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the grizzly

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Collegeville, Pa.

Thursday, November 12, 2020

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On Saturday, November 7, major news outlets declared **Joe Biden** the projected winner of the **2020 Presidential Election**. We asked Ursinus students for their reactions and comments on the atmosphere around campus this weekend — this is what they had to say:

“Waiting for the results has been very stressful and overwhelming, but I am satisfied with the outcome.”

- *Grace Harris*

“I am really excited for the future; it feels like a weight has been lifted from my shoulders.”

- *Maia Peele*



Ursinus Students attending celebrations in Philadelphia. Photo courtesy of Julianna Berardi

“I think it might just be me but it seems like everyone is a little happier! Even the weather seems to be celebrating.”

- *Emilio DeSousa*

“Campus atmosphere was quiet but, in my eyes, tense.”

- *Sarah Haughton*

“I haven’t noticed anything going on regarding the election. I didn’t notice anyone celebrating on campus. I did see Snapchat stories of people in Philly celebrating Biden’s win, but nothing on campus.” - *Mike Conforti*

“I do think it helped that Biden won. I wasn’t here when Trump won, but I know they were like mandatory safe spaces and like the campus shut down. This time around, I think the campus handled it well, but I don’t think it’s over. I think he’s taking it to court. So, we’ll see how that goes.” - *Thomas Pancheri*

“The fact that the media has called the race for Biden is ridiculous..... let’s ‘confirm’ Joe Biden’s electoral college win with a full audit/investigation.”
- *Mike Maus*

“Eh I’m not that concerned about it. I didn’t even vote so I’m not that invested in it. In terms of the campus, things are fine. It’s hard to really get too crazy with COVID. My older brother was here in 2016 and he said it was kind of crazy, but I haven’t seen anything like that. It’s been pretty chill.”

- *Mason Banks*

Ursinus Enters New Pre-Engineering Partnership

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Ursinus has announced that it will provide another opportunity for students on a pre-engineering track to enroll and earn a dual degree at the McKelvey School of Engineering at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. The program allows students to earn a liberal arts degree at Ursinus and an undergraduate engineering degree from Washington University. Washington University is a new addition to the list of programs Ursinus is affiliated with; it joins Columbia University and Case Western Reserve University (CWRU). Ursinus' affiliation with Columbia allows students to enroll in a combined plan program in engineering at the university, and the dual degree

program in engineering at Case Western Reserve University.

The Dual Degree Program at Washington University is an attractive alternative to traditional engineering curricula. Program graduates are liberally educated engineers, with strong communication and problem-solving skills, a broad background in the humanities and social sciences, and a high-quality technical education. The program's ultimate goal is for students to graduate with job placement, acceptance into graduate or professional school, or commitment to a short-term program. This is an opportunity for Ursinus students to get involved in a school that is in a different environment than that of Collegeville, PA. While the possibility

of remote learning still stands for the next academic year, students will still be interacting with a multitude of peers who come from across the country or seas, a greater global population than at Ursinus.

At Washington University there is a strong research presence, and students are encouraged to pursue independent research projects, internships, cooperative education, international experiences or graduate study. The university is a National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduates site, and about half of its engineering students participate in research. Washington University has invested \$275 million in engineering facilities since 2000, and 92 percent of their graduates have either landed a paid position or are pur-

suing advanced degrees within six months of graduating, making this partnership an attractive option for Ursinus students who wish to earn a valued liberal arts degree while also pursuing engineering.

Students who are interested in the Dual Degree Program are advised to contact one of the Pre-Engineering advisers at the earliest opportunity in order to plan a program of study. There are core pre-engineering courses that the Dual Degree Program requires that all candidates take among a wide range of majors, between Physics, Mathematics, Chemistry and Computer Science. To obtain eligibility, students must complete the equivalent of 90 semester hours at Ursinus with a grade point average of 3.25 or greater.

The Ursinus community is lucky to have Professor Lew Riley as the Pre-Engineering Program Coordinator, as well as the long list of faculty advisers to guide their students in the direct path for their career choice. It takes an immense amount of dedication and hard work to get through these programs, luckily Ursinus ensures their students will be fully prepared before entering additional schooling or the professional world.



Photo by: Ursinus College

Creating Art In A New Way: Ursinus College Dance Company

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Organizations all across campus have had to come up with creative ways to continue their activities amidst the pandemic. From clubs to sports teams, the Ursinus community is continuously innovating in order to maintain a sense of order. One such organization is the Ursinus College Dance Company, or UCDC for short. Much like the radio plays broadcasted over the past weekend, the UCDC is treating the Covid-19 regulations as an opportunity to create art in a new way. Instead of holding a live performance, the UCDC will be broadcasting a pre-recorded broadcast on the side of the Kaleidoscope in what Professor Jeanine McCain refers to as “a truly hybrid collaborative experience”. The name of the performance is #ucdcboxcollective and Professor McCain believes that it will reach the communi-

ty through its representation of current events.

Despite the excitement to try something new, the senior members of the UCDC have had to cope with the drastic changes to their last year dancing for the school. Senior Jacqlyn Hennigan speaks fondly of her time at UCDC; “[The] UCDC has given me a ton of opportunities. I’ve gotten the chance to work with choreographers from all over the country and I’m so grateful for everything that I’ve learned from them”. She also brings up the impact Covid has had on the company; “Due to capacity limitations, both of our dance studios on campus have been turned into classrooms, so dancers cannot use them, and we have to dance outside”. Her fellow senior and UCDC member Kevin Harris also laments lost opportunities, saying; “Covid put a stop to an idea I had for a UCDC student piece. I wanted

to create something that is relevant and speaks to the things we are currently experiencing in 2020”. Despite missing out on a solo piece, Harris is still excited about the broadcasted performance; “The students, including myself, were given a chance to fully explore our bodies and find ways to manipulate our movement vocabulary while having the physical limitation of using one specific prop for the entire performance”. Both of the seniors are grateful for the time they have spent on the UCDC and the creative opportunities this piece has given them.

The #ucdcboxcollective is a different type of piece the UCDC is used to performing for a multitude of reasons. The first that comes to mind is the virtual aspect. The UCDC is still performing in front of an audience- a socially distanced one- but instead of a live performance, it will be a prerecorded

one. Each student will have their own solo piece, something that, as Professor McCain says; “were created as individual expressions by the dancers, reflecting a true investigation of each dancer’s personal journey”. The dancers are using cardboard boxes to reflect the shift to online learning and working that has taken over 2020. The clips of each dancer were filmed by students in Professor Lynne Edwards’ video production class. Filming was directed by former visiting assistant professor and guest artist, Bailey Anderson, and the clips were edited by Professor McCain. The dancers and all of those involved hope that the piece will connect with the audience and help boost the community’s spirits.

#ucdcboxcollective will be broadcasted on the side of the Kaleidoscope Performing Arts Center on Thursday, November 19th starting

from when it gets dark, which will be around 5:30 PM, and running on loop until 10:00 PM. The performance will also be available on Friday November 20th at www.ursinus.edu/live-on-main/main-stage. The Ursinus College Dance Company has worked hard to bring the community this special installation, using art to reflect the time and feelings we all share. They look forward to the broadcast and a great turnout!

photo by: Zoe Cougoul



Notable alum profile: Kim Guadagno

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The Ursinus alum profile recognizes former Lt. Governor of New Jersey, Kim Guadagno '80. Guadagno grew up in Waterloo, Iowa, and earlier in her career held positions including assistant N.J. general attorney and deputy director in the Division of Criminal Justice. Guadagno was Lt. Governor of N.J. for eight years. She was also the Republican nominee for governor of New Jersey in 2017, losing the race to Democrat Phil Murphy.

Guadagno attended Ursinus because "it gave me the most options." During her time here, she was a resident advisor (RA) for Todd Hall and a sister in the Phi Sigma sorority her senior year. Additionally, Guadagno was a proud member and president of the student government. Those activities and organizations were highlights of her college experience. "There was nothing I did not like about Ursinus," she said.

Academically, Guadagno loved and studied political science and economics, and "was an intern to Dr. Miller, who passed away almost 20 years ago." Dr. Miller was a professor in the political science department who influenced Guadagno.

Guadagno furthered her law studies at American University in Washington, D.C. "I always found myself argumentative and liked to see both sides of the story in the day when you could have a different view of politics," she said. As an attorney, she quickly "learned how to make an argument in a courtroom and then walk outside and be friends with the people I was arguing against. That's how politics used

"I always found myself argumentative and liked to see both sides of the story..."

- Kim Guadagno

to be." Guadagno did not go into detail about her views on current politics but rather chose to leave this up to people's personal interpretation.

Guadagno served as Lt. Governor under N.J. Governor Chris Christie. Both she and Christie were former U.S. attorneys but did not become fully acquainted with each other until they reached the governors' offices. "I was an assistant in the office but not at the same time," Guadagno said. "So I didn't really know Chris Christie when he asked me to [be] his Lt. Governor." She is proud to



Photo Courtesy of Ursinus College

be the first Lt. Governor of New Jersey and labels working for the state as "fabulous." Guadagno said everyone makes mistakes and believes there are things she could have done better in her position. "I regret not spending time with my three children and spending too much time on politics," she stated.

During her first week on the job as Lt. Governor Guadagno was greeted by former associate dean of students (1978-86) Dave Rebuck, who called her by her maiden name, 'Ms. McFadden.' That moment prompts Guadagno to share a message with students today: "It is a very, very small world and it gets smaller as you get older. The people

"It is a very, very small world...[t]he people and the friends you meet now at Ursinus will be the same people you will meet later."

- Kim Guadagno

and the friends you meet now at Ursinus will be the same people you will meet later, especially in this world of Zoom and social media," Guadagno began. "Make good friends now and stay in touch with them because some of them will be Lt. Governors... [or] be where Dave Rebuck is now, the head of casinos in Atlantic City and that could be very helpful."

Guadagno also serves as CEO and president of "Fulfill" -- formally known as the Food-bank of Monmouth and Ocean counties -- an organization that strives to fight hunger by feeding the less-fortunate and fulfilling their needs. "We have done 2.6 million meals within the last 130 days," Guadagno exclaimed.



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A Bear in the woods

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The perception of Trump rallies is of something like a mad love child between country concerts and monster truck rallies. Hillbillies and rednecks come to mind, as well as a red, white and blue mosh pit. The media certainly does these affairs no favors. I decided to see one for myself.

Upon my arrival at the Trump rally held at the Lancaster Airport in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, the place was mobbed. There were thousands of people in attendance. Toward the front of the serpentine line was a black man and his wife.

The crowd of people were ferried by private security guards, along with Men-in-Black-style secret servicemen at the main venue site...

- Griffin Banks

His facemask read "Jesus Matters." Toward the back of the line, a His-

panic kid, in a full suit, stood antsy waiting to be let in. As excited rally-goers made their way through metal detectors, and the crowd of people were ferried by private security guards, along with Men-in-Black-style secret servicemen at the main venue site, a measly strip of a local airfield was packed tightly with an eager, red-capped swarm.

The place was all standing-room, except for the hastily constructed bleachers that had been seemingly occupied for hours by Trump's most rabid, die-hard supporters. Eighteen wheelers protruded through the sea of bodies, and it was not long before impatient attendees were scaling them, trying to get a better look at the podium. Security guards and event staff scrambled to keep order but their cause was already lost. A lady from Valley Forge hung on for dear life to the mirror of a large Mack truck. She cleans houses in Chestnut Hill for a living. Her son flew all the way



Griffin Banks outside of the rally

From out of the thick, fluffy grey clouds Air Force One descended.

- Griffin Banks

from Germany just to vote. "It's crazy what people will do to see the big man," the lady from Valley Forge said.

From out of the thick, fluffy grey clouds Air Force One descended. The crowd went berserk,

reaching heights of anticipation not (probably) seen since Beatlemania. Trump looks and acts the same way he does on TV. He rambles on about "Sleepy Joe," about policy, and that lofty American Dream. On the way out, a veteran, named Le, dressed in full regalia, with his chest puffed and full of medals, shook hands and took pictures with people. He is a retired member of the United

States Army. Two college-aged girls drove by blaring "Fuck Donald Trump (FDT)," a rap song by rapper YG, with which they sung along poorly. Looking around at all these passionate people, it was hard not to conclude that the least interesting thing about a Trump rally is the man himself.

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Residence Life: Big Brother is Watching You

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In the days before and after the 2020 election there is one thing that you did not see on campus... campaign signs. In the days leading up to the election, Ursinus Residence Life asked students living in residence halls to remove their campaign signs and messages from their windows.

Student Chrissy Foley says that in Olevian Hall, “we had signs up like Biden/Harris 2020, Vote Him Out, Black Lives Matter, and a reproductive rights poster that said don’t tread on me and had a snake as a uterus.” Foley shares that they were contacted by Residence Life the same

afternoon the signs were hung and were told to remove the signs immediately. Olevian residents were told that the signs made students ‘uncomfortable’ and incite political tension on campus. Foley says, “what upset me the most personally was taking down the Black Lives Matter and reproductive rights signs, because they are not political, they’re basic human rights.” The Floy Lewis Bakes center currently displays a Black Lives Matter flag, yet students, such as Foley, have been asked to remove the same message in the windows of their residence hall.

Another student, Michael Sicilia, says, “I had a ‘f**k Trump’

sign in my window that I was asked to remove because Residence Life told me that signs could not endorse one specific political party or candidate, nor can they have vulgarity... I understand not wanting vulgarity, but I was not endorsing Biden. I just said f**k Trump.”

Ursinus College wishes to pride itself on empowering students to make political change in their communities, touting G.O.T.V. initiatives on the college’s social media and sharing messages of “let your voice be heard” on Instagram. On their website, UC Residence Life states that their mission is to “work with students to develop their indepen-

dence, their ability to communicate effectively, and their appreciation for and engagement in a vibrant and diverse community.” While it is clear that as a private institution, Ursinus has the authority to restrict expression, doing so is not consistent with how the college chooses to market itself. How can Ursinus simultaneously wish for their students to be independent thinkers that are engaged in diverse civic discourse, and censor student political expression?

Students are not blind to the political climate at Ursinus. They live and experience it every single day. Ursinus is polarized. Political signs are not a catalyst for tension

-- bigotry and hatred are. Ursinus cannot wish to empower its students to be independent thinkers, a core piece of the liberal arts, while actively repressing student expression. Students are diverse, independent thinkers both inside and outside of the classroom. The residence halls, according to Residence Life, are an extension of this. I ask Ursinus, how should we live together? A campus that acts as Big Brother, or a campus that is supportive and encouraging of student political dialogue?

Outside morning noises near North Hall are obnoxious

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The early morning noises outside of North Hall that I have been hearing since early October--e.g. the Sodexo food truck(s) for dining delivery, other non-food-related trucks, the ground maintenance/facilities’ golf carts and lawn mower vehicles--have been very obnoxious. Living on the first floor of North, facing New Hall and the football field, I am always awakened before 8 a.m. to these noises that go on past 10 a.m. It is a nonstop distraction; one truck leaves and another immediately returns and continues the ruckus. The noises are the main reason why

I am constantly tired in the morning and begin my days a bit grumpy.

My dorm neighbor, Rachel Coleman ’21, is in agreement. The noise levels are just as disruptive for her as they are for me. However, she argues that the noisiest vehicles would be the large (un)loading delivery trucks. “When the loading trucks come in, they usually create the most amount of noise,” Rachel said. “UPS trucks, campus cars, or just students driving... often wakes me up if my window is slightly opened. [But] when my window is completely closed that’s only when I hear the loading trucks. The other vehicles I don’t particularly hear.” Sadly,

I cannot entirely agree with that last statement. Any loud noise is bothersome to me; I hear them all even with a closed window. While Rachel has gotten used to the noises, and she can sleep through them now, my sleep continues to be interrupted.

Emily Cid ’21, who lives on the third floor of North, also dislikes the noises. “The food delivery trucks are pretty annoying because I get woken up early, around 5 a.m., and they stay there for a while,” she said. Whereas the “lawn mowing isn’t as bad because they are a little later, around 8 a.m. But I like to study in the morning and if I have the window open, I can

hear them (the lawn care) and it’s distracting.”

Evidently, it does not matter which floor one is on. The distraction is all dependent on the amount and duration of the noises heard outside. Emily and Rachel make do by closing their windows. But both stated that the downside to that is living in a very hot room. When I close my window, I still hear the morning noises. I only leave my window open to let air breeze through my room and keep it smelling fresh. I just have to remember to close it at night, so as to avoid the next morning noises.

I wonder why the decision to start the ruckus was made in the middle

of the semester. The constant maintenance noises are now an everyday thing. I understand that maintenance needs to be done on campus, but they have the whole day. Not all of it needs to be taken care of early in the morning, especially when some students are still asleep. As Emily worded it, “the lawn care is a little excessive, especially now that it’s cold. I don’t know why they’re still cutting the grass when it’s not growing anymore.”

Fantasy Foot. cont. from

returned to the sports world. After months of scrambling and conjecture, the sport returned almost exactly as it had always been. Sure, there wasn't a preseason, and sure, at first there weren't fans, but football had returned. A crucial symbol of American life was back. The return of football also marked the return of fantasy football, a virtual competition wherein players serve as general managers of their own teams. It began in September in a common room. The draft went on just as it had the year prior, albeit now in a socially distanced fashion. Current points leader Mason Banks said, "It was solid. Unfortunately, Pancheri had the first pick and is now last in the league. That's how it goes."

From there, the competition was on, and it hasn't stopped since. Sundays aren't spent in a church pew, they're spent on Raymour and Flanagan recliners. The men of 306 sit huddled around the TV, transfixed on the flat screen TV in front of them with their smartphones gripped tightly in their hands. Monday nights, not Friday or Saturday, are the loudest in the suite. The men of 306 only know how to enjoy Monday night football one way, loudly. Football jerseys are adorned, an insane amount of Domino's pizza is ordered, and the place erupts with

cheers and jeers. For these men, fantasy football isn't just about Sundays and Mondays, it's a lifestyle. Trades are agonized over, vigorously argued and debated. Smack talk is their mother tongue, with insults and jabs thrown about on a daily basis. Nick Diaz described this culture of good-natured ribbing as "Very competitive. There's lots of smack talk. Everything is in good fun, though. It definitely gets competitive every Sunday. You'll always find us checking our phones and checking our teams."

"It was solid. Unfortunately, Pancheri had the first pick and is now last in the league. That's how it goes."

—Mason Banks

When asked to describe the dynamic of the fantasy league Thomas Pancheri replied, "pretty toxic," with a cheerful, maniacal laugh. John Wagner concurred, yet also described it as "loving." Wagner elaborated, "We help people who are bad in fantasy football. We try not to screw them over in a trade." Where once upon a time these men would bond in the dugout or out on the field, they come together now through their phones and computers when gathering together physically is not an option. As of

yet, there is no official word on what the 2021 baseball season will look like, or if there will even be a season to begin with.

With their future in doubt, the men of 306 cling to fantasy football as an outlet for their athletic frustration. Fantasy football allows them to be the sportsmen they are deep down inside. In conclusion, as Nick Diaz puts it, "We use it as a way to stay competitive amongst ourselves, even though it's a different sport. It lets us take our minds off the things that are indefinite or in doubt."

Cornhole cont. from pg. 8

new memories to add to the list I have made here at Ursinus," says Groff.

Each team has two players along with a team name they picked for themselves, which is where the players' creativity comes in. Current team names include: Keepers of the Hole, Washington Cornhole Team, Armadillos, Find the Hole, Bag and Boujee, Bags of Fury, Berks Elite, Kappas, Basic Pitches, Cornholios, Please Join the Frisbee Team, Forgot to Warm Up, Airmail, Maized and Confused.

"I would say it provides a bit of competition, but more of a sense of normalcy."

—Mason Groff, Class of 2021

Now, you may be thinking, is there a level of strategy or skill to this game? Should I practice before heading out to the Bakes and potentially get absolutely clobbered? The answer to all of this is no. Intramural leagues create a welcoming environment for students who would like to participate in an informal version of athletics, but not at the collegiate level, "The way the game works is usually by how lucky and upbeat the players are that night, most of the game is go with the flow, but there is definitely strategy when it comes to the scoring," states Groff.

The score goes up to

twenty-one, and players cannot go a point over, or it sets the team back in points. So, the winning point can depend on landing a bag on the board or in the hole, depending on certain situations. Groff describes his ending strategy to winning a cornhole game, "The way teams finish the game is crucial, getting stuck just under twenty-one due to lack of strategy can break the chances of winning. There is definitely a lot of thinking that goes into the final points along with the skill."

So, the next time an intramural sports email is sent to the student body, gather some friends and try it out! No harm, no foul; if you find you enjoy it, continue to participate, as there may be some friendships to be made. Perhaps before we depart, catch a game or two in the Bakes. The first bag is thrown at seven and the last bag is tossed at nine. Follow Ursinus_Intramurals on Instagram to keep track of events, scoring, and more opportunities to get involved. Go Bears!

Intramural Cornhole Makes Impression at UC

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Intramural Cornhole is the hottest new trend on campus this semester due to the absence of collegiate sport. The one-time summer backyard game has now become the talk of campus; both students who participate in athletics and those who do not join forces at the Floy Lewis Bakes Center for friendly games. Athletes have turned in their regular sporting equipment for the bags and boards and a couple of tosses to show down against other teams. The intramural teams compete twice a week, 18 teams going head-to-head to see who has better throws and luck with the board.

Without his normal collegiate sport season, men's tennis player Mason Groff '21 says the intramural league has provided some lower intensity competition. "I would say it provides a bit of competition, but more of a sense of nor-

malcy. It is also fun to participate in something I normally wouldn't do and play a nice game against some friends." The competition between teams is not super serious, just a good outlet while sports are on lockdown. Despite what people may think, cornhole can be misunderstood as relatively easy, but it does in fact get competitive.

Luckily, Ursinus' intramural league is friendly, high-spirited, and can encourage students to mingle with their fellow friends/classmates who hang outside of their own bubble. A new addition to the list of intramural sports held here at Ursinus, cornhole could definitely use a few more teams, "I think more students should get involved, it is a simple game and the more you participate in a few games, the better you get. It is not super taxing and I have already created some fun

See **Cornhole** on pg. 7



Courtesy of Ursinus College

Students' Fantasy Football

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"Fantasy football gives us something. Baseball doesn't necessarily give us a future right now. It's an easy segue for me to talk with people. It's a good way to keep us connected. It definitely means a lot more than it did." - Thomas Pancheri
The men of New 306 love three things above all else; beer pong, Cobra Kai, and fantasy football. Every student in the suite is a soph-

omore Ursinus College baseball player. In the spring of 2020 these boys were faced with the same impossible challenge that the world was, the COVID-19 global pandemic. In a matter of weeks, one of the key pillars of their collegiate life was ripped away from them. The baseball season was cancelled, and young men who would have spent the spring running across freshly cut grass and red clay were suddenly confined to their homes. Their story was the same as nearly all collegiate and professional ath-

letes'. For the first time in decades, a spring and summer went by with vacant fields and empty bleachers.

The friendly spirit of competition and the grand old tradition of brotherhood atrophied. Many months later, it would resurface in a far different form. No longer would it be expressed through the swing of a bat or the thud of a ball hitting mitt, but instead through typing on keyboards and swiping on smartphones.

In September, football

See **Fantasy Foot.** on pg. 7

Thinking of You!



Photo by Ursinus Athletics



Photo by Ursinus Athletics