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The Grizzly, October 3, 2019

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the grizzly

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Collegeville, Pa.

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New play inspired by Ursinus' history

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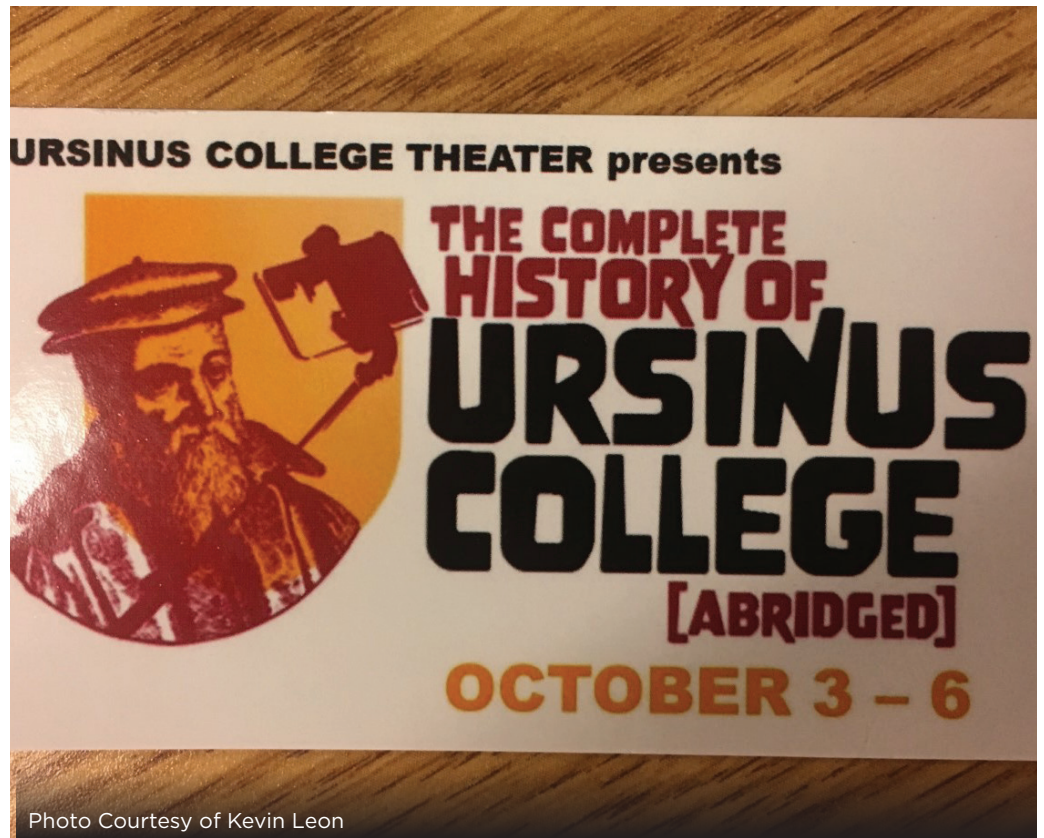
Ursinus' 150th birthday celebration continues this weekend with the production of "The Complete History of Ursinus College [Abridged]," a play written and directed by Professor Domenick Scudera.

The Theatre and Dance Department decided to contribute to the sesquicentennial by bringing to life some of the people and events from the college's 150 years.

Scudera says researching and writing "The Complete History" was both gratifying and interesting. Through digging in the archives, reading documents, and talking to members of the community, he learned a lot about the college that he had not previously known.

Scudera's research has helped him foster a greater appreciation for important people in Ursinus' past such as Eleanor Frost Snell, Minerva Weinberg,

See Scudera on pg. 3



Dr. Shuru helps launch Latinx book club

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The Latinx community at Ursinus College now has more activities and programs on campus, due in part to the efforts of Dr. Xochitl Shuru, Professor of Modern Languages, who has created a book club to unite members of the community.

Last year, Dr. Shuru led an Inclusive Community Grant project

which enabled her to continue her work as the 2019-2020 Inclusive Community Fellow. She started collaborations with organizations on campus such as the Institute for Inclusion and Equity and the Latin American studies program to support the growth of the Latinx community. In addition, the fellowship allowed her to serve as a mentor to students, and create activities and events to raise awareness of the

issues the community faces. Lastly, she worked to create a space where members of the affected community could confide in and express themselves to one another.

One of Shuru's first initiatives is the Latino/a/x Book Club, named "Conexiones," which translates to "connections." She explained that it's a part of a community-building, mentorship and conversation circle for members of the

Latino/a/x community at Ursinus.

"The name represents the bonds that unite the many Latino/a/x communities present at Ursinus and beyond our campus," she said.

The main impetus behind the book club came from Hispanic and Latino student leaders who noted the lack of opportunities and spaces to learn about, discuss, and express themselves

about the experiences and the issues that affect them.

"It is a safe space for students to share their own Latinidad and build a stronger sense of identity and community," Shuru said.

Conexiones has started off the book club with the memoir "The Distance Between

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Us” by Reyna Grande. The memoir focuses on Grande’s life as an undocumented nine-year-old girl who finds refuge from a violent home in reading and writing.

“Grande’s personal story allows us to discuss topics of immigration and resiliency,” she said. “She emerges as an accomplished Creative Writer with an MFA in Creative Writing and one of the strongest Latina voices in the United

States.”

The “Conexiones” book club meets every other week.

In addition to the book club, other activities have been developed to provide a more safe space for conversation, such as “Si Se Puede Speaker Series,” which brings different speakers from different fields to share their personal stories of success to serve as examples for the community, and “Hora de Café” an hour of social

networking taking place the first Friday of every month.

“My hope is that via these programs we will bring members of the community together to strengthen their presence on campus and create safe spaces to discuss their unique experiences,” said Dr. Shuru.

For more information regarding the events and activities check for emails.



Dr. Xiochitl Shuru, Photo Courtesy of Rob Varney

The **GRIZZLY**

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The Grizzly is a weekly student-run publication that serves the Ursinus community. Views expressed in the Grizzly do not necessarily reflect the views of the staff or college.

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Staff Positions at The Grizzly are open to students of all majors. Contact adviser for details.

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Scudera cont. from pg. 1

Bertha Hendricks, and W.R. Crigler. Even old traditions like May Day, the Lorelei Dance, school colors, and the Ursinus mascot were cast in a new light by his digs through the archives.

Members of the company and production crew also share that same sentiment of appreciation for the Ursinus history in the play. Senior Ruby Serafin and junior Hannah Ritter have enjoyed their experience working and rehearsing as cast members.

“Acting in this play has made me more observant of the campus and I feel accomplished ‘cause I can rattle off facts to people that

they might not have known before. I feel more engaged and more connected than I did before,” says Serafin.

“It has allowed me to understand how the history of the college fits into the history of the surrounding area, which is neat. Ursinus has always seemed to me to have very strong ties to the Collegeville community, which is nice,” says Ritter

It would be impossible to fully touch on every aspect of Ursinus’ 150-year history, so Scudera focused his script on those elements of UC’s history that he felt would be both entertaining and fascinating.

The play has a fun, fast-paced, light-hearted tone that Scudera believes people will enjoy.



Domenick Scudera, Photo Courtesy of Rob Varney

He and the entire company look forward to sharing what they have learned about the college and the community.

“Our hope is that the production will allow the Ursinus community

to have fun with, and pay tribute to, all things Ursinus,” Scudera says.

The play opens Thursday, October 3, at 7:30 p.m. It runs through the weekend with performances on Friday,

October 4, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, October 5, at 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, October 6, at 2:00 p.m.

Tickets run \$8 for general admission and \$5 for students, faculty, and seniors.

COMMENTS SOUGHT FOR TENURE REVIEW

In accordance with the Ursinus College Faculty Handbook, student comments on teaching effectiveness and student-faculty interaction are invited at the time of a faculty member’s review for tenure. Although student letters must be signed to be considered, student names may be withheld, upon request, when their comments are shared with the Promotion and Tenure Committee, and the faculty member.

This year, the following members of the faculty are being reviewed for tenure:

Meghan Brodie, Theatre and Dance

Jasmine Harris, Anthropology and Sociology

Oscar Useche, Modern Languages

Alice Leppert, Media and Communication Studies

Jennifer Round, Biology

Your feedback is strongly encouraged and will assist the Committee in its review process. Letters should be sent to Mark B. Schneider, Office of the Dean, by Oct. 31, 2018.

Your comments can be sent electronically to deansoffice@ursinus.edu.

Fit Check

Thoughts on Ursinus students wearing Ursinus merch?

“It’s redundant.”

-Tommy Armstrong, 2020

“It’s expensive and how does Ursinus faculty get 10% and students don’t get any discount.”

-Christopher Moreno, 2022

“That reminds me, the bookstore has a clearance sale.”

-Miriam Thomas, 2020

“I understand it to an extent but at some point we have to decide too much Ursinus merch is too much and express ourselves differently. Like you go here, we get it!”

-Maggie Frymoyer, 2021

Life as an international student at Ursinus

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It's been over a month since I first stepped foot into the United States. School started a week after I got here, and I'm not going to lie, the culture shock was hell. The first week was so depressing; I was the only exchange student here for a year and the campus was empty like a ghost town. I was expecting a roommate but had a single room. I was with two other full-time international students for my orientation and campus tour. I wasn't on the same schedule as the freshmen even though I was experiencing everything as one. Overall, I had a lot of expectations about my arrival and first week but none of them were how I'd thought it'd be. I was very lonely and began to question my choice to study abroad.

However, things started to look up. I met more students as they were moving into my dorm, and went on a tour trip to the city with the TAs. One was from Japan too, and I felt happy I had someone who I could talk and connect with, as I am an exchange student from Japan. But then I started getting anxious about making friends, starting my classes, and adjusting to my new life. I called my family and friends back home



Emina Takahashi, Courtesy of Rob Varney

almost every day, and felt upset with myself if I didn't go out to all the events because I didn't have anyone to go with. Nonetheless, I gradually realized, yes, I should go to the events and meet people, but at the same time, I don't have to push myself to the point I am constantly stressing myself.

As an international student, I've noticed a few things about the US that are different from Japan. Everyone jaywalks. In Japan, you'd totally get called out, especially in my area where there are a lot of elderly people. "What do you think you are doing!" "Stupid youngin" and getting dirty looks are the usual response one would get. But that's also because I live in the countryside.

Food is large in quantity (and calories) but expensive. It also depends where you go, I guess. I bought a bagel sandwich from Wawa for \$3.50. That's around 380 yen. But obviously since we import bagels, a bagel sandwich would be around the same price or higher. Sometimes I'm like, "That S size Pepsi is the equivalent to an M or L in Japan and it's cheaper, but do I really need that much?" I can see myself putting on a few kilograms (or should I say pounds?) if I'm not careful with what I buy and eat.

On the other hand, I'm extremely happy that specific goods here are way cheaper than in Japan. Cadbury chocolate bars are half price here; I feel like I'm at a constant bargain sale. Makeup is a lot cheaper, too.

Maybelline's Great Lash mascara is three bucks compared to 500 yen, roughly speaking. It's great to indulge in goods that are imported from back home.

Lastly, everyone smiles and greets each other here on campus. You never see strangers engage in friendly interactions in and out of school back home. We don't dislike everyone; we just don't have that culture. I'm still getting used to it. I should smile more perhaps.

I asked my friend Eva, who is a Spanish TA here, what she thinks of her experience so far. "I felt overwhelmed because there was a lot of new things and people, but I was very happy to be here. The campus is beautiful and you know you won't feel alone

because there's always something to do or some event to attend!" Likewise to Eva, there are so many things to do on and off campus, and I can't wait to explore more of my life here in Ursinus College!

WRITERS WANTED

Lend your voice
to The Grizzly

Join us for our
weekly news
meeting

Thursdays, 5 p.m.
Ritter 141

Librarian creates new Myrin escape room

Maddy Rodak
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Instructional Technology Librarian Christine Iannicelli is the genius behind the “escape rooms” that take over Myrin’s library lounge from time to time, with themes such as Escape the Librarian, “Stranger Things,” and “Harry Potter.” This time around, for the escape rooms on Oct. 1 and Oct. 2, the theme is “Jurassic Park.” Iannicelli’s escape rooms are open to all faculty, staff, and students. Up to six participants can play at a time.

Escape rooms have become increasingly popular in larger cities within the last few years.

Philadelphia is littered with escape room centers. There are even escape rooms in Trappe and King of Prussia. Every escape room is different; no matter where people go, they will never get the same experience twice.

In escape rooms, teams are locked in a room and must work against the clock to solve puzzles and unlock codes in order to find a way out before one hour is up. Iannicelli’s “Jurassic Park” escape room allows teams of six to solve puzzles and follow clues in order to win. The description on the Ursinus website states, “You need to reboot the power grid and turn the

security system back on before the dinosaurs break into the control room and eat everyone!”

Iannicelli credits feedback from participants for the new dinosaur theme. “I welcome ideas for escape room themes from faculty, staff, and students and this was a student suggestion,” Iannicelli explains. “Jurassic Park is also one of my favorite movies. The escape room slots filled up overnight so it appears to be a good choice!”

Escape rooms are a great way to bring people together for an hour of fun, even if the participants do not all know each other. So while Iannicelli likes to

focus on the educational aspect of escape rooms when designing them, there is still great attention put on making the experience enjoyable for all who take part. “Escape rooms help students problem solve, think critically, communicate, and collaborate with each other,” Iannicelli said. “I design escape rooms in my spare time for friends to play, so I decided to try hosting them in the library last year.”

“I thought it would be a fun stress reliever for students during midterm and final time,” Iannicelli further explained. “Since last Fall, I’ve hosted [five] different escape rooms on campus and they’ve been well-received. I have no plans on stopping as I really enjoy doing them!”

Making an escape room engaging and challenging like Iannicelli’s creations involves a ton of hard work and intricate design. “I generally design the escape rooms myself,” Iannicelli explained, “although the ‘Harry

Potter’ escape room last Spring was a true collaboration between myself, Dr. Kara McShane, and my student worker Tiffini Eckenrod. I ask my fellow library and IT staff to test out the escape rooms and give me feedback before they go live.”

Senior Eckenrod found collaborating on the ‘Harry Potter’ escape room to be immersive. “Working on the ‘Harry Potter’ escape room was a fun, collaborative experience. I had to exhaust all of my knowledge about ‘Harry Potter’ to help come up with fitting puzzles,” Eckenrod said. “My favorite part of the whole experience was seeing the completed room filled with the various props and puzzles. It felt like an actual scene from a ‘Harry Potter’ book.”

Iannicelli is always open to hearing from participants via email. “I welcome feedback and suggestions for future escape rooms,” Iannicelli said. “Also, keep an eye out for a December escape room with a ‘Star Wars’ theme!”



Christine Iannicelli preparing for the escape room, Courtesy of Jenni Berrios

Happening on Campus

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Faculty Baden Lecture: Jennifer Round	Peer Review	The Complete History of Ursinus College (Abridged)	Annual Harvest Fest	Discover Ursinus	Fitting Fitness Into Your Busy Day - Lunch & Learn	Yom Kippur Service and Break Fast
3:45pm	11:00am	7:30pm	12-2:00pm	9:00am - 2:00pm	12:00pm	6:15pm
Pfahler Auditorium	Berman Museum	Lenfest Theater	Organic Farm	Kaleidoscope	Bears’ Den	Hillel House

Slouching towards paradise: a bolder “Bachelor”?

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Reality TV has never had exceptional diversity or nuanced perspectives. One of the biggest reality TV franchises, ABC’s “The Bachelor,” has a monotonous history of white cis straight men and women all vying for attention in a game-ified version of love. There is no doubt that this arena of malcontented mid-twenty-somethings has been carefully curated. There have been no bachelors of color, and most contestants who are African-American end up getting booted rather early in their prospective shows.

“Bachelor in Paradise,” the show’s most recent spin-off, has decided to take some risks in the right direction. The show typically focuses on taking the less important, less hot individuals from the other “Bachelor” properties and sticking them on a beach in Mexico to see who can have the most sex. I kid - well, mostly. The show’s real objective is the same as the other two - to see if after a month any of these kooky kids want a permanent legally binding relationship with one another. It’s totally a healthy premise for a show!

But in a way, its looser

flow and less rigid studio interference makes “BiP” feel a lot more bold than its Bachelor(ette) counterparts. This season recently featured its first queer couple in Demi, a recently out bisexual woman, and her girlfriend from home Kristian, who was invited on the show after Demi admitted her feelings for Kristian to her then-boyfriend Derek. The two ended up proposing to one another, and the relationship was looked upon favorably by the “Bachelor” fandom. Much of the marketing around this season heavily promoted this relationship as a sign of the Bachelor’s

newfound wokeness.

All is not right with the Bachelor Cinematic Universe, however. You see, for a while Bachelor Nation professed a desire to see Mike, a black contestant from Hannah’s season of the “Bachelorette” who was well-beloved by the fanbase, as the newest “Bachelor.” After several hints at the studio leaning in on Mike’s popularity, they ultimately decided to go with Peter, a white contestant from the same season who did not command the same audience adoration.

Most fans on Twitter seemed disappointed by the decision, and I could understand why. Time

and time again, these studios will present this attitude of enlightenment and liberality to appeal to the younger generation, but will do so without taking the risks that would upset any older viewers. Any kind of progress with a brand as far-reaching as a reality TV popular as “The Bachelor” is bound to be slow and tedious. Yet, as much as I want to fully condemn ABC for all they have yet to do, I look into the lovestruck eyes of Demi and Kristian, and I hope against all reason that, as long as it may take and as contrived as it may feel, love can somehow find a way.

Students should have a say in colleges’ endowment investments

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Earlier this month, NBC News published an article on the ongoing attempt by Harvard students to get their university to divest its endowment from private prisons. The video explains that though Harvard isn’t directly investing in private prisons, there is trading going on with companies that are involved with, and profit off, the prison system. The students are demanding that Harvard divest what they have invested in prison industry-adjacent companies to stop their education

and degrees from funding such a cruel system.

It’s not just the prison system that American students have taken umbrage with. Currently, students at Yale University are demanding that the university divest endowment money from companies that profit off the fossil fuel industry and Puerto Rico’s debt. Students there walked out in protest of climate change. Yale doesn’t directly invest in Puerto Rican bonds, but it does have investments in fund managers that put money into them.

These schools have unfathomably large endowments. Harvard’s

is nearly \$40 billion, Yale has \$30 billion, and so on. In contrast, schools like Ursinus have \$133 million. The Ivies can afford to divest, and they can set the precedent for “ethical” investments.

Students at Yale aren’t wrong to demand these sorts of changes from their school’s administration. Calling them entitled for demanding such changes is short-sighted. Students at Harvard aren’t wrong either. The prison system profits off locking people up and stealing their labor, which arguably constitutes a form of modern slavery. I also wouldn’t feel comfort-

able if my institution were putting money into the private prison sector. Even if these institutions don’t immediately act to meet the students’ demands, the fact that this is being talked about to begin with is a positive first step. Endowments and their allocation are something that a lot of people don’t think about. I didn’t think about it until I met a student from Yale who was involved in the movement to stop his school from profiting off Puerto Rico and fossil fuels.

Schools should be more transparent with how the money is handled. Students shouldn’t

have to investigate on their own where their tuition, and donations, and any other transaction that gives their money to their institution is going. Even if administrations “don’t know” how and where management groups put their money, they should make the knowledge of who these groups are easily accessible.

In 2013, the Harvard president said the “endowment is a resource, not an instrument to impel social or political change.” People’s suffering in prisons and the devastating effects of climate change aren’t just politics.

Volleyball cont. from pg. 8

wicz as well as junior Meghan O’Leary. Their great leadership has created good team chemistry. Piotrowicz believes “We’re a very close family. It’s almost like the older girls are older sisters to the younger ones.” She thinks this “really helps on the court with trusting one another.”

Foster, the four year starter, wants to finish out the conference schedule on a high note. “We’re really looking forward to beating Dickinson because we beat them last year and

now they are much better.”

“We’re a very close family. It’s almost like the older girls are older sisters to the younger ones.”

-Kelly Piotrowicz

She is also looking to cap off a stellar career at Ursinus. She recently reached 105 blocks in her career vs. Gettysburg.

The volleyball team will look to capture its first conference win this Saturday in the Dickinson game. Senior

middle blocker Lydia Pierce thinks they can pull it off, but need to focus on making a few key changes. “We need to stop making unforced errors in the last couple of points on each game.”

Come out to Helfferich Gymnasium this Thursday to watch your Ursinus College Volleyball team get back in the win column against Albright College.

Field Hockey cont. from pg. 8

the best way that we can continue to win games is to put the work in at practice and execute on the field. If we continue to play our game, we are going to be really successful.”

Looking further into the season, as conference play comes to an end, there are some goals that the team hopes to achieve in order to move up in the rankings. “Some goals we have as a team is to score within the first five minutes of the game and to execute in our attacking circle/corners. Another goal of ours

is to be one of the best passing teams in our conference. If we pass well to each other, then we can set each other up for good plays and opportunities to score/win,” says Nicholas. “As long as we stick to our goals, we will beat our ranked opponents and continue to climb the rankings!”

We wish nothing but the best of luck to the Women’s Field Hockey team as they continue to dominate in their games. Go Bears!



Photograph Courtesy of David Morgan

Scores as of Monday, September 30

Football	Volleyball	Field Hockey	M. Soccer	W. Soccer	M. Golf	Men’s Tennis
Ursinus 35 at Moravian 28	Swarthmore 3 vs. Ursinus 0	Swarthmore 0 vs. #10 Ursinus 4	DeSales 1 vs. Ursinus 2	Swarthmore 1 vs. Ursinus 0	Men’s at Williamsport T-2nd of 10	Ursinus 7 at Penn St. Abington 2
	Gettysburg 3 vs. Ursinus 1	#10 Ursinus 3 at Gettysburg 0	Washington College 2 vs. Ursinus 2	Ursinus 0 at Gettysburg 3		

Volleyball looks to get lack on track

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The Ursinus College volleyball team is searching for its first conference win of the season. After losing five of their last six, the players are determined to bear down and get back in the win column. They have a promising matchup vs. Albright College this Thursday in which they hope to get the job done.

After this non-conference matchup, Ursinus will have five conference games in a row, starting against an 8-6 Dickinson College and including both an undefeated Johns Hopkins squad and first-place Franklin and Marshall.

The team is led by senior captains Miranda Foster and Kelly Piotro-

See **Volleyball** on pg. 7



Photograph Courtesy of David Morgan

Field Hockey extends win streak to five games

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The Ursinus women's field hockey team is now ranked in the top 10 in the nation. They haven't let up against any conference teams thus far, and are riding a five-game winning streak. With the ball in their court, they are looking to continue to dominate the conference, and move up in the rankings.

Now, as the team approaches the home stretch of its season, the players have to make

sure that their mindset as a whole is in a good place. Senior Brianne Nicholas states, "I would say our team's mindset going forward is to just take one game at a time and to grow from each game to better our play." Nicholas, a player who has contributed to the success of the team in her fourth year, is eager to help bring her team a title win.

It is no reach to say that the field hockey team has been dominating conference teams, and they do not plan to

stop this pattern. There are many factors that go into their success. "As a team, we plan to dominate the conference by setting the tone early on in the game. In order to set the tone early, we try to come out hard the second the game starts and score first," states Nicholas. Thinking of the best way possible to continue the team's victories, Nicholas lays out some of her personal thoughts. "I think


See **Field Hockey** on pg. 7

Made  **-ON- Campus**



Sculpture by Kristen Cooney, Photograph by Rob Varney

Upcoming Games

Wed. 10/2	Thursday 10/3	Friday 10/4		Saturday 10/5	Sat. Cont.	Sat. Cont.
Men's Soccer vs. <i>Swarthmore</i>	#10 Field Hockey vs. #3 TCNJ	Men's Tennis at ITA Championships		Men's Soccer at <i>Dickinson</i>	Women's Volleyball at <i>Dickinson</i>	Men's & Women's Cross Country at Paul Short Invitational
Women's Soccer at King's (Pa.)	Women's Volleyball vs. Albright			Women's Soccer at <i>Dickinson</i>	#10 Field Hockey at <i>Dickinson</i>	
Women's Tennis at Alvernia				Football vs. Johns Hopkins	Men's Tennis at ITA Championships	