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The Grizzly, December 5, 2019

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the grizzly

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Collegetown, Pa.

Thursday, December 5, 2019

Vol. 44 Issue 11

Ursinus cancels swimming seasons after hazing investigation

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On Friday November 22, Ursinus President Brock Blomberg announced via email that the 2019-2020 season for both Men's and Women's swimming had been cancelled as a result of an investigation into hazing allegations. An official statement regarding the incident sits on both the men's and women's swimming teams' webpages.

This decision, along with other sanctions, was the result of an investigation that began in

September. It has caused frustration for some members of the teams.

In addition to the cancellation of the teams' seasons, the sanctions include changes to the current and future living arrangements of team members. The teams will not be allowed to have more than three members living together through 2022, according to some swimmers. Several team members are also prohibited from hosting or participating in team-

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Photo Courtesy of Rob Varney

Students detail harassment on Main St.

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In November, the Ursinus community was notified of an attempted abduction of a student which was reported to Campus Safety and the Collegetown Police.

The student described walking along 6th Avenue towards Main Street when a Silver Honda pulled up beside the student. The car carried three males who all wore

ski masks. The perpetrators exited the vehicle and took hold of the student's arm, then got back into the vehicle and left when the student yelled for help.

For many Ursinus students, the news added to existing concern about their safety around campus. Although this is the first time the school has dealt with this specific kind of situation, students have experienced verbal harassment when walking

along Main Street, the road next to campus.

Sophomore Lindsey Reilly, for example, said she's been "cat-called on Main Street several times."

Senior Jenna Nienius has had similar experiences.

"The constant honking and yelling out of the windows of cars trying to hit on me or just calling me a slut is not appreciated. I'm just trying to walk home with my food from the c-store.

What about a brown paper bag screams sexy?" she said.

During a recent Senate meeting, Director of Campus Safety, John Bera, discussed a new resource that will hopefully help students feel more protected when walking on Main Street: An app for Ursinus students to use to connect with a Campus Safety dispatcher.

"You'll be able to GPS walk home with a dispatcher that is working at the desk in the Campus Safety office, where they'll follow you where you're at," he said.

With the app, students will also be able to call a dispatcher for any assistance.

Safety concerns are elevated for those

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wide social gatherings. Some students noted that they lost their leadership positions and jobs on campus as part of their consequences. The swimming coach, Mark Feinberg, though not involved with the hazing incident, assumes a share of responsibility for the teams' actions and has been placed on probation. Feinberg plans on addressing the teams' culture going forward.

"The college began a thorough investigation into allegations of hazing on campus by members of our men's and women's swimming teams. This particular incident involved alcohol and underage drinking," wrote Blomberg.

The investigators concluded that members of the swimming programs violated the college's anti-hazing policies

"The process is still going on. It would not be appropriate to disclose any of the details."

- Missy Bryant

written out in the Student Handbook and the college's Student Code of Conduct. The specifics

of the incident have not been made public.

"The process is still going on. It would not be appropriate to disclose any of the details," said Dean Missy Bryant.

Bryant clarified that the case is considered ongoing due to the fact that members of the swim team have the option to appeal their punishments.

When asked why the investigation concluded with these particular sanctions, Bryant said the administration got here "after a thorough and lengthy investigation," that the team was sanctioned "based on the severity" of the

"From my perspective it felt like we were guilty until proven innocent."

- Matt Snyder

infractions, and that the punishment was "in line with precedent set by previous, similar cases."

Members of the men's swimming team expressed concerns with the way the investigation and case were handled.

"I wouldn't say that the process was fair.

From my perspective it

felt like we were guilty until proven innocent," said sophomore Matt Snyder.

Snyder also thought it was unfair to punish the entirety of the teams.

"The punishment is unfair to a majority of the team," Snyder said, observing that some of the students who are being punished were "victims of the 'hazing,' if that's what you want to

"We don't think appealing is going to change much."
- Matt Snyder

refer to it as. They're being further punished by not being able to swim," said Snyder.

Senior Casey Lear expressed frustration about people who weren't present during the incident in question being punished.

As for their ability to appeal the case, both Snyder and Lear expressed confusion and doubt about whether pursuing that option would change the outcomes.

"We don't think

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Cat-Calling cont. from pg. 1

students who reside in the Main Street houses further away from campus. Junior Chrissy Foley said she has also been cat-called, and once had a frightening experience when she lived in Clamer, a Main Street house.

"I was walking back to Clamer from class and some older guy was passing me, who was going towards campus, beeped several times and yelled out his window that was rolled down. I remember turning my head to look to see who did it and he was a middle-aged white man, looked about my father's age. Since I had just reached the sidewalk near Clamer, I cut through the grass to run up to the house, and closed the door quickly behind me," she said.

Foley recalled feeling terrified because the man could've seen where she was going.

Now that Foley lives closer to campus, "I still get cat-called even when just walking to the crosswalk," she said.

Another student, Julia Herrero '21, who also lived further away on Main Street, in 944, experienced a similar

situation.

"When walking on 9th avenue towards Main Street, I had a car drive past me, then make a U-turn directly after passing me and then follow me slowly down the rest of 9th avenue. So, I just ran to Main Street," she said.

Sophomore Claude Wolfer discussed their experience walking down Main Street as part of a queer couple.

"When walking down Main Street with my girlfriend, when we crossed the street, someone honked at us. Being a queer couple in public is already kind of nerve-racking. I'm still not really sure how safe it is in Collegeville, like where most of the demographic stands in their level of acceptance," they said.

Some students have adjusted their behaviors to deal with these experiences. Junior Sarah Noon talked about her friend who lived in 944, who would walk home late at night after studying in the library.

"She was constantly walking alone, pretty long distance, late at night. At least once she

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The GRIZZLY

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Cat-Calling cont. from pg. 2

called me and was like ‘can you just stay on the phone with me while I walk home because there’s a car that’s driving next to me really slow,’” she said.

Bianca Joseph ’21 has “definitely walked to the Goodwill and the Dollar store by myself on multiple occasions,” but “wouldn’t even think about doing that once it’s dark out.”

Some students have expressed concern that these kinds of interactions could take place more often with the completion of The Commons, which has been advertised as not just a destination for the Ursinus community but a way to “strengthen connections with the local Collegeville community and beyond.”

In a statement made in 2018 regarding the Commons, President Brock Blomberg said, “This is a place that will strengthen our connection to the Collegeville Community. Anyone will be able to come to the Commons and experience what makes Ursinus so special.”



Photo Courtesy of Rob Varney

Reilly shared her thoughts on the possibility of The Commons drawing more individuals unaffiliated with the school onto Ursinus’ campus.

“I think it’s a bad idea, I feel as though allowing the outside community into a campus building will make the space about them rather than the students. Especially with the recent attempted abduction and the history of Main Street towards students, I feel that it’s ultimate-

ly putting the students behind the public,” she said.

“There is a thin line of safety on Main Street that protects students, especially tudents of color.”
- Kie Brewer

Senior Kie Brewer also worried that the development may be dangerous considering the recurring incidents on Main Street.

“There is a thin line of safety on Main Street

that protects students, especially students of color when we walk on the campus side passing Collegeville residents. Opening the Commons is like giving the racists and abductors the window to try even more harmful things. It should only be open to students,” she said.

Other students think a shared Commons could improve both communities.

Junior Maggie Frymoyer said, “I think it’s totally valid that

students don’t want the community coming on campus into our spaces, I also can see how it would create a great opportunity. As someone who had a parent that worked at a college in our town it was always a really great experience to visit the college spaces. It helped me develop a relationship with the students in my town. I’m hopeful the Commons is able to do that in the future.”

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appealing is going to change much. If we get lucky, maybe the housing sanction will get

“I hope to learn from this as a team. We want to reflect on it. We want to grow.”

- Casey Lear

lifted before 2022,” said Snyder.

The results of this case have sent a shockwave through the athletics department.

“It’s had a big impact on the team and athletics. I know other coaches have told their teams to be careful,” said Snyder.

The swimmers said that other athletes were

warned that parties with drinking-culture related themes or parties with underage drinking could be interpreted as hazing.

“While the sanctions are harsh, I hope to learn from this as a team. We want to reflect on it. We want to grow. We want to be the leeway into a new anti-hazing community at this school. We hope the sanctions

don’t make people angry. We want to turn it into a positive outlook,” concluded Lear.



Summer internship tips with CPD

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As winter break approaches, many of us on campus are just thinking about relaxing for the first time in over three months and not having to worry about studying or writing papers. However, winter break can also be a great time to start thinking about and applying for summer internship opportunities.

Summer might seem like a long way off, but internships for the season are already starting to pop up. Michele Poruban, who oversees experiential learning at the office of Career and Post-Graduate Development (CPD), explains that it is never too early to start looking and preparing for internships. “Whether preparing an application for an internship, job, fellowship, or graduate school, you will benefit from having plenty of time to research for a good fit, get input from your network, and prepare strong documents,” Poruban said.

“A search often takes three to six months, so it is an excellent idea to start thinking about your internship plans now,” Poruban explained. “Some organizations will open and hire for their summer opportunities in early fall. However, don’t worry if you didn’t start searching for your internship yet, there will



The Job, Internship, & Networking Fair, Courtesy of Career and Post-Graduate Development

be internship postings throughout the spring.”

Poruban generated a helpful list of tips to consider when embarking on the internship application process. “Getting organized is key,” Poruban stated. “I suggest students treat their search like a class by designating specific time(s) each week to search for opportunities, submit applications, connect with their network, and follow-up on applications.”

Researching internships can get complicated and overwhelming at times, but there is no need to let this stress you out. There are many steps you can take to keep yourself organized and proactive. Poruban explained, “Developing a system to track your internship search is important. This process may include keeping copies of internship

descriptions, writing reflections on what appeals to you about the various internships, plus maintaining a calendar to record application submissions and follow-up conversations.”

Being home for break offers many opportunities when thinking about internships. “Use the opportunity when home to connect with organizations in-person to inquire about internship openings; you also may be able to secure an interview to help solidify your summer internship plans,” Poruban went on to say. “Break is a wise time to reach out to your network of family, past coworkers or supervisors, family friends and alumni to ask for advice on the internship search.”

Career sites such as LinkedIn and Handshake are helpful sources to use when research-

ing internships. As Poruban said, “LinkedIn is a social network that focuses on professional networking and career development. Through the platform students have connected with professionals and alumni to secure internship leads and offers.” Poruban further explained, “LinkedIn is an excellent tool that can help students connect. Downtime from classes is a fantastic time to set up your profile, research the profiles of specialist in your field(s) of interest, and reach out to professionals.”

Handshake can be used to make appointments with CPD, but it can also be a helpful tool when sorting through internship opportunities. “Handshake lists hundreds of internships,” Poruban said. “Students use key words to find an internship match and

then filter the options to find internships that are a close commute to their hometown. Many student applications are submitted each week, leading to interviews and internship offers.”

Finally, Poruban emphasizes how CPD can be a big help when starting and pursuing your summer internship search. “Career and Post-Graduate Development has numerous resources to help students find an internship,” Poruban explained. “Students are encouraged to visit us in 110 Bomberger for a one-on-one appointment.

In our meeting we can outline a plan to meet your personal goals and fit your timeline. If your schedule is busy, a walk-in appointment between 2 and 3 PM, Monday through Friday may be a good way to get started.”

Get to know: Spring Break service trip

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If you have the willingness to do service but do not have the time to volunteer during the year, then the Habitat for Humanity trip might be for you. The third annual Alternative Spring Break Habitat for Humanity is underway due to the hard work of Angela Upright '17 and Sophie Gioffre '19. Students from different majors and class years are encouraged to apply.

Students have the chance to volunteer with Habitat for Humanity in Georgetown, South Carolina. The trip runs from Mar. 8-14, 2020. Upright thinks that this could be a great way for students to immerse themselves in service when they finally have the time. This type of service was lacking in the past for many students who wanted to be part of a service trip, and Upright wanted to change that.

For Upright, a service trip is an opportunity for significant hands-on-learning. She was

impacted and grew so much after the Jamaica Bonners during Spring Break; she wanted other students to have the chance to experience that as well. So, with the Herald C. Smith grant, she was able to organize this upcoming Habitat for Humanity trip and make it possible.

The itinerary of the trip consists of working at the ReStore the first day and then working on houses for the duration of the trip. You do not have to have any skill or experience to work on the houses. There are experienced volunteers that can teach you how to put a window in a house. The last day of the trip will be a chill day to explore; Upright wants it to be a reward for all the hard work the students have put in.

This year's trip will have some minor changes from the trips in the past to help improve the experience. Sophie Gioffre will play a huge role by co-leading the trip. She is currently doing a post-bacc fellowship,



A previous Habitat for Humanity Spring Break trip in South Carolina, Courtesy of Ursinus

and working on the school's new e-portfolio, BearTracks. Students participating in the trip will use BearTracks to add goals they want to set before the trip and store their reflections during the trip. Gioffre will be there to encourage those kinds of reflective endeavors.

Service can be impactful and influence your interaction with society, but once you are back into the routine of

school that inspiration can start to fade. Sophie hopes that recording the reflections during the trip will change this. Another change is having two meetings before the trip starts to prepare for service. One meeting will discuss the history of Habitat and its goals, and the other will be more of a get-to-know-you type of meeting.

Angela wants to encourage students to "question why we are

there, get to know the people we are working with, understanding what they need and not just show up thinking we know what they need." For that reason, the school is looking for applicants who are open-minded and willing to work as a team with different people. The application closes Dec. 8.

Happening on Campus

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Bear Tracks Hibernation Day	Last day of classes	Reading Day	Voices of Ursinus Winter Concert	Final Exams	Final Exams	Final Exams
6:00 p.m.			2:00 p.m.			
Bears' Den			Bomberger			

Ursinus' judicial system is broken

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We need an appeal process to determine which resolution options and decision-maker a student may pursue when participating in the judicial process. This appeal process would ensure we receive due process as defined by the handbook. Per the Student Handbook, the due process clause “assures written notice and a resolution with an objective decision-maker.” Thus, students involved in the judicial process are guaranteed these protections.

Four resolution options are available to students. Informal Resolution, which states “every reasonable effort should be made to constructively resolve conflict” prior to the formal process, and three formal resolutions which are an Administrative Hearing (“a designated college official reviews the information related to a complaint ... and issues appropriate sanction(s) for any findings of responsibility.”) a panel hearing, (“a hearing panel reviews the case information and issues a determination of the respondent’s responsibility for each alleged violation”), and an investigation resolution method (“the Title IX Coordinator designates investigators and hearing officers. Investigations ... are generally completed within 60

calendar days.”). Sanctions range from a disciplinary warning (written warning) to dismissal from the college.

Ok, so what’s the problem? To me, the issue is this: What determines which resolution option a student will receive? The handbook states “The Vice President for College and Community Engagement or designee will determine the most appropriate resolution option to be used in a given case,” but what are the criteria the VP or designee uses to make this determination? Some are listed in the handbook, but, other than those relating to Title IX, they are nebulous. If I were a concerned student who has accused someone or been accused of violating the Code, it would be very unclear to me which option would be taken to ensure a just ruling.

That would be a less significant issue if it was not amplified by a second problem, which is students’ guarantee of an objective decision-maker as part of due process. This is the core of the issue. There is no way for a student to appeal which decision-maker or which process they receive if they believe that person or process is biased unless they feel as though they were victims of sexual or racial discrimination (essential protections). So, if I was previously employed by

the administrator and we ended on bad terms, I could not appeal for a different one or for a panel hearing? Whether accuser or accused? Nope. If I am a part of an investigation and I have had previous, unrelated conflicts with an administrator, I cannot formally appeal for a different one? Nope.

If I think there is a conflict of interest between an administrator and an accuser or accused that will distort their judgment and impact my case, I cannot appeal to go for a panel hearing, where the three faculty members and two students are less likely to be biased? The handbook is silent, so no. The judicial process can determine a student’s future, but students have no way to appeal to ensure they receive an unbiased, objective decision-maker, which is supposedly guaranteed by the college. For this reason, a decision-maker appeals process is desperately needed. One can argue that this skepticism of administration’s objectivity is too pessimistic, hostile even. But assuming administrators can never act objectively is just as problematic as acting as though they always act objectively. It is silly to claim that advocating for student protections is hostile.

Adding this appeals process to account for regular human error should be seen as

constructive. And yet, although I cannot speak for the entire student body, many students do not feel like they have or would receive(d) an objective decision-maker, which is telling. The uproar students have made over recent cases has wrongfully been confined to “students always taking students’ side,” when it actually represents students’ legitimate concern that their friends—and maybe themselves—have faced disproportionate repercussions because they could not appeal for the objective decision-maker they were guaranteed.

Fortunately, there is a solution to this problem. First, the College should redefine the criteria by which it determines which resolution process students receive, which will help students understand why they are receiving the decision-maker they are. Second, the College should create an appeals process for students. The way this process would work is that a student could make an appeal to the hearing panel, which is the most objective resolution option for students (there are five decision-makers and each can be challenged to ensure objectivity). Then, the panel accepts or rejects the hearing based on whether evidence suggests their original decision-maker is unbiased. Then, the panel recommends

whether that student should be allowed to (1) pursue the same process just with a different administrator or (2) receive a different process altogether. These adjustments are not cumbersome or superfluous. They are simple and necessary. I hope the students will be listened to this time, but, even as an optimist, I doubt it.

When students reached out for compromise on clustering (the new housing system), we were ignored. There was no compromise. We were left in the dark. We were expected to trust the administration to unbiasedly engineer our living spaces through clustering. Further changes to our campus would also privilege the administration’s judgment, like upcoming changes to SASC’s composition. I am often told students are inactive because “they are entitled” or “would rather party and avoid issues” or “don’t care.” If that’s true, why did we turn out in droves for the clustering meeting? Why are we up-in-arms about removing trees on campus? Why is there a litany of students working as RAs, peer advocates, and other leadership roles?

It’s because we care. The lack of clarity and of an appeals process for a decision-maker are the problem at hand, and we students care enough to address that problem. I hope Ursinus does too.

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track with minors in Chemistry and Health Sciences. She is also involved with community service as a Bonner Fellow, and works as a faculty research fellow in the cellular neurobiology research lab with Dr. Round, as Community Service Chair of the Phi Alpha Psi sorority, as an academic tutor for biology, as Vice President of the Brownback-Andrea Pre-Health Society, and the Head Residential Advisor. In 2017, Stephens decided to walk on to the UCWB team.

One of her coaches had a lot to say about Stephens' individual character on and off the court. "She smiles at challenges. She holds herself to high goals and puts in the work to make them happen. She is someone you want on your team be it on the basketball court or just in life in general. She naturally takes people under her wing and holds herself and those around her to shared values and goals. She's an incredible vocal leader and I've seen her gain more confidence as she's taken her game

to new levels. Even with as heavily involved on campus she is, she focuses in where she's at and gives her 110%. Her ability to structure her schedule to do this is remarkable. Her average Friday she not only has classes and practice but also volunteers in an Assisted Living Home AND a low-cost health clinic in Phoenixville. Her sense of commitment and care regardless of who she is around is truly inspirational."

Last season Stephens was ranked third in the Centennial Conference in blocks, and fourth in steals. Currently she is at 623 career points, only 166 points behind where UCWB career leading scorer Lydia Konstanzer was at this point entering her junior year. Stephens ended her freshman year season with 231 points, and she scored 329 by the end of her sophomore year. This star guard is looking towards hitting her 1,000th career point potentially this season.

Aliyah Stephens is truly an inspirational student here at Ursinus College. With every task, goal, and commitment she has, Aliyah gives nothing less than her all.

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hanna, after you got hurt what were you thinking?

I was just in shock kind of. I never have gotten hurt like this, and I have played every game since I have been here, so hearing them tell me I was done was pretty hard to deal with.

That next week in practice what was your mindset moving forward?

Just to do whatever I could to help the team. I know we had some

young guys that had to step up and it's not the easiest thing to do, but I tried to give them help along the way. I have played a lot of football here so I think having me talk them through some situations was helpful.

Any last thoughts on your career, or for the younger guys that will make up the team next year?

Just to enjoy it really, the game has taught me so many lessons, and I really am starting to see now how they really are going to help me out

moving forward.

Expand on that, what lessons has the game taught you?

Football has taught me a lot, it's taught me discipline, teamwork, and how to handle adversity along with a lot of other things. It has helped me mature a lot in my life, and like I said I think those skills will help me moving forward.



Photograph Courtesy of Manning Smith

Scores as of Monday, December 2nd

M. Basketball	MBB Cont.	W. Basketball	WBB Cont.	Football	Track & Field	Wrestling
Ursinus 50 at #24 Randolph-Macon 54	Ursinus 88 at Haverford 94	Ursinus 64 at #3 Scranton 75	Ursinus 43 at Haverford 68	Ursinus 27 at Dickinson 19	Women's at NCAA Mideast Regional 32nd of 49	Ursinus 43 at King's College 6
Ursinus 92 at Clarks Summit 62		Ursinus 80 at Pitt. Bradford 44	Ursinus 73 at Bryn Mawr 35			
Ursinus 80 at Rosemont 78		Washington College 55 vs. Ursinus 67				

Q&A with senior linebacker Jake McCain

Thomas Garlick
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Jake McCain, a senior linebacker out of Penn Charter High School, has now closed the book on a memorable career as an Ursinus Bear. He jumped out to a hot start and was in command of the defense as the middle linebacker. But in the seventh game of the season, against the Susquehanna River Hawks, McCain went down with what would be a season-ending knee injury. Although this frustrated McCain, he put the team first and helped coach and instruct junior Brendan Shadle and freshmen Brett Gross. I sat down with McCain to see what this game has meant to him, and how he thought this season went.

Thomas: Why did you decide to start playing football and what has kept you playing?

Jake: I Decided to start playing because of an influence with my parents and all my older brothers played it, so I wanted to be like them. I continue to play in college because it helped me get into this school and it's unlike any other sport, you feel a connection with your teammates that no other sport provided.

Is there a specific moment this year that sticks out in your mind?

Yeah I would say when we bounced back after a tough loss against Juniata, I think that showed what type of team we are. This conference is really competitive, and we were in a lot of the games late and I think that loss helped us learn to keep fighting late in games.

Walk me through the game against Susque-

See Q&A on pg. 7



Photograph Courtesy of David Morgan

WBB walk-on proves she is more than just a baller

Emma Kramer
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Aliyah Stephens was never recruited to play basketball here at Ursinus. She came for academic purposes solely, but her stats have led her to becoming one of the integral players on the Ursinus College Women's Basketball team. Stephens, a junior guard, potentially has the chance to reach 1,000 career points this upcoming season. But there is way more to this student athlete than

just blocks, steals, and 3's, making her a unique student here.

"So I came to Ursinus because I got the extraordinary opportunity to be a research fellow the summer of my freshman year coming I worked in Dr. Round's cellular neurobiology lab over the summer for four weeks. And I got a mentor. Her name was Jordan Carla. She was a senior and I got to learn from her and Dr. Round both the summer before my freshman year. So I came into school

with a bunch of research skills that no other person in my grade had. So that was a unique opportunity that no other school offered me."

Stephens wanted to find a school where she could focus on her academics, specifically to get her on a pre-med track. In Ursinus, she found a college with a prestigious academic program in the medical field. Now, she is on the biology pre-med

See WBB on pg. 7

Upcoming Games

Wed. 12/4

Men's Basketball vs #1 Swarthmore

Women's Basketball vs. Swarthmore

Friday 12/6

Football at Dicksinson

Men's and Women's Track and Field at Bow-tie Invitational

Wrestling at New Standard Invitational

Saturday 12/7

Men's Basketball vs. McDaniel

Women's Basketball vs. McDaniel

Wrestling at New Standard Invitational

Wed. 12/4

Men's Basketball vs. Washington College

Women's Basketball vs. Widener

Thursday

Women's Basketball vs. Williams

