



3-24-2022

The Grizzly, March 24, 2022

Layla Halterman

Marie Sykes

Chase Portaro

Erin Corcoran

Vaughn DiBattista

See next page for additional authors

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.ursinus.edu/grizzlynews>



Part of the [Cultural History Commons](#), [Higher Education Commons](#), [Liberal Studies Commons](#), [Social History Commons](#), and the [United States History Commons](#)

[Click here to let us know how access to this document benefits you.](#)

Authors

Layla Halterman, Marie Sykes, Chase Portaro, Erin Corcoran, Vaughn DiBattista, Abigail Coachi, Simbarashe Kanjanda, Nikole Lizeth, Fandino Pachon, Brooke Hurley, James Schuld, and Ro Murphy

the grizzly

IN THIS ISSUE:
 Art 4 Visibility.....3
 Kappa Alpha Psi.....4
 Swimming Recap.....

Collegeville, Pa.

Thursday, March 24th, 2022

Vol. 48 Issue 6

A Conversation with Incoming President Hannigan

Marie Sykes
 masykes@ursinus.edu

Chase Portaro
 chportaro@ursinus.edu

Dr. Robyn Hannigan will assume her new role as Ursinus's 19th president on July 1, 2022, and she is, as she puts it, "wicked excited" to start her journey in Collegeville. Dr. Hannigan is an environmental academic, inventor, and college administrator who has served on administrative teams at three colleges and two research institutions across the country. Most recently, she served as Provost for Clarkson University in Potsdam, NY, and before that, she was the Founding Dean of the School for the Environment at University of Massachusetts, Boston. Nina Stryker, the chair of Ursinus's Board of Trustees, wrote in a school-wide email that Hannigan differentiated herself

from other extremely qualified candidates "by articulating a vision for the liberal arts that is grounded in the public good." As someone who is knowledgeable about higher education with a background in environmental sustainability, Hannigan has expressed a commitment to Ursinus's vision of providing students with an interdisciplinary program that takes place in a close-knit, residential community. She brings with her a passion for bettering the lives of students, drawing on her own experience as a first-generation college student and descendant of the Narragansett Indian tribe.

In addition to her background as an environmental science specialist in the field of academic administration, Hannigan holds four patents and has founded two separate start-up companies that specialize in technological optimization. She also has served as a

Program Officer for the National Science Foundation, an independent government agency supporting research and education.

Dr. Hannigan will join the Ursinus community with her husband, Alan Christian, and their eleven year-old daughter, Cami, as well as their three dogs, Skippy, Freyja, and Astro. Alan is an aquatic ecologist and associate director of the Honors Program at Clarkson, where Hannigan is the current Provost. Their daughter Cami rides horses, is interested in math, and loves cooking and creating art.

MS & CP: You spent this last week visiting Ursinus. What stood out to you from being on campus?

RH: You know what I really like? Just the vibe of campus. You know how you can go some places and feel [that] either it's really stiff or it's real-

ly fun? But I felt the latter. I felt a lot of really positive energy, but I felt a lot of sincere teamwork here that we're all on the same team... We're all working together [and] doing the same thing.

MS & CP: Yeah, community is a really big thing, that's why people come to Ursinus.

RH: You can feel it... it's to the credit of students in particular. I watched the student exchange we had over at Wisner and saw how students were interacting with other

four patents to your name, and you were a founding Dean at UMass Boston's school of Environmental Science. You clearly have a passion for ingenuity in education. How do you see yourself applying that inventive mindset to academic administration at Ursinus?

RH: So I'm an entrepreneur at heart and I mean entrepreneur in the true meaning of the word. A lot of people think "entrepreneur" means that I'm out to make a lot of money. I'm not.



Courtesy of Ursinus College

Cont. from pg. 1

What I like to do is innovate for the common good. And in my research that turned into stuff... but in my academic leadership positions it's, "let's look at the way we're doing stuff and see if it's the most efficient, if it's the most creative, if it's the most inclusive" -- because I'm really big into diversity and inclusion. How can we bring all the creativity to bear and think outside the box? I'm also of the opinion, if it's not broken don't fix it. Almost everything can be improved but it's how we innovate our way into achieving the mission is what I'm into.

MS & CP: Do you have any plans for sustainability on campus when you come to Ursinus?

RH: I certainly see ways for us to optimize what we're doing, and there is no question Ursinus has a firm grounding in sustainability. With the Environmental Studies program, the food forest, the work being done with the Delaware tribe, the Lenape-- there's a lot of really great things

happening at Ursinus, but does that translate to everything we could be doing? If we look at the seventeen United Nations goals of sustainability-- everything I do is through those lenses. Are our facilities operations equally invested in those things, and equally supported to be successful? For instance, the United States Library Association just launched sustainable libraries as a certification your library can earn, so is our library positioned to become a certified sustainable library? So, that's the kind of stuff I think we can do at Ursinus. Because it is a community, you can actually work across different parts of campus much more effectively than you can at larger institutions. So definitely, my passion for the planet and people is what drives me. That is what I have dedicated my career to, my research, so I am definitely passionate about that.

A lot of students feel helpless in terms of sustainability on their campus, but I want to put it straight to you guys, you have all the power. To change an in-

stitution and the way it handles sustainability, the students have an enormous amount of say in that conversation.

MS & CP: Ursinus just recently issued a land acknowledgment expressing recognition and gratitude for the land used to build this campus, which was formerly inhabited by indigenous peoples. Considering your mother was a member of the Naran-gasset nation, do you feel any personal pride in Ursinus's relationship with the local indigenous communities?

RH: I have to say it means everything to me, in particular with the history of the Lenape people in Pennsylvania. PA is the only state that does not formally recognize any tribes, or any tribal lands. So for Ursinus to do this, it's a big deal. I think that Ursinus is doing yeoman's work in being the academic institution that's taking the lead. And for me, the way Ursinus's land acknowledgment was developed is very important. A lot of institutions' land acknowledgment efforts are

very performative. They look at other institution's land acknowledgments, copy it up, and call it a day. That is not what Ursinus did in their land acknowledgment. They did it in partnership with the community they were welcoming home. That resonates through all of us, and it tells us that story of community and the importance of true justice on Ursinus's campus.

So, what I have seen nationally, where students are trained in really strong sciences, they also have that really strong foundation in transdisciplinary studies like the humanities and arts that make them substantially more successful.

MS & CP: What is the most important thing the student body should know about you?

RH: I am who it appears I am. I am very approachable, and I am here 100% on your side to help in any way. I know how difficult this college journey is. The students should know that I can be un-presidential sometimes, in the traditional sense that

a president is stuffy and unapproachable, that is definitely not me. (Chase: "We like that.") As a president though, I want them to know that I am here to champion all that Ursinus is, and when you are with us, you are with us for life. This is a family, and I firmly believe that. And sometimes I'll act like your mother, you know I will ask you, "Where's your coat? What're you doing?" But most importantly, I want them to know that I definitely am who I say I am.

As the interview was ending, Dr. Hannigan's Great Dane, Astro, came to her office door, wondering if his mom's first interview as president of Ursinus College had concluded. In a not at all "presidential" way, she scooped up her jumbo-sized canine and gave it a big mom-hug. Hannigan introduced us to Astro and told us that the entire campus can look forward to seeing him and his siblings, Skippy and Freyja, soon.

Art for Visibility

Erin Corcoran
ercorcoran@ursinus.edu

As you walk through the halls of first-year living centers, you may notice new artwork lining the Common Rooms. These installations are part of a new campus initiative, Art for Visibility.

Art for Visibility, a project spearheaded by students Abigail Coachi '22 and Brooke Yanaga '22, promotes visibility and belonging among Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) students on campus. Yanaga wanted to make an impact following a 2019 conversation as a Resident Advisor (RA) where a freshman approached her about feelings of burnout and alienation as a Student of Color living on a predominantly white campus. After this conversation, she wanted to

contribute to changing the dynamic for this student and many other BIPOC students who face similar issues at Ursinus. Two years later, she conceptualized Art for Visibility as part of her senior capstone course, "Black Women Authors," began writing project drafts and held two focus groups. Her conversations as an RA also made her realize the importance of placing these diversity-focused artworks in the first-year living centers of BPS and BWC. She then enlisted Coachi's help as they both saw the importance behind the mission and had valuable experience in leading a similar project with the founding V.I.R.T.U.E. The two student leaders completed

various tasks to bring this vision to life. They created and submitted a proposal for the Inclusive Community Grant, facilitated involvement and help from all involved departments, sought submissions, and oversaw the project installations. Many communities on campus gave integral guidance and support through the process as well, including faculty advisor Heather Lobban-Viravong, Curatorial Assistant Teddi Caputo, The Berman Museum, Residence Life, and Facilities.

Currently, the Art for Visibility collection features nine artists spanning across different identities and class years. Artists include Xuán Phan, Alexzandra Lubon '18, Christy Nelson '21, Abigail Coachi '22, Jennifer-

Berrios '22, Simba Kanjanda '22, Nikole Lizeth Fandiño Pachon '23, Isabel Wesman '23, and Kyra Norman '25. The media for these range from murals to paintings to photographs, each centered on their varied experiences as BIPOC on and off campus.

When asked about the importance of the permanent art installation, Yanaga replied, "These artworks will allow future first-years to see themselves on the walls of their residence halls and feel safe and seen, knowing that they are not alone on campus and that there were others who similarly walked these halls before them, as the artists will eventually graduate to become alumni and leave their legacies behind for future incoming classes."

Both leaders hope that the initiative will continue to grow after their time at Ursinus comes to an end. Ideally, Yanaga and Coachi would like to see Art for Visibility expand to other living spaces at some point, such as Main Street or New/North. They have received positive comments on the current pieces, and are proud of the impact and representation this project will bring students for years to come.

To see the artists' work and find updates about Art for Visibility, follow @ursinus.art4visibility on Instagram.

Kappa Alpha Psi: Seeking Achievement

Vaughn DiBattista
vadibattista@ursinus.edu

When thinking about your typical fraternity, it can be easy to get caught up in the glitz and glamor of the frat life. We've all seen coverage from popular media outlets like Barstool, Old Row, and others that essentially highlight the "party" side of life in a fraternity. Amidst the media attention, it can be easy to forget about the core values that come with Greek life. Fraternities were put in place in order to instill values of brotherhood, civic engagement, and leadership. In our day and age, these values sometimes seem forgotten.

However, there is surely hope. In 1911 at Indiana University Bloomington, two African-American men named Elder Watson Diggs and Byron Kenneth Armstrong set forth to create the first ever historically African-American national intercollegiate fraternity. The fraternity would go by the name of Kappa Alpha Psi. Fast forward to today, the fraternity holds over 125,000 members worldwide, and the Omicron Kappa chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi at Ursinus is a perfect embodiment of brotherhood, civic engagement, and leadership.

"Once you become a Kappa, you are a Kappa for life," says

member Amir Pickens '23. "This fraternity isn't just something you do for four years. It's a lifetime commitment. This is one of the reasons we are so close, because when you and your line brothers are initiated, you know you will be brothers for life and nothing can come between that."

While emphasizing the concepts of brotherhood and

"Once you become a Kappa, you are a Kappa for life."
- Amir Pickens '23

leadership, the members of Kappa Alpha Psi pride themselves on their commitment to achievement. Going back to its inception, the fraternity

was founded on the concept of lifting up young African-American members and guiding them towards a life of success. Each member of Kappa Alpha Psi is committed to leading a life of success, hoping that it will pave the way for brothers in the future.

"To be a part of the Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity means that you are a part of a group bigger than yourself. It means that you stand for something. It means you have values, and as the motto goes, you seek achievement in every field of human endeavor," emphasized Kappa Josh Bowman '23.

Something interesting about Kappa Alpha Psi is the use of a red colored cane as a primary symbol

"To be a part of the Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity means that you are part of a group bigger than yourself. It means that you stand for something."

- Josh Bowman '23

for the fraternity. Upon admittance into the brotherhood, every member can be

seen pictured holding what they call the "Kappa Kane." While it looks rather stylish, the cane has a much deeper meaning.

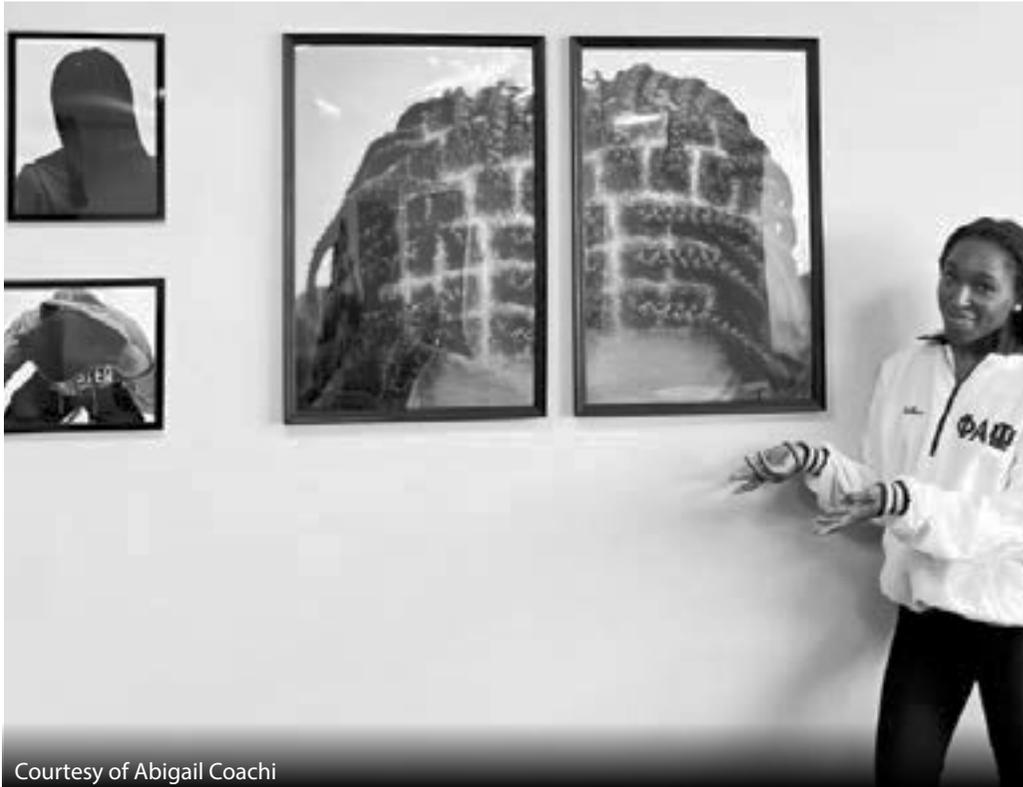
"Kappas are known for using canes because back in the old days gentlemen used them," the fraternity members said. "Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity prides itself on its members having high morals and being in good standing with their community, thus making canes a symbolic item to represent our gentlemanship and demeanor."

Nonetheless, the members of Kappa Alpha Psi perfectly represent those fraternal values of brotherhood and leadership. If you are a student looking to dawn the red letters, you will be buying into a community of immense love and reverence. The bond is truly unlike any other fraternity I've witnessed, as the Kappas are dedicated to the success of every one of their brothers.



Courtesy of Kappa Alpha Psi

Art 4 Visibility (Continued)



Courtesy of Abigail Coachi

Artist: Abigail Coachi

Title: I Am Not My Hair - India Arie

Medium: Digital Photography

Location: Beardwood Common Room



Courtesy of Simbarashe Kanjanda

Artist: Simbarashe Kanjanda

Title: Amal (Mother) / Home, 2021-2022

Medium: Acrylic on Canvas

Location: BWC Common Room



Courtesy of Nikole Lizeth Fandino Pachon



Artist: Nikole Lizeth
Fandino Pachon

Title: Foraleza

Medium: Digital Art

Location: Stauffer

All images courtesy of Art 4
Visibility

The Inconvenience of Main Street Sidewalk Construction

Brooke Hurley
brhurley2@ursinus.edu

As the weather begins to warm-up and the Colledgeville community becomes more active outside, the need for walkability and enjoyment of the surrounding area increases. However, the constant ruckus, detours, and long lines of traffic created by the sidewalk construction along Main Street has limited this ability for students and Colledgeville residents. The worn out sidewalks were in fact due for an update, but students are inconvenienced by it.

The construction began around the start of the Ursinus spring semester.

As students came back to campus, the first weeks in January, nearly the entire sidewalk on the campus side of Main Street had been ripped apart and closed for construction. The inconvenience of the sidewalks being closed during this time has been noticed by many students across campus, especially those living in Main Street homes. “At first it was extremely inconvenient, having to walk through campus to get to Starbucks for breakfast made my morning wake up call a little longer. Now, we just walk on the sidewalk that is not under

construction and cross right in front of the Commons. It still takes longer and can be annoying when you are in a rush, especially when we first came back to campus,” said Mariah Lesh, a senior who resides on Main Street. Because of the popularity of the Starbucks located in the new Schellhase Commons, the sidewalk is used by students living on Main Street daily.

Not only do students find it inconvenient for walking around campus, the constant noise and excessive traffic back-ups have also raised frustration. “The timing is very

inconvenient, most of the machines and loud construction is done between 7-9 am and then stops for the rest of the day. It’s really frustrating when I have Zoom calls early in the morning or even trying to sleep in,” stated Olivia DeBonte ‘22, a resident of Hobson Hall.

Although the new sidewalks were necessary to the revitalization of Colledgeville, the month-long inconvenience that the construction has students looking forward to the completion of the sidewalk construction.

As we go into the final week of February, the

construction is just beginning to wrap up with fresh new sidewalks. The ability to have new sidewalks is appreciated.



Credits: Grace Wurzer

Swim cont. from pg. 8

except for one. The Men's team also placed high in just about every one of their events. Senior Captain Ryan Carkhuff led the Men's team in all sprint freestyle events and sophomore Stephen Lyons was right behind him. Freshman Jonah Kasznay led the men in stroke events, but Senior Captain Matt Snyder and juniors Max Valeriano and Ryan Schreffler, also contributed to some wins.

After being away from a Championship meet for two years, the Bears did not hold back. There was much

more than wins that made this meet so spectacular. Making memories and showing the underclassmen, as well as prospective students, that the work they put in all season pays off was another huge accomplishment for the team. Carkhuff explains that he was "able to choose a walkout song because I placed first in the 50 free, so that was a cool experience. We also finished top 3 in two of my relays and that is the highest place we have gotten in my career. Finally, seeing the whole team swim well was awesome. I was very happy and proud

of my teammates and honored to be their captain." Lear added, "To start, the relays were super exciting. It showcased how well every girl on the team was performing for each other. As a team almost half the size of other teams, we held our own in the conference and that was the best part of the weekend."

"One person's success is everybody's success."

—Sophie Lear
Class of 2022

While the team was busy making a huge impression, they also wanted to show what this meet means for

all of them. "I hope it showed the underclassmen that all of their hard work and time in and out of the pool was worth it and paid off. In future years, they need to remember the fun they had at this meet but also how they got there," explained Carkhuff. Making an example of what the success that this program has and showing how close the team is, was a great way to end their season. "This meet was an example of the unending support from each other, our coaches, and our families. We truly have the best support system in the conference, and

one person's success is everybody's success," concluded Lear.

While all of these aqua Bears have finished up their season, there are two left that qualified to compete at Nationals during the week of March 14-20th. Sophie Lear is attending for her second trip in this competition, while Ryan Carkhuff is the first male from UC to ever make it. As a member of the UC Swim Team myself, I wish them the best of luck as they go to represent UC. Go Bears!

Men's BB cont. from pg. 8

Hughes '23 made the All-CC 1st Team. The Bears also had two CC Players of the week with juniors Kyle Maurer and Ryan Hughes both achieving this honor. Last but not least, Ryan Hughes eclipsed the 1,000 point mark for his career on February 2 against Haverford. Hughes finished his 3rd season with a total of 1,188 points and will surely continue to climb up the ranks amongst some of the best scorers in Ursinus College history come this November.

As we as fans look ahead to another season of Bears basketball,

there is plenty to be excited about. To start, the team is returning all but two players with seniors Peyton Vostenak and Matt McMahan graduating in May. Vostenak and McMahan both played valuable roles on the team this past season and surely they will be deeply missed. With that said, the Bears have young talented players who are eager to fill in those spots in the season to come.

On the topic of young talent, I was recently able to talk to Sean Neylon '25, and asked him about his smooth transition to the college level and what

the future holds for the Bears. "The transition to college had a bit with just trying to stay in the gym, but the confidence from our older players really made me feel comfortable while playing with a newer group. Also, we have a great group of guys.

"We will be back in the playoffs next year and we will be hungry for the chip!"

—Ryan Hughes
Class of 2023

The incoming group is talented as well, so I'm very excited about our future." Neylon immediately stepped into a

starting role this season in which he averaged 12 points, 4.5 rebounds and 1.6 assists per game on 53.2% true shooting. Stepping into that role and doing so well as a first year is truly a testament to the confidence the upperclassmen had in Neylon and the rest of this young Bears core. Continuing with upperclassmen, I was also able to talk to Ryan Hughes '23 about his thoughts on next season. He said, "I'm very confident in the guys because after we lost our last game you could tell it stung. That only means one thing, these guys care and we are hungry to

get a Centennial Championship. This off-season will be a big one for us and I think these guys are ready to take our game as a team to the next level. We will be back in the playoffs next year and we will be hungry for a chip!" The rest of the Centennial should be put on notice from this quote because hungry Bears run faster!

Hearing this from a leader on the team, such an exuberance of pride and confidence is the type of attitude that will only add to the winning culture that is Ursinus Men's Basketball for years to come.

Men's Basketball Closes Season

James Schuld
jaschuld@ursinus.edu

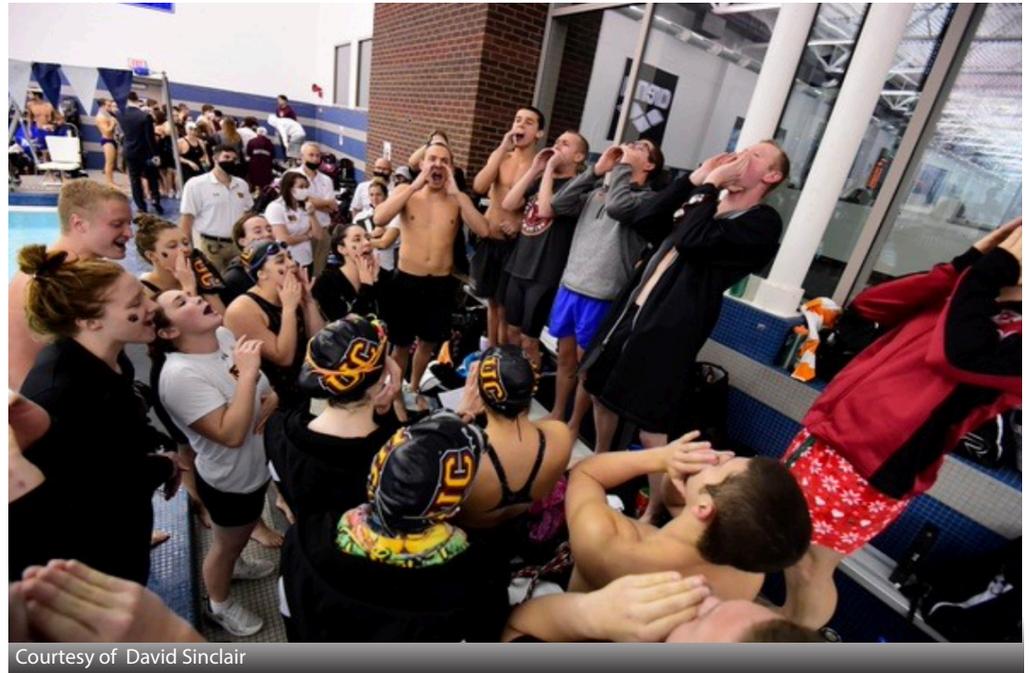
The Men's Basketball team recently closed out its season with a hard-fought playoff loss to John Hopkins University on February 25th. Overall, the Bears finished 13-13 with a 9-9 record in conference play. Even though the season did not end with a Centennial Conference championship, there is still a plethora of good things to take away and look forward to.

This season, there were plenty of Bears in the top five across the conference in terms of statistics. Ryan Hughes '23 was second in the conference by only one tenth of a point with 18.9 points per contest along with being fifth in rebounds at 6.5 per game. Cole Grubbs '25 was second in the conference in rebounds with 7.1 boards per game, adding to his great year on the defensive end where he averaged 2 blocks per game, making

him second in that category as well. Lastly, the Bears had two players in the top 5 of 3-point percentage with Peyton Vostenak '22 at second, shooting 48.8% from downtown, and Trevor Wall '24 at fifth, shooting 40.3% from distance. As a team, the Bears led the league in both field goal percentage and 3-point percentage, shooting 46.7% and 37.4% respectively. This stellar offensive consistency led them to third in points per game by just one tenth of a point with 77.3 points per game.

In terms of personal achievement, this was also a very impressive year for the Bears. Coach Kevin Small won his 300th game as Ursinus Head Coach on Senior Day against Washington College. In terms of All-CC honors, Peyton Vostenak '22 made the All-Sportsmanship Team, Trevor Wall '24 made the 2nd Team while Ryan

See **Men's BB** on pg. 7



Courtesy of David Sinclair

Swim CCC Recap

Ro Murphy
romurphy@ursinus.edu

After six long months of practices, meets, and trips, the Ursinus College Swim Team has finally closed their season. On the weekend of February 17-20th, both Men's and Women's swimming competed in the Centennial Conference Championship, which took place at Franklin and Marshall College. Arriving on the 17th, a Thursday night, the Bears dove into the first session

out of a total 7. Despite only having 10 women and 14 men, both teams combined broke 6 records and placed fourth overall at the end of the meet. But breaking records was not the only accomplishment for these Bears.

With breaking records also comes a lot of first place medals, and the women made sure they came home with some gold. Senior Captain, Sophie Lear, placed first in all of her sprint events, starting the Bears off with 3

gold medals for individual events, and 2 more golds from relays. Senior Oliviah Rachael was right behind Lear in all of her sprint events. Following Lear and Rachael was sophomore Missy Leonard, who also earned herself 3 individual gold medals and 2 golds from relays. Not only did the women finish with a total of 8 gold medals, right behind Swarthmore College's 9, but they also won every sprint freestyle event

See **Swim** on pg. 7

Upcoming Games

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Tuesday
Men's Golf@ TBD Baseball@ 3:30pm Men's Lax@ 7pm Women's Lax@ 7pm	Softball@ 3pm Baseball@ 3:30pm Women's Tennis@3:30 Softball@ 5pm		Gymnastics@ All Day Women's Lax@ 12pm Softball@ 1pm Tennis@ 1pm Softball@ 3pm	Softball@ 3pm Softball@ 5:30