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## The Grizzly, February 17, 2022

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# the grizzly

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## Happy Birthday, Ursinus!

Cici Chagnon

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On Friday, February 4, Ursinus students, faculty, and staff celebrated Founder's Day a day early, observing the establishment of the college in 1869. Balloons dotted the center of campus while S.T.A.T. (Students Today, Alumni Tomorrow) handed out goodies to the community from their table in the Upper Wismer Lobby. Students could also take pictures with friends at a photo booth in the Bear's Den.

This year's theme, chosen by the Office of Advancement, was "Rooted in the Past...Planted in the Present...Growing for the Future." Associate Director of College Events and Signature Programs, Christine Funchion, helped decide the theme. "Our team came up with the theme for this year's Founder's Day while brainstorming on program ideas. The

theme represents Ursinus in not just the past, but the present and future, as well." Students could pick up succulents to represent the theme, along with spirited-stickers, Philly soft pretzels, and hot chocolate packets. Faculty also received succulents and goodie bags in their own designated section of Wismer. S.T.A.T also created flyers with a short explanation of the meaning of Founder's Day. Mackenzie Donatelli '24, the Traditions Ursa Major of S.T.A.T, organized the event with fellow S.T.A.T teammates and the executive board. "[The flyers] just said when the college was founded, little fun facts, a little picture, stuff like that to get students more engaged," she explained.

S.T.A.T, along with the Ursinus community, feel that Founder's Day was successful in bringing together the Ursinus community and spreading joy on

campus. "I thought it went really well. I liked seeing the students happy," exclaimed Donatelli. Amanda Marley '23 agreed that attending the Founder's Day festivities with friends provided them with a much-needed study break. "We got to hang out, take some photo booth pictures, and grab a succulent," she said. "It was a great way to celebrate the start of Ursinus!" Rachel Herman '25 felt that Founder's Day perfectly represented its slogan. "I thought Founder's Day really connected the community back to our roots," she said.

Founder's Day has been an Ursinus tradition since 1909, as Archives and Special Collections Librarian, Carolyn Weigel, explained in her piece on the event's history. While today's "Grab and Go" event is much more casual, Founder's Day was once a more formal affair. Students dressed in their "Sunday best" and gathered in Bomberger to hear from the President and featured speakers. Founder's Day also marked the addition of several buildings on campus as well as inaugurations of presidents. "They had groundbreaking of build-

ings on campus, they named buildings, dedicated them," Weigel explained. "It was for whatever was happening on campus around that time of year to be highlighted."

Despite the toned down festivities, both due to modern changes as well as COVID-adaptations, all Bears can appreciate Founder's Day for its history and liveliness. "I think it brings a sense of the history and how long the college has actually been here, and possibly a new appreciation for everything that's gone on," Weigel said. Happy Birthday, Ursinus!



Image courtesy of Ursinus College

# Michael Green, Man Around Campus

## Brain Tague

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College is an extremely formative time for young people across the country as they look to come into their own as young adults. For Michael Green, a junior here at Ursinus College, that meant thrusting himself into a leadership role on campus. Green, alongside serving as President of Sigma Pi Fraternity and a Gold Ambassador, has been heavily involved in student government, serving as the President of the Class of 2023 his freshman and sophomore years, before moving up to become the student body Vice President this year. I sat down with Mike to discuss his leadership role here at Ursinus, both within student government and as a minority student at a PWI (Predominantly White Institution).

**BT:** Hello Mike, how are you doing this afternoon?

**MG:** I'm good, thank you for asking.

**BT:** So, I know that you are from the Harrisburg area, nearly two hours

away. I have to ask, what made you choose Ursinus?

**MG:** I chose Ursinus because I actually grew up right down the street, and when I started applying to schools I wanted to apply to as many schools as possible. My parents had remembered visiting the school with my sister and really liked it. I saw the application was free and so I decided to apply and then fell in love with it when I visited.

**BT:** I also fell in love with it when I visited, now when you first came to campus, did you initially want to join student government, or was that something that you decided to do later?

**MG:** It was something that I had thought about before. When I looked back at high school, I had always been super busy with football so there were a lot of things that I never participated in, student government being one of those. Once I realized that it was obtainable, I knew that it was definitely something that I had to dip my feet into.

**BT:** So, what advice

would you give to students, freshman in particular, who are looking to get into student government?

**MG:** I would definitely say to start putting yourself out there and meet people. You need to get elected so it is important that you start making those connections from very early on. Once you get elected, it is much easier to get re-elected as people are already familiar with you. It's very similar to actual government elections in that regard.

**BT:** So, is working within the government, or politics, something that you would like to get into after you graduate?

If so, do you think that your experiences in student government have helped prepare you for that?

**MG:** I definitely want to work in government, whether that is in an elected role or in any sort of politics, or elsewhere. I know I'm an economics major so it might be something as simple as doing economic analysis or working somewhere in the Department

of State. But I definitely think that it has helped me in very profound ways.

**BT:** Did you always intend to take a leadership role on campus, or was it more of something that you just go into by happenstance?

**MG:** I knew that I wanted to get involved, in whatever sort of capacity. I just naturally ended up in the leadership position and it fit.

Continued on **pg. 3**



Image courtesy of Michael Green

Continued from  
**pg. 2**

**BT:** As a minority student at a PWI, did you feel as though you had some sort of responsibility to run for student government?

**MG:** I would say I felt some responsibility because I'm under the mindset that if there is some-

thing that I wanted to complain about, but if I'm not willing to do it then my complaints don't really hold any weight. So, if I was going to just sit there and complain that there aren't minority students in positions of leadership on campus, then if I'm not the one attempting to change that then I shouldn't be the one

complaining about it. So, yeah, I would say that representation is one of the main reasons that I felt I should take up a leadership role.

**BT:** Do you feel that more students should try to take up leadership roles on campus, in particular those that belong to minority groups?

**MG:** Yes because it's something that

kind of crosses over to any sort of job that you may want, and it helps out with different majors. It looks good when you are coming out of school, and it provides good skills to learn. One of them being just how to deal with and work with other people, as well helping to show that you had responsibilities while

in school. Of course, jobs want to see that you had a good GPA and did well in your classes, but employers want to see other things as well.

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*"I just naturally ended up in the leadership position and it fit."*

**- Michael Green '23**

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## Make a Grizzly Grin

Our monthly challenge:

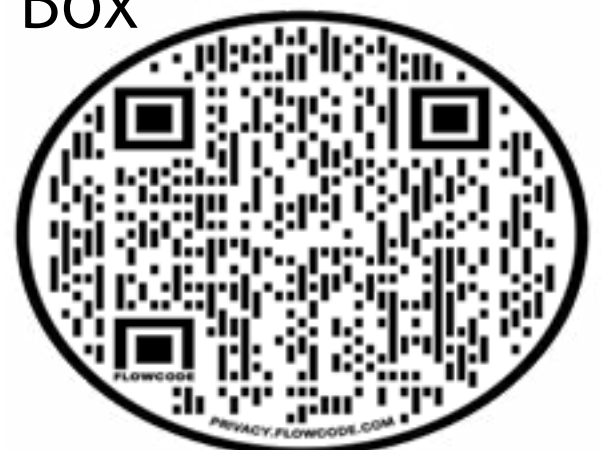
Give one genuine compliment to another for the next 28 days. It has to be a stranger, too!

How is it going?

Email us: [grizzly@ursinus.edu](mailto:grizzly@ursinus.edu) to let us know!

## Student Government Suggestion Box

Ursinus College Student Government wants to hear from you! Scan to fill out a Google survey to submit ideas or suggestions you want to see from Exec Board and Class Councils! Or if you have any problems you want us to address.



## The Search for a New English Professor

Jenna Smith  
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With the retirement of our beloved Dr. Rebecca Jaroff, there will be a hole left behind in the English Department. The process of hiring a new professor is a tedious one, and many professors within the department have reached out to their students asking them to meet with various potential candidates for input on this hefty decision.

The search is led by Associate Professor, Dr. Matthew Kozusko alongside Department Chair, Dr. Kara McShane and Associate Professor, Dr. Nzadi

Keita. The journey began last year in the spring, when the department first applied to hire another faculty member. This application was then reviewed by the Faculty Council and staff in Academic Affairs, and once approved, a job listing was posted this September. Applications were due November 1st and more than 200 people applied for the position, some even from across the globe.

After the initial applications were reviewed by McShane, Kozusko, and Keita, sixteen potential candidates were interviewed, and three were brought to campus.

Dr. Anthony Nadler from the Media and Communication Department aided as the team interviewed candidates over Zoom. Personnel from other departments, in this case Nadler, are needed in this process in order to provide an outside perspective of the campus and department's needs. The three candidates brought to campus met with faculty, the Dean, the President, and students in the English Department. In those specific student and candidate meetings, the candidates talked about their research, asked students questions about the department and other campus needs, and listened to the students' questions as well. The candidates also taught a class while visiting so faculty and students could get a better understanding of their teaching style and skills.

The department is looking to hire someone specifically focused in Trans-Atlantic Literature, which focuses on

literature that is written about people in that area. They also specifically searched for candidates who'd thrive working with other departments and in interdisciplinary studies. They mainly want someone "whose work puts literature into global contexts, basically, and who works across traditional national, ethnic, and temporal boundaries," explained McShane.

Student input in this search is an integral part in the decision making process. After meeting with candidates, students answered questions about their meeting with the candidate, to give feedback to the committee.



Courtesy of Kara McShane

McShane also stated, "Student feedback on what our candidates are like in the classroom is incredibly valuable, as are the informal meetings where students can ask questions, learn more about our potential new professor(s), and give those candidates a sense of how awesome our students are."



Courtesy of Julia Paiano

### Get Involved with the Radio!

WVOU is back and better than ever!

Email [wvou@ursinus.edu](mailto:wvou@ursinus.edu) to get involved!

**And watch out for joint WVOU-Grizzly events!**

# Movies with the Melrose Fellows

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Ursinus College's Melrose Fellows is a group of students dedicated to investigating some of our world's most important problems from a global perspective. With this in mind, you can be sure that any event associated with the group will include foreign cultures and international perspectives. One of these events was held on Thursday, February 3rd, in accordance with the ongoing International Film Festival organized by Ursinus' Dr. Matthew Mizenko, Associate Professor of Modern Languages, and Dr. Jennifer Fleeger, Professor of Media and Communications and Film studies.

The event served as a precursor to that night's showing of 2016's *In This Corner of the World*, by director Sunao Katabachi. As such, sushi, mochi, and other Japanese foods were served in accordance with the Japanese origin of that night's main movie event. The Melrose-specific precursor event

was organized by Dr. Rebecca Evans, associate professor of Politics and International Relations. When asked specifically about the potential for there being similar events in the future she mentioned there were future dinners restricted to only Melrose Fellows and foreign language TAs due to "budget and space constraints." Future movies will be in German, Arabic, Spanish (Peruvian), and French (Canadian). The opportunity to watch the film *In This Corner of the World*, even without participation in the Melrose event, still satisfied a lot of students.

For those not involved with Melrose Fellows, the experience provided a unique way of engaging with cultures they might not have had previous exposure to. This film in particular, with both the art style and themes, provided students with key insights into Japanese culture and value systems. As for the reception of the event, all students involved reacted overwhelmingly positively to it. "I had taken

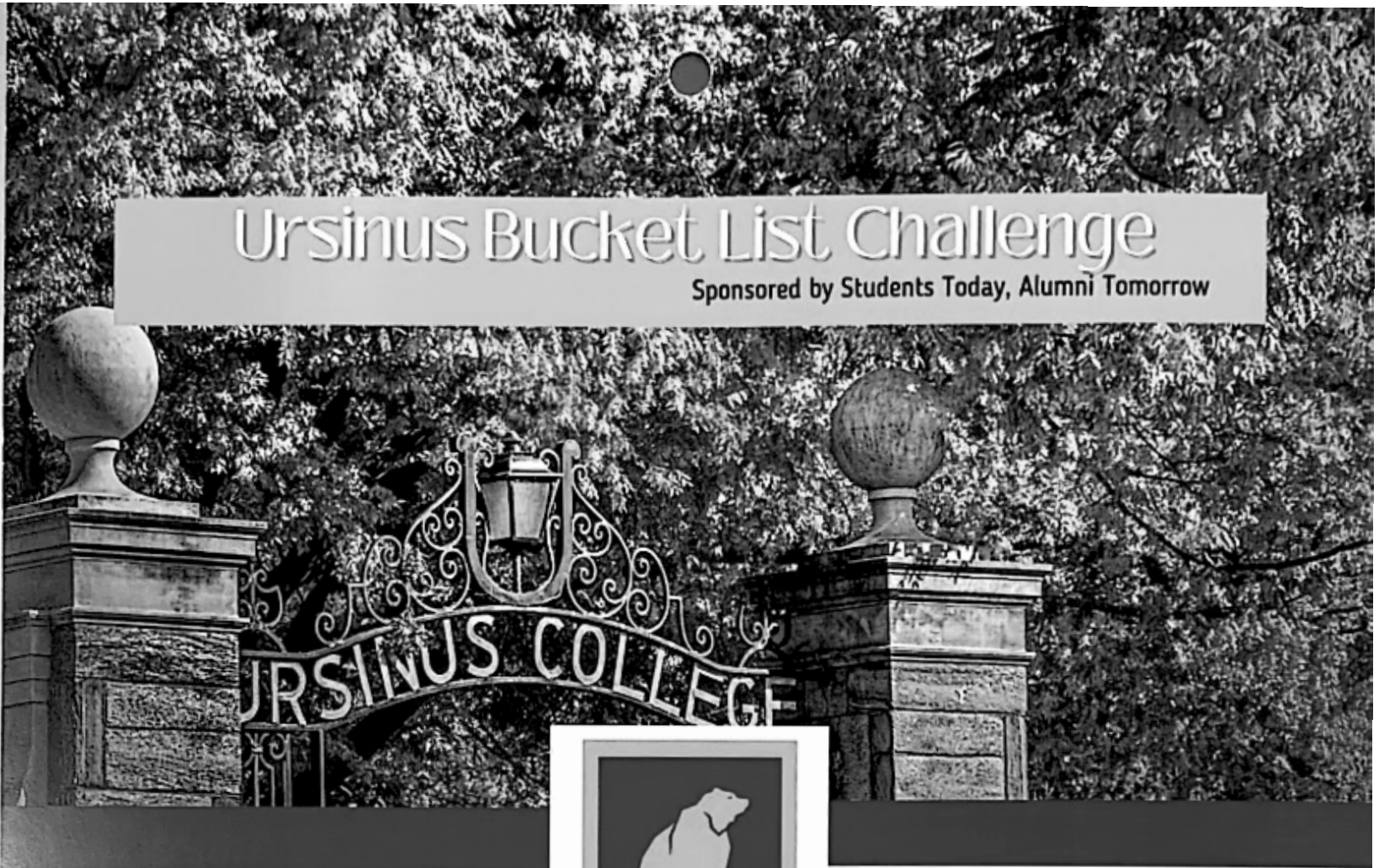


Courtesy of Melrose Fellows

a Japanese history through film course at Ursinus during my freshman year with Professor Mizenko," said Liam Reilly '24, "so I was interested in applying what I learned in my class when watching that night's showing of *In This Corner of the World*." For students involved with Melrose Fellows, it provided a chance to connect with others within the program while enjoying culturally specific

foods. "I thought it was a really fun event. I think it's fun to get involved with people who have similar interests as you. It felt like I could have talked to the other Melrose Fellows or other people at the event for hours," said Avery Samer '24. Connecting with others, whether it be through people you meet in specific programs or those solely attending the Festival's showing, seems

to be one of the main takeaways from the events of last Thursday night. Such an event seems directly in line with Ursinus' liberal arts education philosophy regarding the question of "How do we live together?" through its ability to allow students to connect over a unique culture.



## Ursinus Bucket List Challenge

Sponsored by Students Today, Alumni Tomorrow



- Join a club, team, or organization
- Chat with a professor after class
- Attend a Homecoming football game
- Attend Celebration of Lights
- Donate on #Giving2UCday
- Attend events during MLK Week
- Take a picture with a bear statue
- Get \$1 slices at Marzella's
- Visit the Berman Museum of Art
- Attend Convocation
- Attend a theater production
- Attend the Job, Internship, and Networking Fair
- Participate in the picnic during orientation
- Stop in the C-Store for a late night snack
- Go on a shopping spree at King of Prussia Mall
- Play a game of pool in Lower
- Take a late night trip to Wawa
- Get a shake from Main Street Nutrition
- Listen to a Parlee Center talk
- Take a selfie with the President
- Take a lab class

- Go to the Collegeville Italian Bakery
- Grab a coffee from Café 2020 in The Commons
- Pull an all-nighter during class registration night
- Talk to alumni during Alumni Weekend or Homecoming
- Lounge on one of the lawns on campus
- Clap in the middle of the labyrinth next to the Kaleidoscope (and hear the squeak!)
- Take a picture in front of the LOVE statue
- Attend a themed dinner sponsored by Students Today, Alumni Tomorrow
- Hit up The Grill for Mozzarella Stick Monday in Lower

- Visit the Career & Post-Graduate Development office
- Stop by a Greek philanthropy event
- Go to the Collegeville Diner
- Work out at Helfferich gym
- Eat at the Food Truck in Upper Wismer
- Take a walk on the Perkiomen Trail
- Go on a Target run
- Eat at the Trappe Tavern
- Attend a yoga class
- Take an art class
- Play an intramural sport
- Enjoy a concert from the music department
- Visit the Berman Museum
- Go to or present at CoSA
- Pet a campus dog
- Catch a movie at the Movie Tavern
- Buy Ursinus gear from the bookstore
- Take a picture under the Eger Gate
- Watch your friends graduate at Commencement
- Write on the Free Speech Wall in Lower Wismer

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Started: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Completed: \_\_\_\_\_



**1000 Points** cont. from pg. 8

were you before the game last Thursday since you were 9 shots away from 1,000 points?

*"I never intended on scoring 1,000 points, but my teammates trusted me in positions during games to score."*

—Ryan Hughes,  
Class of 2022

**RH:** "I was never nervous about scoring 1,000 points. Before the game my only focus was to win the game and if it happened, it happened. Coach Small and I had lengthy conver-

sations about just playing my game and let whatever happens happen. Basketball is a team sport; I have to put my focus on the team, not just on my own goals."

**KL:** What was going through your head before you made the final shot that won you the 1000-point record? What was going through your head after?

**RH:** Honestly, I did not know it was the 1000th point until my teammates and everyone started to celebrate. After I went to the bench everyone congratulated me, but

when we went into the huddle, I told everyone to focus on the game. It was nice of them to celebrate but we had a game to try and win."

*"As for now, I want to win a championship as a Bear here at Ursinus. That's my main priority."*

—Ryan Hughes,  
Class of 2022

**KL:** What other goals do you have now that you have reached this milestone in your basketball career?

**RH:** Other goals I have at Ursinus are winning a Centennial Conference Championship. Individual ac-

colades mean nothing to me. I want to win and be competitive. I want to leave a legacy as a leader for the younger guys on the team. I'm here to lead my team."

**KL:** What plans do you have for the future after your senior year at Ursinus?

**RH:** Some of my future plans, as far as basketball, is to play professionally overseas. As for now, I want to win a championship as a Bear here at Ursinus. That's my main priority now."

Ursinus could not ask for a better team captain or more

dedicated player. From all of us at The Grizzly, we are beary proud and are looking forward to seeing what you do next.

**Neal** cont. from pg. 8

dent-athletes actually be students, and in Tyler Neal's case, it was just that. Tyler transferred to Ursinus in the Fall of 2020, and hasn't looked back since.

"While I learned so much from going through the busy athletic schedule of division 1, having an adequate amount of time to be a college student proved to be very important to me. Switching to division 3 gave me the opportunity to play the sport I love while also having plenty of time to be a student and socialize with my friends and

teammates."

Since coming to Ursinus, he has flourished as a player. Neal tied the single-game points record in his first game with the Bears, and later led the team in goals and assists for the year. He earned all centennial honors in his first year, and even earned an All-American nod from InsideLacrosse magazine for the 2022 preseason. Out of all of his accomplishments at Ursinus, his favorite came about a month ago when he was promoted to captain.

"When transferring, the first worry on my mind

was meshing well, and the guys on my team made that an effortless experience for me. I could not be more proud to represent such a great group of guys. I am extremely grateful for my team's belief in me and I cannot wait to learn and grow in this role as we take on this spring season together."

*"I truly believe that the Men's Lacrosse team has some incredible things in store this season, and lots to prove, so you won't want to miss a second of what is to come this spring."*

—Tyler Neal,  
Class of 2023

Despite having experience playing division 1, Neal wouldn't say that the competition level is lower. Neal emphasized that Ursinus has given him the opportunity to hone his craft in order to bring home the Centennial Conference Championship, a feat that the Bears are still chasing after their victory in 2019.

With Neal at the helm, the sky's the limit for the Bears, and he expects nothing less than the sky itself. "I have never been a part of such a driven and hardworking atmo-

sphere. You can expect us to fight every opponent we face to the last whistle and give every game all we have. I truly believe that the Men's Lacrosse team has some incredible things in store this season, and lots to prove, so you won't want to miss a second of what is to come this spring."

As for this spring, expect for some big things to happen on Patterson field. You won't want to miss it.

## D3 Dreamin': The Tyler Neal Story

Vaughn DiBattista  
vadibattista@ursinus.edu

It's August 2020, and the Ursinus Men's Lacrosse team is eager to get back on campus and even more eager to get back to playing the sport they love. The guys exchange hugs after a long summer apart, as they spent quite some time distancing due to the pandemic. Many of the guys heard rumblings of a transfer student joining the team. But this wasn't just any transfer. This was Rutgers attackman, Tyler Neal '23.

Neal spent his high school days at Del-Val Regional High School in New Jersey, playing football and lacrosse for the Terriers. He originally committed to Providence College to play lacrosse, but he decided to flip his commitment to Rutgers in order to stay local. Tyler was living any

young athlete's dream as he was committed to play at a division 1 school.

Sadly, it's not all sunshine and rainbows out there. According to scholarshipstats.com, only 7% of all high school athletes will play a varsity sport in college. Fewer than 2% of all high school athletes will play a sport at the division 1 level. That means that only 1 in 57 athletes play sports at the division 1 level. It's a tough reality, but it's challenging for a reason. It's often said that playing a division 1 sport is like having a second job, as the time commitment leaves athletes struggling to manage their responsibilities as a full time student.

However, athletes have the option to take the division 3 route in order to gain a more balanced schedule. Division 3 lets stu-

See Neal on pg. 7



Courtesy of David Morgan

## 1,000 Points for Ryan Hughes

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Last Thursday, the Men's Basketball team had a close game against Haverford which they ended up unfortunately losing. However, the team still left in high spirits when one of their senior players and team captain, Ryan Hughes, scored his 1,000th point. Hughes was recruited by Ursinus in 2018 and chose it because of its great

academic program, and because he had built a good relationship with the coaching staff during the recruitment process. He is the 30th player in Ursinus Men's Basketball history to reach 1000 points. He went into the game against Haverford nine points away from the goal and reached it with some amazing three-point shots. Hughes was interviewed about his big night last Thursday after this notable achievement.

**KL:** Did you always intend to reach 1,000 points during your basketball career here at Ursinus or did it just happen?

**RH:** "I never intended on scoring 1,000 points, but my teammates trusted me in positions during games to score. I just ended up reaching that high number without really thinking much about it. I just put my focus on scoring."

**KL:** How nervous

See 1000 Points on pg. 7

### Upcoming Games

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Tuesday
Women's Lax@ 4pm	Swimming@ CCC	Swimming@ CCC	Swimming@ CCC Track&Field@ Invite Gymnastics@ 6pm Women's BB@ 5pm Men's Lax@ 7pm Men's BB@ 7pm	