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The Grizzly, November 3, 2022

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The Grizzly



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A Look Ahead:

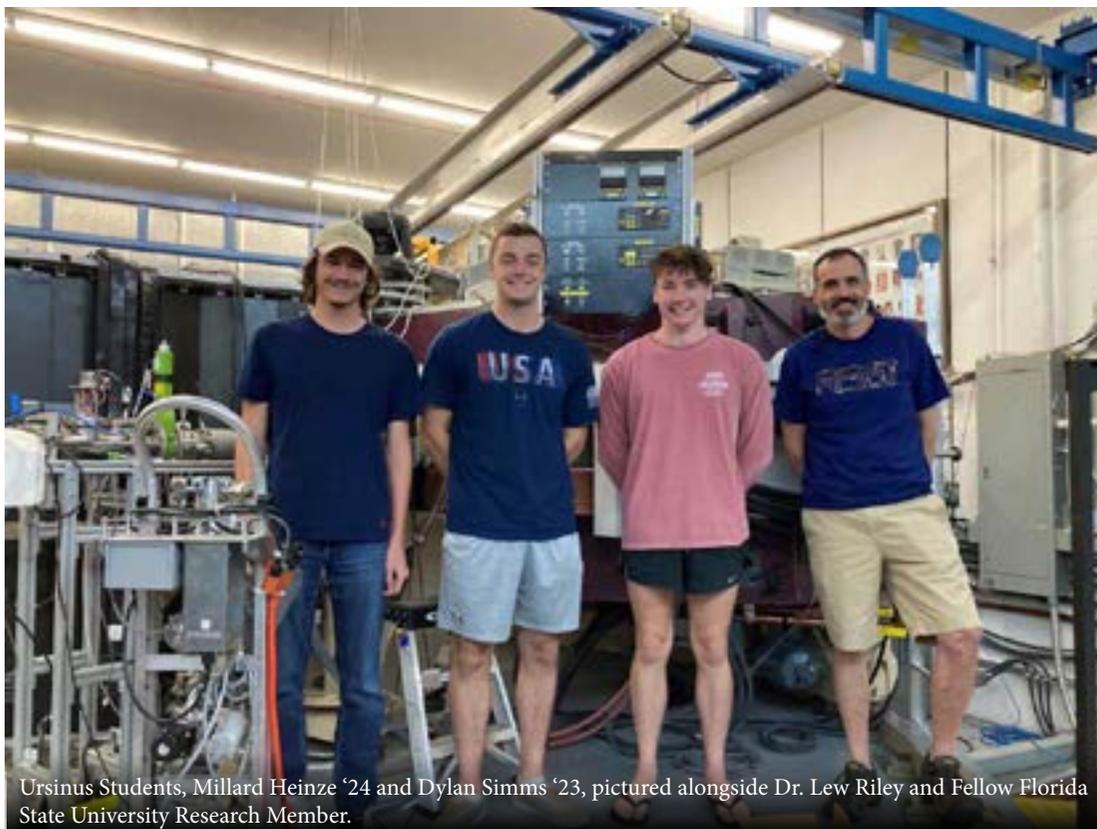
At *The Grizzly*, we believe that there is always something to look forward to.

'A Look Ahead' is a section where our team showcases upcoming articles. The purpose is to generate excitement within our readership and the extended Ursinus community.

- » The Writing Center
- » UC Imagine Fest
- » Philadelphia Sports HOF

Nuclear Research Gets New Funding

Kate Horan: kahoran@ursinus.edu



Ursinus Students, Millard Heinze '24 and Dylan Simms '23, pictured alongside Dr. Lew Riley and Fellow Florida State University Research Member.

With a new grant from the National Science Foundation, Ursinus College Professor of Physics Lew Riley and his research group of Ursinus students have earned funding to continue conducting their nuclear structure research. Describing the work performed by the group, Riley said, "My research group studies the interplay between the behavior of the individual protons and neutrons in atomic nuclei and collective behavior, in which a large number of protons and neutrons move together in nuclear vibrations or rotations. The protons and neutrons in atomic nuclei fill a series of orbits in a very similar way to electrons in atoms."

Riley explained that during the summers of 2019-2022 at the Fox Lab at Florida State University (with a pause in 2020 due to Covid-19) his research group, the Ursinus College Nuclear Structure Group, has conducted a series of experiments "that help us map the single-neutron

orbits." This work at FSU helped Riley's research group to better understand the collective behavior of neutrons in nuclei, and with the help of NSF's funding, their research does not end there.

Riley's research team is now preparing for a pair of experiments that they plan to run at the Facility for Rare Isotope Beams at Michigan State University (FRIB) in 2023. Riley explained that "these measurements are exciting, because we will be using a brand new, cutting edge accelerator facility to study an exotic nucleus, Si-42, that has twice as many neutrons as protons. We want to know whether the protons and neutrons behave differently when they are so far out of balance."

Dylan Simms '23 and Mill Heinze '24, members of Riley's research group, are excited to continue their nuclear structure research and further their knowledge in the nuclear field. Simms commented, "I am excited to see what more we can dis-





Continued from page 1. cover about Chromium 52, as well as what comes after the dp reactions of certain elements. I am also excited to learn more about how the process of the experiment can be further modified to give information that we might be limited to receiving.”

The research itself is important, but the experience is also very valuable. Heinze explained the educational importance of conducting this research, stating, “the experience gained from research was enormous, I was able to work [with] lots of different instruments and people from different levels of physics. I learned a lot from

the professors and the graduate students while I was at Florida State. I plan on using this experience whenever I am in a lab again.” In addition to benefiting the Physics community with their findings, these students are gaining knowledge through their experience of conducting this research. Students in Riley’s research group are discovering new information while also cultivating key skills for further work in the field.

“Another exciting part is the possibility of a paper being published, being a small part of a larger piece of work that will be looked at across the Physics community

is a really cool feeling,” said Heinze. This research is providing students with exciting opportunities to collaborate with others and develop new knowledge in a field that they are passionate about, and the grant from NSF will support the growth of more opportunities. With new funding and Riley leading the way, this group will continue their research, providing intellectual contributions to the Physics community and valuable experiences to Ursinus students.

Celebration of Lights

Amelia Kunko: amkunko@ursinus.edu

Ursinus’s annual Celebration of Lights, an event that allows the campus community to celebrate different traditions across cultures, is quickly approaching. Students Today, Alumni Tomorrow has organized the celebration, which was started by alumna Lizzy DeWitt ’19. This year, Celebration of Lights will be held on Monday, November 7th at 7:00 p.m and will take place in Bomberger Auditorium.

The Celebration of Lights is a chance for the Ursinus community to unite, sharing traditional and cultural experiences. “Students are invited to tell a story, perform a song or dance, or share some memories with a goal to promote love and understanding for one another across campus,” says Aidan Nadell ’25, chair of the Celebration of Lights program. STAT looks forward to featuring a variety of acts from students and organizations on campus, both those who have participated in the event in years prior and those who will be participating for the first time this year. “In the past, we have featured the Gospel Choir, Hillel, the TA’s, and Seismic Step,” Nadell says. “We look forward to hearing from them again and incorporating more organizations!” Each group’s act is about 3-5 minutes in length.

The Ursinus community not only can learn more about other cultural traditions during the Celebration of Lights, but can also find common ground with other students who may share traditions akin to their own. “It is a unifying event that helps students understand more about how we can live together,” says Isabella Villegas



Photo is from 2021. Courtesy of Ursinus College

’23, Vice President of STAT. “It also helps individuals see that others may have similar traditions and they are never alone.”

According to Heidi Jensen ’14, Assistant Director of Alumni Relations, this year is the first time that alumni are officially being invited back for the event.

Celebration of Lights is a great way for the community to explore the core questions of “how should we live together” and “how can we understand the world,” as well as commemorate the way that diversity plays an important role here at Ursinus. If you would like to learn more about cultures and traditions celebrated across campus, make sure to stop by the Bomberger Auditorium on November 7th. In addition to organizing a variety of acts, STAT will be serving lots of hot chocolate for those who

attend. “This year, the campus can expect a full line up of different demonstrations, presentations, and songs,” says Villegas. “Also, we doubled the amount of hot chocolate we are getting this year.” Be sure to grab a sweet treat, and don’t forget to check out the raffle. “We have a hot chocolate bar and treats, as well as a raffle for an Ursinus swag basket,” says Nadell. “We hope to see you there!” Groups and organizations interested in participating in the Celebration of Lights were asked to sign up by filling out a brief survey by October 25th. If you have any questions about this year’s Celebration of Lights event, contact Aidan Nadell at @ainadell@ursinus.edu.

A November Note from the Editor

Layla Halterman: lahalterman@ursinus.edu

Dear Ursinus Family,

Our modern day associations with Thanksgiving center around stuffing our faces with traditional fare like turkey and pumpkin pie, watching football, and reuniting with our loved ones. And while that is all well-founded, we tend to unintentionally get distracted from the true meaning, it is a dance between commemoration and expression of gratitude.

Five years ago today, I was deteriorating due to complications from routine oral surgery. I had symptoms of a recurring high fever and a suspicious mass inside my cheek. After doctors made an incision in my cheek and removed a large portion of the mass, I learned the unimaginable: an atypical mycobacterial infection, presenting a very rare, aggressive bug that was thankfully treatable with intense antibiotic therapy.

But recovery did not go as planned. It

was instead a treacherous, uphill battle. I dropped down to a whopping 90 pounds. Every antibiotic cocktail I was prescribed set me back even further, progressively making me sicker and sicker. I then developed Stevens-Johnson Syndrome, an allergic reaction that affected my mucous membranes, leaving me with painful open lesions that covered every inch of my body constricting my ability to see, walk, and eat. Given my rapid decline, doctors were convinced my fate was written — six feet under — leaving me with no choice but to be swallowed up in the deep fog of fear and sorrow.

As I write to you today, two things hold true. I'm not a courageous person by nature. And ever since my illness, I suffer from a great deal of PTSD. It is like a ribbon running throughout me, close enough where I can touch it. In fact, I can no longer get my blood drawn or make it through a doctor's appointment - even the yearly checkups – without a fit of terror.

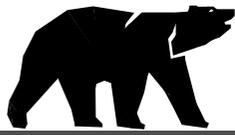
But my near-death experience has changed me in very profound ways, motivating me to live a life of gratitude. I used to die for the weekends. I used to die for the summers. And before I knew it, I was dying in Overlook Hospital. I now seize every day, celebrate always, and focus intently on the moments of joy.

It is the greatest irony of my life that my near-death account helped me find deeper gratitude – gratitude for love of my family, the embrace of my friends, the normal blood counts, and the moments of doubled-over laughter. But it should never take a brush of death for us to understand what a privilege it is to simply be alive and healthy. The moment you start treating life like a blessing, I assure you it will start to feel like one not only on Thanksgiving, but in the days to come.

Yours truly,
Layla

NOVEMBER 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 All Saints' Day	2 All Souls' Day	3	4	5
6	7	8 VOTE Election Day	9	10	11 VETERANS Veterans Day	12
13 World Kindness Day	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 Thanksgiving	25	26 National Cake Day
27	28	29	30			



Calling the Audience to the Stand

Marie Sykes: masykes@ursinus.edu

Though the outcome of the Dan White Trial may be known, Ursinus' production of the docudrama, *Execution of Justice*, by Emily Mann, will keep us on the edge of our seats throughout the entire show. It is clear from the beginning Dan White is found innocent of the murder of San Francisco Mayor George Marscone and City Supervisor Harvey Milk. The play still pulls us in mirroring the real life events of the 1979 trial showing both what happened at the trial and the stories that could've been told.

Dr. Meghan Brodie '00 had a Mann play picked out due to her "great admiration" for the playwright but landed on *Execution of Justice* due to its relevance to the current social and political environment. Whites' victims were primarily political targets, and Harvey Milk was the first openly gay elected politician in California, and his death was a major blow for the queer community. Brodie says in "the proliferation of anti-LGBTQ+ legislation like Florida's "Don't Say Gay" Law, I felt like *Execution of Justice* would be a timely choice." Ali Wolf '23, Assistant Director, says that "it's so important for people to see this" due to both Harvey Milk and the "same frustration" with the justice system that still happens today. Wolf adds that she also loves the technological side of the show, with clips of "video from the actual event." She wanted to help direct because she loves the collaboration aspect of it and looks up to Brodie as a "model" in how she directs. "She lets the cast do what they feel as that character [to] have a more in-depth production," Ali said. There is also the aspect of "craft[ing] a show and mak[ing] it our own." "No production of the show will be the same," but as the assistant director, she can "take inspiration from others."

As *Execution of Justice* is a docudrama, the production mirrors real life events and directly calls on court transcripts and interviews given about the event. Destiny Young '24, Gwenn Craig, tells us that "it's cool playing someone real" and enjoys the opportunity to "mimic the [characters'] behavior but also mix that with what you

could bring to the character, emulating the essence of [them]." Miles Noecker '22, who plays Defense Attorney Doug Schmidt, said he has been an "admirer of Harvey Milk" due to "his impact on gay rights." He says it makes his role as "advocating for the man who slayed one of the most iconic gay men in politics" and "embodying a character that opposes everything I stand for" all the harder. Sadie Walker '25, Mary-Anne White, told us "the process is definitely different. I have to remind myself that the character I'm playing is a real person [with] a backstory already."

When asked about their favorite part of the show, almost everyone was torn. Young said she couldn't pick a single scene since she "like[s] so much of it — that's the problem." Ben Little '24, who plays Dan White, had a similar problem as well. Noecker said he enjoyed the witness questioning because he gets to "cut a lot of people off and be sassy" as a lawyer. The opposing lawyer, Joey Nolan '24, said he enjoyed the part where he questions Frank Falzon since he "get[s] to object over and over again" and since it's with Kieran and Miles, "it[s] more fun." Emily Bradigan '23, Assistant Stage Manager, said they enjoyed the uncalled witnesses as they "showcase the people who did not get to speak." Walker says her favorite part is being able to "create a really cool piece of work, like theater work, with people I love and spending time together while creating this amazing piece."

Even with the days counting down before opening night, the team has a variety of things they're excited for. Nolan found his role refreshing, as since he came to Ursinus, he's "played a lot of bad

guys and I'm more or less the good guy in this one." Kiran Drew '25, Frank Falzon, and Emily Gurganos '24, Props Master, both said they were excited to "see everything put together," with Gurganos adding how it's "more impactful when everything is finished." Naomi Marin '23, Stage Manager, said that she is most excited "to see the final product of this." Little said he really wanted the community to "see this miscarriage of justice and to realize that these kinds of things still happen today." Evan Chartock '25, D.A. Joseph Freitas and Dramaturg, said he was most excited about this being a social-justice focused piece since this is "one of the few times" Ursinus has "truly committed to doing a serious show with minimal comical elements. I think it is being pulled off successfully due to the dedication of the cast members to bring this tragic yet true story to life."

When asked about what they want the audience to know, Walker told us that they do know this happened in the past and "we're not trying to make a parody of it. We're trying to tell it how it happened." Drew added that the play was "intense in a good way."

Execution of Justice will be the theater department's first ASL-interpreted performance with its Sunday matinee performance, with every show in the 2022-23 season following its lead. The show opens November third and runs until November sixth. Get your tickets before they sell out, like autumn 2021's shows did, and go support the cast and crew. Good luck!



Courtesy of Dr. Meghan Brodie '00

Media on Main Markets for Local Businesses

Erin Corcoran: ercorcoran@ursinus.edu

Media on Main is a student-run digital marketing agency which provides students with an opportunity to gain real-world experience and up to one credit.

Due to the lack of digital marketing agencies catering to small businesses in Collegeville, the U-Imagine Center created the program. The goal? To give students real world experience utilizing their skills to bring small businesses into the digital world, no matter their major. The program launched in fall 2021 and has since partnered students with local businesses, bridging the gap between traditions and digital marketing strategies. Additionally, students learn valuable business skills, both from the companies themselves and through the general management of an agency.

Media on Main provides content strategy development, web design/SEO, social media management, and other services to their clients. This semester, the venture is taking on two clients: Refresh-A-Can and TLC Massage Thérapie. Refresh-A-Can, a business the agency worked with last semester as well, provides trash can cleaning services to the greater Montgomery County area. Media on Main's newest client, TLC Massage Thérapie, offers customized massage services to fit customers' needs.

The students are divided into two

main groups dependent on their interests and skills: sales/business operations and content creation. Their weekly meetings consist of updates, brainstorming, and collaborative work between members of the smaller teams and Media on Main as a whole. The col-

laborative nature of the program provides students with an opportunity to share their own skills and perspectives with the group and clients.

This semester, the team has been working diligently towards their goals. Students began by updating the agency's branding, social media, and website to attract new clients. To find potential clients, the sales team drew upon their existing networks and reached out to many local businesses. In early October, the entire group had a chance to speak with the owner of TLC



Courtesy of Laura Bradley

Massage Thérapie to better understand the business's needs and provide her with the necessary tools for digital marketing success. Currently, each member of the program is working to assist their assigned business by completing tasks including content creation, drafting proposals, and creating promotion materials for Media on Main itself.

The team is spearheaded by three student leaders: Julia Paiano '23, Esther Akande '24, and Olivia DeFusco '24. When asked about Media on Main, Paiano states, "my favorite part is being able to collaborate with other students and learn from their experiences. It allows me to build on skills I am weaker in. We have really exciting clients and strategies for them to succeed and I am eager to see the results of our hard work." DeFusco echoed this statement by saying she enjoys "working with other students towards a common goal" and emphasized that "it's been a great experience and I'm looking forward to continuing work with Refresh-A-Can and TLC Massage Thérapie."

To sign up for Media on Main next semester, register for course BE-005-008. For more information about the program, contact Maureen Cumpstone at macumpstone@ursinus.edu. To follow along with their work, follow @MediaonMainCV on Instagram.



Courtesy of Laura Bradley



I am a privileged gay man, and yes, I want you to care about abortion rights!

Miles Noecker: minoecker@ursinus.edu

I've been trying to find a balance between being involved with this fight while centering the voices of those whose rights are on the line. Abortion is a central issue for women, nonbinary, and trans people and their voices too often go unheard in politics. (And yes, the irony of writing an op-ed while simultaneously claiming we should listen to more marginalized voices is not lost on me.) As a cisgender gay man, the overturning of *Roe v Wade* has not impacted my rights to bodily autonomy (or the rights of potential partners) – at least not yet. To me, it's precisely because of this point of relative privilege that it's important to be involved in defending the right to choose.

There's been a lot of talk of what conservative politicians will do next: targeting human rights founded on the right to privacy like access to contraception, gay marriage, even interracial marriage. I agree with the sentiment that we ought to be worried about what other human rights are being threatened, but it's important not to lose focus on the fact that abortion rights are being stripped away *right now*. And activism can save abortion rights right now, while protecting other human rights from being stripped away. The overturning of *Roe v Wade* could be the start of decades of horrific human rights violations in America or it could be a moment of mass mobilization where the people demand better. I'm fighting for the latter.

As president of UC Democrats,

I'm doing everything I can between now and Election Day to convince my peers to vote for pro-choice elected officials. Now that abortion is a state-by-state issue, I believe my activism is best served by safeguarding human rights in my home state. Given the extremist Republican majority in the PA state legislature, it is crucial that not only do we elect another Democratic governor in Josh Shapiro to maintain veto power, but we also elect pro-choice PA state legislators to weaken the GOP's ability to attack abortion access.

In response to the Supreme Court's *Dobbs* ruling, Republicans in the PA state legislature are attempting to outlaw abortion through an amendment to the state constitution. To do so, they need to pass a ballot measure for a future election (they're aiming for the spring 2023 primary) where it will be on PA voters to decide if abortion access remains legal in the state. The governor, Democratic or not, will have no say in the matter. Only pro-choice state legislators can prevent a ballot measure from occurring in an off-year primary election, when voter turnout is at its lowest.

If Pennsylvania can remain an abortion-providing purple state, we can serve as an example of how to combat the new brand of Republican Party extremism, which seeks to limit bodily autonomy, free speech, and voting rights. This can only happen through engaged activism which challenges our peers and institutions to act.

As students at a private liberal arts college in a wealthy suburb, we are blessed with so many privileges others do not have. So, let's use them. We need to fight for the people who will be disproportionately impacted by an abortion ban in our state, those whose options will be severely limited if Pennsylvania takes away the right to choose. I don't mean to imply students of Ursinus College do not and will not need abortions – of course they do and will – but we should recognize that most of our student body has access to resources and information that the most underprivileged of our society do not. Many of us have the capacity to travel out of state to seek healthcare treatment, if need be. But we cannot feel comfortable with that mindset when that is not the reality for so many people across our state (including some students at this school). Let's use our relative privilege to organize and mobilize instead of sitting idle.

To paraphrase my favorite series, *Game of Thrones*, I believe everyone has a part to play in the wars to come. My goal is to make sure everyone on campus is aware of the stakes of this election as they pertain to Pennsylvania politics. Pennsylvania elections are competitive contests where every vote counts. It's a scary time, no doubt, but it's not a time to cower away from the fight and let politicians silence us. It's time to get in the game so we can win.



What Do The Phillies Mean To Ursinus?

“The Phillies going to the World Series means a lot and is very exciting because I have been watching the team since I was a little kid. I have always loved to watch baseball because I play softball and it was always good bonding time with my family. It also is really cool to see how far the team has come from the beginning of the season to now. No one expected them to get this far but they believed in themselves, worked hard and are putting on a show.”

- *Sara Sullivan '22*

“It means the world to me because I hardly ever miss a game and we haven’t made the post season, let alone the World Series in a long time. It’s also unsure how their success will pan out in the future so this may be our only shot to win it all for a while.”

- *Ricky McDonald '23*

“The Phillies going to the World Series is the ultimate reward to a long drought of competitive baseball in Philadelphia. They were the team that had the most impact on my childhood as a kid, with Ryan Howard, Chase Utley, Jimmy Rollins, and Cole Hamels being some of my favorite athletes growing up. Following their success with a sharp decline left the Phillies as an afterthought in the Philly sports landscape, with many failed prospects and losing seasons to follow. As the team tried to make improvements to get the Phillies back to playing October baseball, the disappointment only grew with Bryce Harper, JT Realmuto, and Rhys Hoskins headlining solid teams that would succumb to heartbreaking late season collapses. The Phillies being back in the World Series means that they are here to stay, and we finally have high level baseball after years without it.”

- *Will Oberholtzer '22*

“The Phillies going to the World Series means a lot to me because I have been able to cll Philly home my whole life and have followed this team since I was a little girl. It’s fulfilling my inner child knowing that this team has worked so hard and I have seen it first hand. Also, it means the world to me because my 93-year-old grandma who was a season ticket holder her whole life, from the 50s through the 80s, who is OBSESSED with the Phillies is able to watch them succeed once again. I get to see my family come together to cheer on our team in the World Series!!!”

- *Cece Grahn '22*

Upcoming Games

Tuesday

Field Hockey vs. WAC (Centennial Championship): 7pm

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Mens and Women’s Cross Country Ursinus Twilight Meet: 6pm

Women’s Swimming vs. Bryn Mawr: 6pm

Saturday

Men’s Wrestling @ Messiah: 10am

Football vs. Juniata @12pm

Men’s and Women’s Swimming and Diving vs. Widener @1pm



New Women's Soccer Coach: Killin' It!

Izzy Dalesandro
isdalesandro@ursinus.edu



Courtesy of Ursinus Athletics

The Women's Soccer team at Ursinus got a new head coach in the spring of 2022 after the previous coach stepped down. This year, Coach Jeannine Calhoun has led the team to a 8-7-4 record.

The team had been going through a rough couple of seasons, with a 2021 record of 3-12-2, and a 2019 record of 4-11-2. The team started practicing for its Spring 2022 season five days after Calhoun assumed the position. She expressed that she was "immediately impressed with the culture of the team and how everyone was bought into getting better on the field as players, but also bought into each other."

She explained that teams that play for each other increase their chance of success exponentially. After seeing the team compete throughout the spring, Calhoun came into the Fall 2022 season wanting to focus on defensive and team shape, as well as

"creating more dynamic and unpredictable attacking patterns."

Senior Alice Poindexter gave Coach Calhoun credit for the team's improvement this season. She explained how getting a new coach "was a big ego boost."

Poindexter stated that "getting a new coach filled us all up with hope again." Junior Ciara Rago also gave credit to Calhoun for the team's success. She said that "the drills she has us do are more game-like and better prepare us for games, which is really beneficial, and ultimately why I think we are doing better this season."

Coach Calhoun said, "We went into the season wanting to expect more and get better every day...and I really believe that we have." She gives credit to the team for its success thus far in the season. She explained how the team is willing to be coached, own up to mistakes, and the

players are willing to ask the right questions. When asked how she thought the season had gone she responded, "superbly." So superbly, in fact, that this past weekend Women's Soccer defeated McDaniel for the first time since 2011!