeed down the road they will need to improve on ball management and consistency.

"It was frustrating because our whole team knew we could compete and beat them," said Janowski. "We were just a few mistakes away from getting the win, but we learned a lot from that game which will help us when we face them again."

It is not unusual for a team to have trouble executing early in the season but the team will need to improve on ball security if they want to go to the post season this year. Ursinus turned the ball over 23 times which lead to 23 fast break points for the Diplomats.

Gaining a nationally ranked team a run for the money shows promise for the team moving forward. The Bears also took then-No. 4 ranked Middlebury to the wire, losing 78-73.

"We showed great resilience and never quit, so we were happy with our effort," said point guard Jesse Krasna. "However, to beat a top team like F & M we will need to take care of the ball and rebound better."

The even team scoring and ball distribution are the necessary signs that can take the team to the next level. With three seniors and two juniors in the rotation the combined experience of the upper classman provides a great supplement to the young, raw talent of freshmen Draper and Wonderling.

"The balance of young talent and old experience shows promise moving forward for the Men's Basketball team. With a tough Centennial Conference schedule down the road the Men's Basketball has their work cut out for them, but they have showed great signs thus far that are up to the task."

This game only improved the great rivalry between Ursinus and F&M and looking forward to their next match on January 31st the Bears will only be better and have more experience under their belt.

"We competed and never gave up," said Janowski. "F&M is one of the best teams in the country and we had a chance with a pointer to tie it at the end. We made some mistakes with turnovers and giving up offensive rebounds, but those can be fixed. We'll be ready next time."

The Bears take the court next on Saturday afternoon on the road at Dickinson. Tip-off is slated for 2 p.m. The Bears next home contest is Dec. 19 when the Bears battle Eastern in a non-conference affair. Game time for the Bears final game before Christmas is 4 p.m. at Helfferich Hall.

Upcoming UC Sports Schedule

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12/6</td>
<td>Women's Basketball</td>
<td>vs. Haverford</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/7</td>
<td>Women's Track and Field</td>
<td>@ Lehigh Fast Times Meet</td>
<td>Time TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/8</td>
<td>Women's Swimming</td>
<td>vs. Swarthmore</td>
<td>1 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/8</td>
<td>Men's Basketball</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Women's Basketball</td>
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