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Photo courtesy of College Communications / Steven M. Falk

On Aug. 21, new students piled into the Floy Lewis Bakes Center to check in and receive their room keys. The class of 2018 is the third largest class in Ursinus history.

Freshmen placed in Main Street houses

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Not until after the housing lottery ended in the spring semester did the Residence Life staff realize how big the incoming freshmen class was going to be. Once they found out the class of 2018 would be the third largest in school history, they immediately knew there would not be enough room in BWC, BPS, and Sprinkle. With the college not expecting such a large class, the Residence Life staff had to sit down and figure out where the rest of the freshmen would be placed.

The Residence Life staff had to take into consideration where there were openings as well as what is important when they are housing first-year students.

Reese McKnight, an Assistant Director of Residence Life, stated, "What we know based on student feedback is that students really thrive when they are together in an environment where they are building the same foundation as everybody else around them in transitioning to campus and having a dry living environment, which is something that we can't provide if we are just sprinkling them all over in open vacancies."

Before first-year students had their own residence halls, they were put in different houses and mixed in with the upperclassmen. This led to a challenging transition to college because the first-year students were unable to connect with their older classmates. Being surrounded by upperclassmen who already had their friend

groups and were comfortable on campus was not an ideal situation. The Residence Life staff kept all of this in mind when they were deciding what to do with the overflow of first-year students.

Residence Life decided to house the overflow of freshmen in three Main Street houses that upperclassmen had not been assigned to. Houses 424, 426, and 444 were all Main Street houses that were not being used. These three houses allowed all of the freshmen who were not living in BWC, BPS, or Sprinkle to stay together, which was a top priority. Each house has eight first-year students living in it. This is a very unique situation because it

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ZipCar comes to Ursinus

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On August 21, Zipcar, a national car sharing company, began providing its services to Ursinus College, according to Sustainability Program Coordinator Brandon Hoover. He said that Zipcar allows people to reserve a car on an hourly or daily basis instead of renting them from an outside source. There are two Zipcars parked in the lot near Lower Wismer which can be reserved at any time of day and on all days of the school year.

Hoover said that all Ursinus students over 18 years old, whether they are commuters or residents, can use Zipcar. For \$25 dollars per year, students can get a Zipcar membership, which allows them to reserve a car for \$7.50 per hour or \$69 per day. Cars can be reserved for a maximum of four days at a time.

"The great thing about using Zipcar is that the price of gas and insurance are included when you make a reservation, and you can drive up to 180 miles during your reserved time," said Hoover.

Hoover also said that with a Zipcar membership, students are given a username and password, and they can log in to www.zipcar.com/ursinus or use the Zipcar App to reserve a car. "It's convenient because cars can be reserved minutes, days, or weeks in advance," said Hoover.

Members receive a Zipcard in the mail once they've registered, and the card allows them to unlock the cars that they reserve.

Hoover said, "You simply tap your card on the window where it says 'tap Zipcard here,' then the car unlocks and the keys are inside."

According to Hoover, Zipcar based its company on the idea of a shared economy. "This type of economy involves a community paying to share certain things like cars or bikes instead of owning them," Hoover stated. "We live in a very car dependent world, and Zipcar allows people to have access to cars at a reduced cost compared to car ownership."

The company also promotes sustainability, according to Hoover. "The idea behind Zipcar is to reduce automobile traffic and congestion on the roads, which in turn reduces automobile emissions," he said. "This is an appealing concept to our student body who's become more eco-conscious in recent years."

See Zipcar on pg. 3

WRITERS WANTED

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Mondays, 6:00 p.m. Ritter Lobby

New Janitorial Staff at Ursinus

Eleven staff members were fired due to their inability to verify eligibility to work in the U.S.

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Recently, Ursinus underwent substantial changes to its cleaning staff.

Several familiar workers are no longer employed at the school, and some concerns have been raised by faculty, students, and staff.

For several years, ISS Facility Services provided janitorial subcontracting for Ursinus. At the end of the 2013-2014 fiscal year, this contract expired.

Ursinus began an open bidding process to find a new subcontractor, and Olympus Systems was the successful bidder.

"As part of the transition and the existing labor agreement with the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), Olympus was required to retain employees who were part of the ISS janitorial team here at Ursinus," President Bobby Fong explained in a recent email to campus. "Their employment was contingent on background checks and verification of their eligibility to work in the United States."

Olympus Systems began its contract in early July, and workers from ISS resumed their duties. As per federal law, Olympus began the background check and eligibility verification process.

All of the workers passed criminal background checks. However, eleven did not have valid documentation to prove their eligibility to work in the US.

"It's a lot of work, and some days I'm not sure I can do it all."

— Olympus Systems Employee

On July 15th, the eleven workers were informed of their ineligibility to work for Olympus Systems, and thus they could not return to work at Ursinus.

Ursinus has hired new subcontractors many times in the past, but this is the first time this many workers have been lost as a result.

The restructuring has increased the amount of work required of some employees. One worker alone is now required to clean all of BPS. Another worker was assigned six Main Street houses.

"It's a lot of work, and some days I'm not sure I can do it all," one Olympus Systems employee said.

Many students are concerned about these changes. These workers have, in some cases, been in close contact with students for several years, developing close relationships with them.

Junior Axel Gonzalez, a native Spanish speaker, explained that being around and speaking with the workers gave him a sense of family.

"They have invited me over to their houses for dinner," he said. "It was the most at home I've felt during my entire time here."

His concerns mirror those of many students, who feel this abrupt change has taken away an important part of the Ursinus community. Some of these students are also confused by the progression of these events, because the only information conveyed to them was through President Fong's email.

Gonzalez says, "this is no way to treat people that made up such a crucial part of the Ursinus family for so long," and he calls the situation a "grand injustice."

Though the former ISS employees worked on campus, they were not employees of Ursinus.

"I do not know if ISS, the former employer, is involved with the former employees," director of facilities services Andy Feick explained. "It would be inappropriate to use college resources for that purpose. That said, there is nothing preventing concerned members of the community from reaching out."

Top stories from around the globe

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Ukraine crisis continues

The crisis in Ukraine continues to escalate as Ukraine's defense minister accused Russia of starting a "great war" on Monday, according to BBC News. Crisis talks between Ukraine officials, rebels, and Russian envoys have continued to end unsuccessfully. "A great war has arrived at our doorstep - the likes of which Europe has not seen since World War Two," Ukrainian defense Minister Valeriy Heletey wrote on Facebook on Monday. "Unfortunately, the losses in such a war will be measured not in the hundreds but thousands and tens of thousands," he added.

IS forces advance in Iraq

Iraqi forces pushed back against Islamic State (IS) advances after breaking the siege of Amerli in northern Iraq, according to BBC News.

Violence in Iraq has continued to escalate in the past months as IS militants continue to kill thousands of Iraqis. However, Iraqi military forces are gaining ground. Outgoing Prime Minister Nouri Maliki, who visited Amerli on Monday, said to the BBC: "Our enemy is retreating and our security forces backed by volunteers are advancing to purge further towns."

Somalian terrorists

The United States launched

a military operation in Somalia against Al-Shabaab, a designated terrorist group since 2008, according to CNN. On Monday, after the operation, Pentagon press secretary Rear Adm. John Kirby told CNN "we are assessing the results of the operation and will provide additional information as and when appropriate."

The operation comes one day after Al-Shabaab set off a car bomb and fired their way into a high-security Mogadishu prison.

The attack killed three security guards and two civilians and injured 15 people according to Security Ministry spokesman Mohamed Yusuf, as told to CNN. The United States has targeted the al Qaeda linked group at least twice in this past year according to CNN.

UK terror threat level

According to BBC News, the UK's terror threat level rose from "severe" to "substantial" on Friday, Aug. 29. David Cameron, UK prime minister, stated that new laws and regulations must be put into place in order to decrease the number of terrorists who are entering and leaving the UK.

Currently, law enforcement is not able to prevent British jihadists from returning home to the UK after working for terrorist groups in the Middle East.

Cameron wishes to change legislation, allowing police to confiscate passports of suspected terrorists at UK borders. This would also require airlines to provide more information about passengers when traveling to and from conflict zones.

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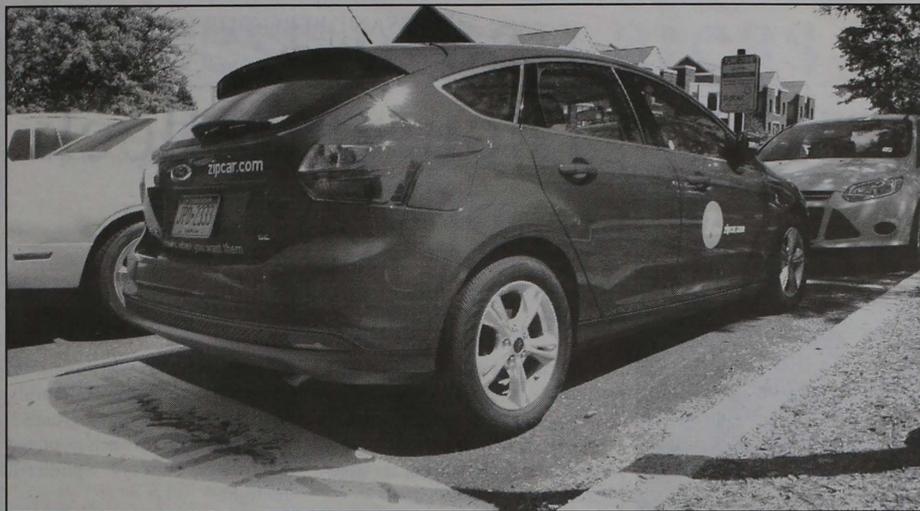


Photo courtesy of Grace Steel

The Zipcar program provides students with the opportunity to explore the greater Philadelphia area. The school has acquired two Ford Focuses for students to rent throughout the school year.

Zipcar continued from pg. 1

Hoover said that Zipcar will benefit a variety of students at Ursinus. "It's a great alternative for people who don't feel comfortable using public transit; plus it allows first year students as well as others here without cars a way to get off campus."

Bailey Titus, a freshman, stated, "Zipcar's a really great idea for people who have obligations off of campus, like a semi-regular job." Titus also said that she sees Zipcar being more convenient for

students who only need to use it occasionally rather than on a daily basis, because of the membership fee and the additional hourly cost.

Hoover said that students should reserve cars further in advance if they plan on using them on weekends, because he believes that's when the most people will want to use them.

He also stated that if too many students want to use the cars at once and it becomes difficult to make reservations, Zip-

car would look into including a third car on campus.

"Because 40% of students have cars on campus, I don't foresee there being a problem with having only two Zipcars," Hoover said.

Hoover also said that Ursinus wants to provide a good college experience for its students. "A part of that involves experiencing life off campus," Hoover stated. "We want to be sure that all students, not just those who can afford to own a car, have equal access to that."

Freshmen continued from pg. 1

is the first time Ursinus has ever used Main Street houses solely for freshmen.

When parents of the students who would not be living in the traditional first-year centers learned of the situation, they voiced some concerns. There were questions about safety and how the students would fit in. However, once they arrived, they realized there would be no problems.

Victoria Javes, a freshman who lives in 424, said that the situation is "really different, but definitely exciting." She said that she does not think she is losing out on the freshman experience by not living in one of the traditional first-year centers. Javes is able to make the most out of the unique situation by visiting her friends who do live in the dorms and also having them over to her house.

Nishant Chatarjee, who is the Resident Advisor of the three houses and lives in 424, is making sure the freshmen are getting the most out of their experience.

When asked what he thought of the situation, Chatarjee responded by saying "I think it's good because it gives the freshmen a new experience and allows

them to branch out a little bit and kind of create a community of their own."

So far, they have done exactly that. He says that they seem to love living on Main Street and has already seen the students become a tight-knit group. Chatarjee was an RA in BPS last year and has noticed that the students in Main Street houses are actually a lot more open and social, whereas in the dorms students are more closed off.

So far, the new experiment has worked out just fine. Jordan Toy, the Assistant Director of Residence Life for the first-year centers, mentions what a great opportunity these freshmen have. They actually have many opportunities that students living in the dorms do not have, such as the close community they can build and living with the accommodations of what are usually upper-classmen houses. Toy and the rest of the Residence Life staff are pleased with how everything has worked out and have received nothing but positive reactions so far.



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International students on the rise

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Ursinus College welcomes the largest group of international students in its history this fall. A total of 26 international students have joined the Ursinus community, including teaching assistants, exchange students and international freshmen. Compared to only 9 international freshmen last year, the figure of international students has doubled this academic year.

Paula Álvarez Tamés, a study abroad adviser for Ursinus, confirms that 3 teaching assistants, 5 exchange students and 18 international students are joining the Ursinus community this fall. The population of both exchange and international students doubled. These students come from diverse backgrounds, bringing their own cultures to American school-

mates and sharing it with them. There are representatives from Algeria, Brazil, China, Colombia, France, Japan, Myanmar, South Korea and Taiwan, among whom the majority comes from China.

When asked about why there is such a dramatic increase, Álvarez Tamés said, "Ursinus is working with different agencies abroad to help us to identify students that would fit Ursinus' academic standards."

Additionally, the admissions team of Ursinus did recruiting lectures in some overseas cities, as to gain more popularity and express its educational mission internationally.

Jie Lin, one of the international freshmen, enrolled at Ursinus with the help of a Chinese agency. He said that the agency matched his interest with several colleges, and after learning more he decided to come to Ursinus.

Students chose Ursinus College for various reasons, but

mainly for its small class sizes and close relations between students and professors. Xinyue Kang, one of the international freshmen, expressed her love for small class sizes.

She is taking a physics course, where loads of specific terms trouble her. But she has found her classmates to be very helpful, explaining in detail whatever confuses her. Her professor adjusted the speed he speaks so that she can catch up. She is grateful for what her professors and classmates do to ease her transition.

Apart from Ursinus' small class sizes, something else attracts Lin here. He enrolled in the pre-engineering program at Ursinus, which is not common among U.S. colleges. The diversity of food choices at Wismer and similar weather conditions factored into his choice as well.

Among 18 international students enrolled this fall, around

80% of them come from China. To them, being with numerous Chinese friends is a double-edged sword. Lin is happy to know that this means he can always have someone to seek help from and hang out with. On the other hand, Kang is a little concerned that she will become too dependent on her Chinese friends and lose her chance to understand American culture on a deeper level.

Yvonne McCarthy, Visiting Assistant Professor, is teaching a course entitled "Introduction to US Culture for International Students." She has been at Ursinus since last fall, and she has witnessed first-hand more international students joining the community.

She is happy to see this, as the school has committed to promoting a more culturally diverse environment for all the students. She also regards this as a good chance for American students to

learn about other cultures through these international representatives individually.

Valerie Osborne, an American freshman, expressed a similar thought. She thinks that international students bring diversity to Ursinus, and that with their unique backgrounds and ways of thinking can broaden the perspectives of other American students.

To better serve the needs of this group of international students, international student ambassadors and international student advisers appeared four years ago.

International students can turn to them when they encounter any difficulties. What's more, according to Álvarez Tamés, they are "working on a big brother/big sister program now, which integrates international students into the campus life and to enhance cultural awareness in domestic students."



Photo courtesy of Audrey Whitebloom

Senior Audrey Whitebloom pauses to capture a photo while traveling in Guejar Sierra, Spain.

The discomfort of coming home

Students experience reverse culture shock

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Studying abroad is a unique opportunity for an Ursinus student to become immersed in a foreign culture. Students who study abroad are often questioned by their peers and professors about their experiences. While many students will share stories of culture shock, they do not often get the chance to talk about their post-abroad struggles with reverse culture shock.

When they return to Ursinus after a semester of studying abroad, many of these students initially experience shock during the process of readapting to the Ursinus culture. They may struggle to readjust to their typical Ursinus routine and the unique culture of this small liberal arts school.

Rebecca Perrottet is a senior who studied abroad in Florence, Italy last spring. "In Florence, the academic setting was all about going and seeing everything first hand which was so much more exciting than just sitting in a classroom," Perrottet said. "For instance, instead of just going to an art classroom for every class, we would go to the Uffizzi and see paintings first hand."

Perrottet's difficulty with readjusting to Ursinus' academic environment is an example of a typical struggle for students who

return from studying abroad.

"When returning to Ursinus, it was weird to have class on a regimented schedule" said senior Audrey Whitebloom, who studied abroad in Seville, Spain during fall 2013. "Of course I had classes in Spain, but I didn't have many classes, and everything is just so much more relaxed there. Classes started at a certain time but over half of my professors would just come late."

When returning to Ursinus, Whitebloom struggled not only with having to readjust to a stricter class schedule, but she also found that she had to become accustomed to doing school work on a daily basis.

"I didn't really do much work while I was abroad in comparison to the amount I do here" stated Whitebloom. "Having to come back and actually study a lot was difficult."

Paula Álvarez Tamés, Ursinus' study abroad advisor, talks about the difficulties that students have when they return to the small, suburban, liberal arts college campus after studying in such a unique, diverse place.

"It is very difficult to go back to Collegeville because once they leave, they understand that the world is a lot bigger than Ursinus," said Álvarez Tamés "It's like you are downsizing; you understand that there is more than just the English language, and more than just your culture."

After studying in Florence,

Perrottet said she related to the feeling that Álvarez Tamés describes.

"I also really missed living in the city and walking around Florence and just seeing all the old buildings. America doesn't seem as beautiful and unique," said Perrottet. "Just experiencing new things every day and every time I walked outside was just so nice."

Many students also experience reverse culture shock with the smaller aspects of everyday life that are often taken for granted. Perrottet claimed that seemingly insignificant things like flushing the toilet differently seemed strange when she returned from Florence.

Most students do eventually readapt to the Ursinus culture, but some students hold on to the qualities they managed to obtain when adapting to a foreign culture.

"A lot of our students, after their study abroad experience, change their goals for the future," said Álvarez Tamés. "Sometimes your career will change because your whole mindset has changed."

Whitebloom agreed that her mentality has changed after her study abroad experience.

"I used to be absurd about being on time and now I feel like I'm a little more relaxed about it, like I don't have to be quite as early to things as I usually was," Whitebloom said.

Thousands flock to Phoenixville

First Friday, Phoenixville's Monthly Celebration

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On the first Friday of each month, Phoenixville's eclectic personality spills from its storefronts onto Bridge Street.

Phoenixville First, a group of local organizations dedicated to developing the borough, invites local musicians, artists, and vendors to downtown Phoenixville for the monthly First Friday event. First Fridays draw 3,000 to 8,000 people to the center of Phoenixville.

"We try to bring in a pretty unique spread of artists and performers," Jessica Capistrant, the director of the Phoenixville Chamber of Commerce and coordinator of the event, said.

The tables and tents that line Bridge Street feature local artists ranging from painters and photographers to glassblowers and metalworkers selling their art and demonstrating their craft.

Many of the local musicians that perform at First Fridays have established a fan base,

Capistrant said.

"We have had everything from top 40 cover bands to some truly talented jazz and blues groups," Capistrant said. "But one of the favorites is always Splintered Sunlight."

Splintered Sunlight is a Grateful Dead cover band that has garnered significant popularity in the Phoenixville community. They, along with over fifteen other musical acts, will perform at the upcoming First Friday.

Another band, the Sofa Kings, got their big break on Bridge Street.

In 2012, a representative from the classic rock radio station 102.9 MGK took notice of group when they performed at a First Friday event and suggested that they enter a contest to become the station's house band. The group won the honor and subsequently performed as the opening act for HEART and The Rolling Stones.

While First Fridays are busiest from May through October, the Phoenix Village Art Center

See Friday on pg. 5

Word on the Street

Where would you drive the new Ursinus Zipcars if you were to rent one?

"I would drive to Philly for the day to explore. Also I might go to the King of Prussia mall with friends or visit Valley Forge on a nice day. There's a lot to do around Ursinus, but it's just out of reach without a car." -Jordan Scharaga, 2017

"I would take the Zipcar to Target to get snacks and supplies, because everyone needs snacks." - Mary Schardt, 2015

"I would go to the planetarium at the Franklin Institute." - Lauren Trachtenberg, 2016

"I would probably use them for day trips to Philly and KOP, or for grocery shopping" - Linden Hicks, 2016

"I'd take the Zipcar to KOP or Philadelphia because both are decently close and offer a lot to do." -Keith Miles, 2015

Access urban areas for under \$20

Briana Mullan

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One of the major selling points of Ursinus that the school markets is its close proximity to Philadelphia. In fact, if you type "Ursinus College" into a Google search, a short description will pop up from Wikipedia, reading "Ursinus College is a private, independent, coeducational, liberal arts college located in Collegeville, Pennsylvania. Founded in 1869, Ursinus sits on a 170-acre wooded campus approximately 30 miles from Center City Philadelphia." Although this is true, many students complain that they don't know how to get to Philadelphia, or know that it's so cheap.

Getting to Philadelphia isn't hard to do once you get over the anxiety of public transportation. If you're willing to take a bus and a train, you can be there in an hour or two. Here are some directions to get to Philadelphia, and then on to New York City:

There are two Septa bus stops on Main Street. One is right in front of Schreiner Hall, on the corner of 6th Avenue and Main Street, and the other in front of Commonwealth Hall, on the corner of 5th Avenue and Main Street. Students can go to which-

ever stop is closest to them, as the same bus stops at each corner.

For reference, this is the Route 93 bus. Please be aware when traveling that 93 East will take you to the Norristown Transportation Center - where you need to end up in order to reach Philadelphia - while the 93 West will take you to Pottstown. An easy way to be sure that you are on the correct bus is that the eastbound buses stop across the street from campus, while the westbound buses stop on the campus-side of the street. Be aware of which bus you get on; always check the sign before hopping on.

The bus fare is \$2.25. If you plan on traveling via SEPTA often, I recommend buying tokens in order to save money. If you visit <http://septa.org/sales/>, you can find locations in Philadelphia where you can buy tokens.

Once you have arrived at the Norristown Transportation Center, walk to the Regional Rail platform. If you're lucky, the ticket office will be open and you can buy your ticket to 30th Street Station in Philadelphia for \$5.75. If it's closed, you can buy the ticket once you are already on the train, which costs seven dollars.

Once you arrive at the



Photo courtesy of stockphotosforfree.com

Traveling to New York City doesn't have to be expensive. Ursinus students have found a way to get there for under \$20.

30th Street Station in Philadelphia, you can walk to the Mega/Bolt Bus pickup area - located roughly at 3051 John F. Kennedy Boulevard, right by the Drexel overpass - in around five minutes.

Prior to your trip, you're going to need to purchase bus tickets. You can look on BoltBus and Megabus ticketing websites, and buy which ever suits your needs based on time and price. If you really look out for them, these tickets are sold for as low as \$1. If you're willing to take a risk, you can show up to the

bus stop and wait in the line for empty seats. Realize that this is something that can be done, but you shouldn't count on getting a seat. It is important to arrive early to grab your spot since seating is based on a first come, first serve basis.

All of this information can be found online, but there are a few smartphone apps that I strongly recommend. SEPTA has its own app that I highly recommend downloading, simply called "SEPTA". The "MegaBus USA" app can be used for MegaBus.

All in all, public transportation

is something that students should try to embrace as much as possible.

Gemma Foley, a junior at Ursinus, said, "my trip home to Manhattan usually costs me around \$70... it's really rough."

Using these tips, you can cut down the cost-of getting to Philadelphia and New York significantly. Take advantage of the options available to you, be confident, and always remember that asking questions is a good idea. Good luck!

Friday continued from pg. 4

keeps First Fridays alive through the colder months. On each First Friday, the Center opens a new exhibit and hosts a gallery opening party.

Visitors can enjoy the arts and entertainment that this monthly event offers without breaking the bank.

"The coolest thing about First

Friday is that you can go downtown and be entertained for an entire evening and you don't have to have a full wallet," Capistrant said.

The low-to-no cost entertainment is what Phoenixville First hopes will bring more college students out on Friday evenings.

"I am looking forward to going because I think that it's good

to explore new options in the area. It's fun to get off campus sometimes," Christine Saraco, a senior at Ursinus, said.

Throughout the year, Capistrant said that First Fridays are the product of a whole community's efforts.

"A lot of businesses rally around First Fridays. Everyone in Phoenixville is really collabora-

tive to pull this together," Capistrant said.

Downtown Phoenixville is a 15-minute drive from Ursinus.

Parking after 5 p.m. on First Fridays is free, but fills up quickly. Carpooling and arriving early are highly recommended.

The next Phoenixville First Friday will be held on September 5, from 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.



Have feedback on this story? Visit The Grizzly

Happening on Campus

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
7:00 p.m. International Film Festival: 'Barbara' (German) in Olin Auditorium	12:00 p.m. UC Pause for Paws in Olin Plaza 7:00 p.m. Shabbat Dinner at Hillel House	9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Collegeville Farmer's Market at DaVinci's parking lot				7:00 p.m. Polarization in Politics: How Do We Build Consensus and Civility? in Lenfest Theater

Ice bucket challenge raises millions: Most people take the easy way out

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In late July, the ice bucket challenge went viral. The challenge urges people to either dump a bucket of ice on their heads within 24 hours of being nominated or donate to the ALS association. While the challenge has gained a lot of positive media attention, it has also become a controversial topic because the majority of the participants seem to be uninformed about what the challenge is trying to accomplish.

In the past few weeks we have all seen our peers take it upon themselves to dump buckets of

ice on their heads and post the video on social media for the ALS association. But what is ALS? Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis- more commonly known as ALS or Lou Gehrig's disease- is a progressive neurodegenerative disease that affects nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord eventually leading to death. According to alsa.org, "as many as 30,000 Americans have the disease at any given time."

With social media today, we see an increased amount of people jumping on the ice bucket bandwagon. Many are interpreting this campaign as a fun trend and are opting out of donating to

the cause by dumping a bucket of ice on their head.

While these are the rules of the challenge, the ultimate point of the campaign is to raise money for the ALS association. When people choose to dump ice on their heads or simply choose to not participate at all, nobody benefits. While the challenge may be a fun activity to nominate and participate in with your friends, we must understand that a large portion of the people partaking in the challenge are uninformed.

As we all know, every little bit of knowledge learned and money donated can make a huge difference in the life of another.

On the other hand, the popularity of the challenge has greatly benefited the ALS association. Many people who have never heard of ALS have taken it upon themselves to learn about the disease and donate to the cause.

With the help of social media, the campaign has rapidly spread nationwide. From everyday people to President Obama and celebrities such as Tina Fey and Justin Timberlake, it appears as if the people who are aware of ALS would love to help and spread the word to donate.

Since July 29, the ALS association has raised over \$93.4 million. According to their statistics

last year at this time the association had only raised \$2.7 million. Now that is an enormous jump. With the help of social media and a little bit more knowledge about the disease, the ALS association will take their donations and wisely spend them to benefit their research.

So while the people partaking in the ice bucket challenge have been criticized for taking the easy way out, the velocity of knowledge about the campaign and disease has greatly increased in only one month. Instead of just dumping ice on your head, challenge yourself to learn more about the cause and make the donation.

The lost Da Vinci fresco

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It is no secret that Leonardo Da Vinci is well known for a multitude of works. One art piece in particular that has been the topic of conversation in recent years is the lost fresco entitled "The Battle of Anghiari."

This painting is estimated to have been commissioned around 1504 C.E. and up until 2007, no one has had sufficient reason to know its location. The enormous fresco was abandoned by Da Vinci around 1506 when he left for Milan. The fresco has since been lost in time and over the centuries the clues that would indicate its location were few to none.

In 2007, however, speculation arose about the possibility that the fresco may be in the Hall of the Five Hundred, a Florentine civil palace, where the fresco was commissioned to be displayed centuries ago. Currently, the hall displays numerous large art pieces by Vasari that panel the wall.

After investigation began about the likelihood of Da Vinci's painting existing behind Vasa-

ri's artwork, the support for this theory began adding up. Art historians who were leading this investigation controversially began drilling holes into select areas of Vasari's large painting in order to ascertain what might be behind it. What they discovered was a gap between the painting and the wall.

The notion was that Vasari must have intentionally spaced his painting in this way so that Da Vinci's fresco could be preserved.

Through the drilled holes, researchers also collected pigment from the wall surface which was determined to be a unique chemical mixture that Da Vinci was known to have used for other works, such as the Mona Lisa. At this point, everyone was sure that they had found the lost fresco.

With the growing support for this theory, ethical questions also arise. The artwork within this palace is centuries old, priceless, and is a cornerstone to Italian culture. The historians investigating this clearly made a decision about the value of this culture in respect to the pursuit of a lost Da Vinci. They argued that drilling the six

small holes wasn't actually an affront to the artwork because the areas they chose to drill were restored areas; therefore the original work of Vasari was untouched. I find this unconvincing because it asserts the argument that a painting is important because of who the artist was. Indeed, the discovery of the Da Vinci fresco would be revolutionary and is certainly worth investigating. But is the discovery worth the cost of potentially ruining such an iconic art piece?

I would argue that no, a mysterious, almost mythical art piece that is unfinished by Da Vinci and unseen for centuries is not worth the destruction of Vasari's vast and iconic painting.

However, the reality is that repairs to the painting after drilling could be made without ruining or changing the image of the painting in any substantial way. It may seem like an insult to the historical significance of Vasari's painting at a glance, but the investigation in no way required the art piece to sacrifice itself.

After ten months of examining the wall in search of the fresco,

the public became very vocal about their frustration about drilling into Vasari's painting and didn't believe that the investigation was justified. In response, the search was aborted and the drill holes closed up.

Although Vasari's painting was unharmed, if the fresco had been discovered, there would be no way to access it without further damage to the Vasari.

In instances such as this, the damage of culture in the name of

something as largely unknown to the public as Da Vinci's lost fresco is unjust. Although maintaining artwork this valued and prevalent to culture is and should be the priority of art historians, the pursuit of knowledge is so thrilling and instrumental to progress as a society.

Ultimately I am greatly torn about this situation. It is frustrating that they drilled and devastating that they stopped.

Have feedback on
anything we covered?

We welcome your letters
to the editor!

Send us your thoughts to:
grizzly@ursinus.edu

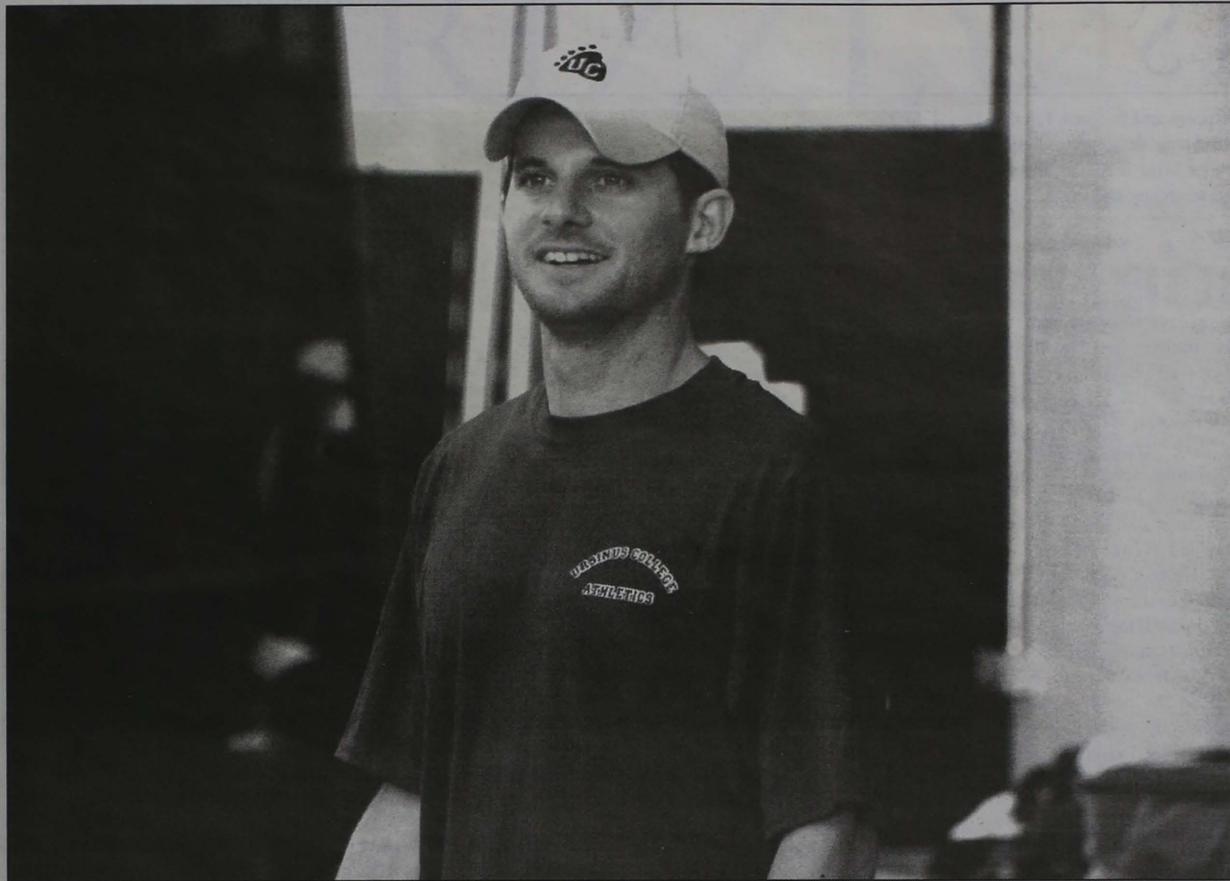


Photo courtesy of Andrew Tran

Carl Blickle, head coach of cross country/track and field, watches on as his athletes warm up for practice. The cross country team will compete at the Highlander XC Invitational on Sept. 6.

Field hockey looking to repeat

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A year after earning the Centennial Conference championship title and returning to the NCAA tournament, the Ursinus College field hockey team is back after two weeks of preseason preparation and ready to make another run at the Centennial title, with their eyes on more.

"We had a great preseason this year," said head coach Janelle Benner. "The team came back excited and ready to compete right from day one."

Last year, the Bears tallied a 15-6 record with an 8-2 record in the Centennial Conference.

"After our successful season last year we just want to come out even stronger and better this season. Together as a team we are all excited to see what this season brings for us and are willing to push ourselves to do even better this year," said junior Kelsey Reed.

"We have high hopes for this season," senior captain Nora Kornfeld said. "Bringing the conference championship back to UC is one thing we really want to do, but in order to make it to the conference championship we really need to focus on every game and continue to work hard to get there."

With another strong schedule ahead of them, the Bears are fortunate to return much of their team from 2013.

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See Hockey on pg. 8

Hitting the ground running

New cross country coach brings experience and renewed hopes for the program

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Expectations are high on both sides for the men's and women's cross country teams this season. Last month brought the arrival of new head coach Carl Blickle, replacing long-time coach Chris Bayless, and he brings passion and excitement to this year's team—something the runners

hope to capitalize on. "To be a new coach in a new environment there is usually a transition period, but the athletes have made it so much easier," Blickle said. "The school is similar to Roanoke both being small liberal arts colleges, but here there is a lot more athletic support and the potential is huge." "On top of that the support system, the athletic department

has been amazing and so welcoming. Laura Moliken has really helped in the transition along with the rest of the staff," Blickle continued. Blickle comes from an extremely successful background. He ran track at Salisbury and previously was the assistant coach at Roanoke College in Virginia. Blickle also has a prestigious academic background, holding

a master's degree in Physiology. Both the men's and women's team are extremely excited about the new hire "He brings a lot to the team," junior runner David Slade said. "He brings a lot of techniques that we have not used in the past and there have been a lot of big

Last Week's Scores as of Monday Sept. 1:

M Cross Country	W Cross Country	M Soccer (0-1)	W Soccer (1-0)	Field Hockey (1-0)	Volleyball (2-2)
Aug. 29 @ Lehigh Invite Sixth place out of six teams at Lehigh Invite. <i>Top two finishers:</i> Vince Flood, 20:37.86 (32nd) Joseph Luliucci, 20:39.80 (35th) Aug. 29 @ Lehigh Invite	Aug. 29 @ Lehigh Invite Eighth Place out of eight teams at Lehigh Invite. <i>Top two finishers:</i> Emily Lamb, 24:15.56 (35th). Emelia Perry, 24:36.59 (44th)	Aug. 29 @ Lycoming UC: 0, Lycoming: 1 Shots on goal (UC): Seven	Aug. 30 @ Penn State-Abington UC: 2, PS-A: 0 Goals (UC): Alexis Haug, Jeannie Jasinski	Aug. 30 @ Eastern Mennonite UC: 5, East. Mennonite: 1 Goals (UC): Amber Steigerwalt (2), Danielle Strong, Samantha Macchio, Annie Kopera	Aug. 29-30 @ Moravian College Greyhound Premiere Tournament Game 1: UC: 2, Ramapo: 3 Game 2: UC: 1, Marymount: 3 Game 3: UC: 3, New Rochelle: 1 Game 4: UC: 3, Moravian: 0 Senior setter Gina Powers was named to the All-Tournament team.

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improvements so far. Communication skills are a big boost and a huge improvement from last year. Blickle is an extremely knowledgeable coach."

As a new head coach, Blickle has adjusted well learning the new system. He attributes this smooth transition to the work ethic of the team and the dynamic

"... The athletes have made it so much easier...here there is a lot more athletic support and the potential is huge."

— Carl Blickle

team chemistry, and believes the team has the right focus to be successful.

Blickle highlighted senior runners Emelia Perry and Emily Lamb as being leaders on the women's team and also has high expectations for senior runner Elizabeth Reynolds. Blickle also emphasized the strength of the men's junior class as being a huge part of their success this season.

"Vincent Flood is a great leader vocally," Blickle said. "Andrew Mackin is a phenomenal track athlete and a guy the team

respects and follows. Finally, David Slade is an extremely vocal leader who leads us through all our stretches and drills."

Blickle also mentioned Nolan Davis, James Hartop, and Luke Schlegel as runners who will play an important role on the men's team. Five of the aforementioned six runners are in the junior class—emphasizing how much of an impact Blickle feels that class will have on the team.

"I'm very excited about the upcoming season," senior runner Nicole La Ratta said. "Coach Blickle is extremely knowledgeable and excited to coach at Ursinus. He is a great communicator and takes a lot of time to explain the drills. [He] even spends a lot of time running with us."

Blickle expects to bring success to the program through his philosophy of providing the athletes with individualized training because everyone responds differently, and put them in the right opportunity. He believes that working hard and racing with intensity will set this year's team up for success.

"Coach Blickle is great," said Mackin. "He has previously coached a lot of great runners and has won many coaching awards. I think he is a big plus for the team. I think we have a shot to do really well in an extremely competitive conference."



Photo courtesy of Andrew Tran

Carl Blickle (far right), head coach of cross country/track and field, watches on as his athletes warm up for practice.



Photo courtesy of Andrew Tran

Captain Nora Kornfeld (center) defends the goal during an afternoon practice. The Bears won their first game against Eastern Mennonite on Aug. 30, with a final score of 5-1.

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As far as returners go, junior midfielder and Centennial Conference player of the year Megan Keenan is back. She led the Bears with 24 goals and 13 assists. Junior forward Devin Brakel was second on the team in points with 34, and the Bears also have the return of junior Reed, who was a key component to the Bears' mid-field for the past two seasons.

"We are returning all of our starting forwards and midfielders from last year," said Benner. "We continue to add to our depth in that area as well. I expect several different players to step up to put goals and assists on the board."

On the defensive side of things, the Bears are led by senior Nora Kornfeld and All-Centennial sophomore Aliko Torrence. On average last season, the Bears only allowed one goal per game and shut out five teams, which

included back-to-back shut outs against F&M and Wilkes.

"Our defensive unit continues to grow in strength and their ability to make good decisions," said Benner. "We are focused on a team defense mentality which has allowed our overall team defense to become stronger."

Junior goalkeeper Danielle DeSpirito played all but roughly three minutes of the last season, posting a 1.67 goals against average while making 100 saves. Boasting a 15-6 record, she also recorded the five aforementioned shutouts.

"We are returning our starting goalkeeper from last year and are excited to welcome a freshman goalkeeper to our squad," said Benner, mentioning Sydney Godbey who joined the team. "Their leadership in the back will be very important to our success as a team."

The Bears welcome eight

freshmen to the team this year, who Benner noted have been doing an outstanding job of making the transition to the college level.

"The freshmen are great this year. We all get along well and are all willing to push one another to continue to improve," said Reed.

Six of the Bears' first seven games will be on the road, a genuine test for any team.

"Our team expectations this year are to continue to grow together as a team, defend our conference title, and compete well in the NCAA tournament," said Benner. "We have a challenging schedule ahead of us and will need to focus on each game and each practice in order to be successful and reach our goals."

"I'm so excited for this season because we have so much team chemistry," Kornfeld said. Team chemistry is great and it makes playing with my teammates even more fun."

Upcoming Games:

Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
FOOTBALL @ TCNJ, 7:00 p.m.	MEN'S AND WOMEN'S XC @ Highlander Invite in Langhorne, 11:00 a.m. FIELD HOCKEY Home vs. William Smith, 12:00 p.m. MEN'S SOCCER @ Misericordia, 7:30 p.m. WOMEN'S SOCCER @ York (PA.), 7:00 p.m. VOLLEYBALL @ Hood College Tournament		VOLLEYBALL @ Rutgers-Camden, 7:00 p.m.	FIELD HOCKEY @ Messiah, 7:00 p.m. MEN'S SOCCER @ Marywood, 7:00 p.m. WOMEN'S SOCCER Home vs. Rowan, 7:30 p.m.	