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Layla Halterman

Jenna Smith

Marie Sykes

Erin Corcoran

Vaughn DiBattista

See next page for additional authors

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Authors

Layla Halterman, Jenna Smith, Marie Sykes, Erin Corcoran, Vaughn DiBattista, Chase Portaro, Liam Reilly, Sean McGinley, and Kathy Logan

the grizzly

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A BEAR-y High-Tech Campus

Jenna Smith
jesmith@ursinus.edu

With many safety concerns among students, Ursinus has implemented a plan to improve security measures and protect campus. A new security camera expansion consists of adding twelve new cameras across campus and replacing three outdated systems, so it includes fifteen cameras in total. Installation work began last December around the Main Street properties and was expected to be completed by the end of January.

As of February 1, all but one camera had been installed and was working properly.

Gabrielle Wright, Director of Campus Safety, stated, “That one camera had to be returned as it was defective and we are waiting on the replacement.” Due to supply chain issues resulting from the pandemic, the school does not have an expected date for the new camera’s arrival and installation.

These changes have been long awaited by the student body, and have been in the works for several

years. Ursinus did this to, “maximize security coverage and become even more proactive in promoting the safety and well-being of our students,” said Wright.

While this particular camera update focuses predominantly around the houses and walkways of Main Street, the school plans to continue updating the camera systems around other parts of campus to increase students’ safety. According to the Ursinus Communications Department’s press release, particular

areas of focus where the college plans to increase coverage are the parking lots, academic buildings, and campus landmarks. Wright states that Campus Safety is hoping to begin the second phase of camera installation in the summer when the new fiscal year begins. They are still in the discussion phase about where they are going to implement new systems next semester; this journey will be continuing over the next two years.

Campus Safety reiterates the importance of prioritizing your protection and well-being. Continue to report suspicious activity if witnessed. With the installation and upgrades to the safety system, school officials will have better resources in investigating incident reports, and be able to keep the campus more secure. As a result of the new and improved security system, the college will be releasing an updated policy list

consisting of the steps they have been taking to mitigate danger.

This upgrade stems directly from conversations faculty and staff have had with students about their disquietude regarding campus safety measures. Proof that all of our voices matter! “It is a combination of several years of discussion with members of the Ursinus community on how we can improve campus-wide security coverage and the need to increase technological infrastructure to promote safety across campus,” Wright concluded. We will continue to update on the new improvements across campus to update the student body on their concerns in regards to safety.



Image courtesy of Jenny Ronzoni

Airtag Tracking Concerns Reach Ursinus Campus

Marie Sykes

masykes@ursinus.edu

“UNKNOWN ACCESSORY DETECTED - This Item Has Been Moving With You For A While” appears on your phone, moments after you return home from the movies. On January 14, 2022, this happened to one person in Lower Providence Township, as disclosed by Michael Jackson, their Chief of Police, three days later. White and silver discs the size of a quarter, devices known as “AirTags” can be used to follow and track people wherever they may go.

When AirTags were first released, their original intention was to ensure that the owner of these airtags could not lose their belongings, such as keys, bags, and wallets, but it did not take long for stalkers and predators to realize they could use this technology on their victims.

One student, whose name hasn't been released, has reported an AirTag notification incident

on campus, on January 18, during move-in for the spring semester. No AirTag was ever found when the Collegeville Police Department investigated, as Director of Campus Safety, Gabby Wright, explained, but she still urges students to contact Campus Safety whenever in need or if this happens to them.

Apple has released a series of safety instructions, explaining how phones will send their owners a notification if an AirTag has been attached to their person, “over time” as Apple describes on their support page. This works through the “Find My” iPhone app and is necessary to receive notifications. They also iterate on their instructions that the Find My devices cannot be tracked or found by someone outside of “the participating users or devices who help locate a missing Find My network accessory” thanks to their end-to-end

encryption.

If you do not fall into the Apple multiverse (and have an Android phone), you can download an app they released named “Tracker-Detect” where you will receive notifications if an AirTag is attached to you. Outside of the app, an AirTag also begins to play a sound when moved if it is not near a registered device for “an extended period of time,” as Apple states, though the Wall Street Journal says it is somewhere between eight and twenty-four hours after the initial separation. In an article by WRAL on a Wake Forest student receiving an AirTag notification, they instruct anyone who receives a notification to, if they can find it, remove the battery. Apple instructs on their website to hold and press down the silver center and to rotate until the center stops and can be lifted up. Finally, the company discloses that Airtag batteries can last up

to a year so disabling them is crucial.

If you receive these notifications, see anything suspicious, or are in need of a safety escort, be sure to call campus safety 610-409-3333. On the MobileU app, students also have access to a Mobile Bluelight

and a Virtual Walk-Home, where you can be tracked to your final destination by Campus Safety or a friend.



First seen with you at 3:45 PM

Your current location can be seen by the owner of this item

You may be carrying this item, or it could be located closely. If this item is not familiar to you, you can disable it and stop sharing your location.

Continue

Image courtesy of Ava Compagnoni

Ursinus' Newest Investment: KN95 Masks

Erin Corcoran
ercorcoran@ursinus.edu

This winter's sought-after accessory is something you can get free of charge on campus: a KN95 mask. Multiple communications from the COVID Task Force informed students about this recent development, which came in light of the COVID-19 surge. Following the rise of the Omi-

cron variant in early January, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) changed their masking recommendation and stated N95 and KN95 masks provide the best level of protection against the virus. Following this, prices skyrocketed and many retailers sold out of the masks, making supply scarce.

That is when the COVID Task Force stepped in. Upon

mandatory check-in, each student received two KN95 masks and can pick up more at the testing center in Myrin or the Campus Safety Office.

As Dean of the College Mark Schneider explained, he and the other members of the Task Force decided this would be a worthwhile investment. Students now do not have to worry about barriers

of cost or access to finding KN95s. He also said the expense to the college was insignificant, so it was a simple decision. Schneider, along with other members of the COVID Task Force, have already seen the benefits. He states, "We have found many students who come by the testing site asking if they can take an extra one or two, so we infer the response has been positive."

Some students, however, believe this is an unnecessary expense, with fears that it will raise tuition or take away funds away from other spaces. Also, the communication from Ursinus about this supply did not reach the student body until mid-January, so many already found alternative masking options.



Image courtesy of Ava Compagnoni

Make a Grizzly Grin

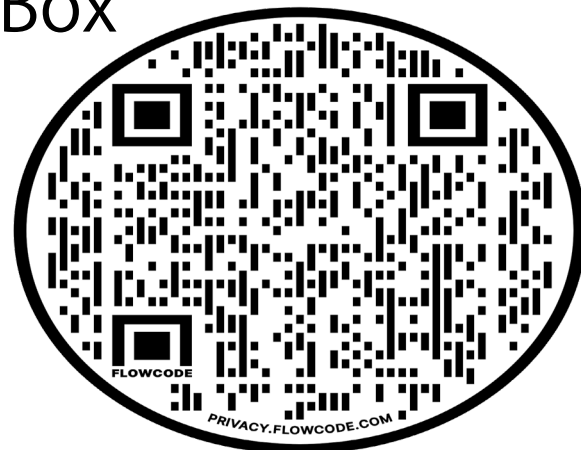
Our monthly challenge:

Give one genuine compliment to another for the next 28 days. It has to be a stranger, too!

How is it going?
Email us: grizzly@ursinus.edu to let us know!

Student Government Suggestion Box

Ursinus College Student Government wants to hear from you! Scan to fill out a Google survey to submit ideas or suggestions you want to see from Exec Board and Class Councils! Or if you have any problems you want us to address.



Dr. Rebecca Jaroff's Last Hurrah!

Vaughn DiBattista
vabattista@ursinus.edu

Dr. Rebecca Jaroff has taught literature and English courses at Ursinus College for 21 years. She graduated from Ursinus in 1981 with a degree in English and a minor in Communications. After college, Jaroff spent ten successful years at 6ABC as a production manager, however, she fell out of love with the profession. "It just wasn't fulfilling me anymore. I was in my early 30s and I thought, if I don't make a change now, then I'm never going to be able to."

From there, Dr. Ja-

"It just wasn't fulfilling me anymore. I was in my early 30s and I thought, if I don't make a change now, then I'm never going to be able to."

roff attended graduate school at the University of Delaware, earning her P.h.D. while working as a teaching assistant. "I really loved teaching college students, and I'm so grateful for Ursinus for giving me that start in my life both times around... I just fell in love with teaching, which was a real surprise to me because I swore I'd never teach."

Besides being an educator, Dr. Jaroff is also a wife, a mother,

and a (new) grandmother. When she's not in the classroom, she can be found hiking, swimming, and even traveling.

To think of a world where Dr. Jaroff wasn't a teacher frightens me, as she introduced me to the wonderful aspects of the English major. Her teaching styles are rather unorthodox, and she excels at getting the entire class involved. Every class is filled with discussion and dialogue, focusing on what the students have to say. "We, the English department, care so much about making sure students feel engaged and that they have a voice in everything that happens," Dr. Jaroff exclaimed.

Throughout her time as a professor, Dr. Jaroff has taught topics that are bigger than English, as she educates others on the topics of race, gender, inequality, and much more. Dr. Jaroff uses English as an avenue to teach about real-world problems, gearing her students to be the change the world

so desperately needs. "I was just struck by the misrepresentation of race in the novels we read in class. I think it's just so important for students to encounter these ideas and think about them and understand historical context."

What really struck me is Dr. Jaroff's call to teach women's literature. "Teaching women's literature is about recovering voices. Those women from past centuries were always writing, and earlier literary scholars, mostly white men, belittled them, and silenced them. I wanted to help recover those voices."

"Teaching women's literature is about recovering voices. Those women from past centuries were always writing, and earlier literary scholars, mostly white men, belittled them, and silenced them. I wanted to help recover those voices."

After twenty-one successful years of teaching and inspiring, Dr. Jaroff has decided to call it a career. "While I'm still in good health, and relatively young,

I want to see what else is out there. I want to explore. So, when people ask me, what am I going to do? My go-to answer is: I don't know." And she is content with that.

"While I'm still in good health, and relatively young, I want to see what else is out there. I want to explore. So, when people ask me, what am I going to do? My go-to answer is: I don't know."

Dr. Jaroff is excited to go on new adventures, and to spend time with her grandchildren who keep her very busy. While it is hard to imagine Ursinus without her, the students and myself wish Dr. Jaroff an amazing retirement.



Courtesy of Julia Paiano

The Return of WVOU - Ursinus' Voice

Chase Portaro
chportano@ursinus.edu

Matthew Nieves-Hoblin '23, general manager of Ursinus's student-run radio station, remembers hosting his final show before the COVID-19 pandemic sent everyone home in March 2020. "I was the last person in the studio. But I just said, 'Alright good-bye guys, I'll see you in the spring,' and of course, as we all know, we didn't come back after that. But now, WVOU is back and better than ever after a year and a half," Nieves-Hoblin explained, his voice teeming with enthusiasm.

WVOU is Ursinus's student-run radio station, and it's making its return after almost two years of being off the air. Now, the station is offering a variety of music and podcast-style shows hosted by DJs across campus.

WVOU stands for "Voice of Ursinus," and the W, a special denotation for east-coast broadcasts, holds true to its origins as an airwave station. Now, the station broadcasts online, and the link to

listen can be found on WVOU's homepage, located on the Ursinus website.

Nieves-Hoblin sees WVOU as an integral part of free speech at Ursinus. He said, "Because the station is completely uncensored and entirely student-run, it's quite literally the 'Voice of Ursinus.' It's not the voice of the faculty, but the voice of the students themselves." He added, "Through WVOU, students can talk about anything they desire, and that really encourages what our community holds dear. WVOU is really important, and without it, there'd be a real loss to student expression on campus."

WVOU is an important organization promoting free speech at Ursinus, but it also gives students an opportunity to become closer with their own voices. Kalina Witkowska '23, the station's music director, explained, "WVOU is so important because you have the opportunity to talk about what matters to you. Even if you have no listeners, there's a comfort in speaking into this platform

because it's not just talking alone in your room. It's talking on-air. It's very empowering."

As for the future of WVOU, Witkowska said, "I'm hoping for more listeners, and it's hard, but I'm hoping we can get more listeners by being more involved on campus." WVOU is already involving itself with different organizations on campus like The Grizzly. Beginning soon, a "Grizzly Radio Hour" will air weekly to provide students with another medium to receive campus news. Also, a WVOU side-column will be printed in The Grizzly to keep students updated on the latest music trends on campus.

Although listenership has been a struggle in the past, Nieves-Hoblin has big hopes for the station's revitalization. "I want everyone on campus to know about WVOU, and I want them to be able to listen to WVOU. I want it to be relevant, and it be a place where even non-students can listen and be engaged because we have quality shows, quality music, and quality



Courtesy of Matt Nieves

content."

Hosting a radio show may seem daunting, but Witkowska highlighted the come-one, come-all attitude built into the organization. They added, in a direct address to hopeful DJs, "Always feel free to ask questions and reach out. It's really no issue to communicate if you have any concerns or you don't know how to get involved. It's really easy just to ask a question."

As for potential listeners, Witkowska offered, "Honestly, just give us a try. It's fun to listen to students on campus, and it's a very casual thing. It doesn't matter what your major is or what part of campus you're associated with, we really have it all. You can even email us to make music requests,

make an announcement for an upcoming event, request types of shows, or even create your own show. Anybody who wants to can put their hand in WVOU."

Because students have total creative control over the station's content, the possibilities are quite limitless. With its future bright, WVOU will undoubtedly become a cultural hub for the Ursinus community to express themselves however they see fit. If you want to be a part of the station yourself, email Matt Nieves-Hoblin, WVOU's general manager, at manieveshoblin@ursinus.edu or at wvou@ursinus.edu. Or, you can simply listen to the broadcast by clicking the link on the WVOU homepage.

Get Involved with the Radio!

WVOU is back and better than ever!

Email wvou@ursinus.edu to get involved!

And watch out for joint WVOU-Grizzly events!

Should Professors Ask Pronouns?

Liam Reilly
lireilly2@ursinus.edu

Sean McGinley
semcginley@ursinus.edu

As the new semester begins, professors begin classes with the typical icebreakers: name, major, and pronouns. While the inclusion of one's personal pronouns is an important step in creating an inclusive environment, there are still many amongst the student body and staff that are not used to the practice. As such, we offer a dual approach: We believe that professors should encourage, but not require the sharing of pronouns, even during icebreakers, and include a Canvas prompt for students to express which pronouns they want to be referred to by the professor when in a setting such as

office hours versus in the classroom. For the latter, the basis is that some students may feel comfortable sharing their identity with a trusted faculty member but may not be ready to share with their peers. This approach both builds up comfort with sharing pronouns and lets the students set the pace at which they share.

When reaching out to members of the student body, we were met with varied sentiments about whether the use of pronouns should be required or not. Kevin Melton, a sophomore, provided his opinion on the matter. He explained that "while having students share their pronouns on virtual and in-classroom learning is

an important step, it can create unfair additional stress and pressure for LGBTQIA+ students to come out."

Another student, who wished to remain anonymous, brought up further complexities regarding the practice of sharing pronouns. They detailed how "some gender-nonconforming and transgender students may not be comfortable with sharing their pronouns to peers they do not yet know." They said they "feel as though people should be able to share their pronouns freely, but that it comes with the notice that mistakes happen in regard to misgendering. Part of creating an inclusive classroom environment

involves being supportive even during a mistake." Encouraging pronoun sharing and being flexible with the rate at which people adapt to students' pronouns do not have to operate as mutually exclusive practices. We argue for a more inclusive classroom that allows for students to set the pace and level at which they share pronouns. This leaves room for patience and understanding for the rate at which students feel comfortable adapting to personal pronouns. However, awareness needs to be had from cisgender students of the harm improper pronoun usage can lead to.

For many in the LGBTQIA+ community, coming out can be not just

a difficult process, but a legitimately dangerous one as well. The sharing of pronouns is about more than just how one wants to be referred to in a class discussion. It is a validation of their identity, a validation that should be set at their own pace. It is due to these concerns and the student input we received that we conclude the strong encouragement, but not a requirement, of students to share pronouns, combined with professors adding the option to share classroom and one-on-one pronouns on Canvas feels like the best option available.

Swim cont. from pg. 8

pushed to places that we did not even know they could go.”

“They are the memories that I will continue to talk about whenever I discuss my Ursinus College Swimming career.”

—Ro Murphy,
Class of 2022

She mentioned that her class was the only one to have previously visited Florida, especially given the suspension and COVID surge so the preparation was even more demanding both physically and mentally. “Thank goodness

the swim team got to enjoy the beach in between those tough hours of practice and thankfully, the team got the opportunity to travel even in the midst of COVID,” Murphy exclaimed.

Given the fact that graduation is closing in on seniors, Murphy describes her bittersweet emotions. “While Florida is extremely difficult, and there were times where my body was just beat down, I was still sad about not getting the chance to do this again with my team. We all go through such hard

training together, but there is something about doing it with this group of people that makes it all the less painful.”

She asserts that she will miss the chance to bond with the team, especially on trips like these. “I wish I had the chance to have 4 training trips and make the memories that will stick with me for a lifetime.”

“Florida is, by far, the hardest part of our season. Our bodies are pushed to places that we did not even know they could go.”

—Ro Murphy,
Class of 2022

The memories made on the trip, she claims, are quite fruitful and impactful. “They are memories that I will continue to talk about whenever I discuss my Ursinus College Swimming career.”

Ursinus is happy to hear that the trip went off without a hitch. We are all beary excited for what the swim team will do in the years to come!

Spring cont. from pg. 8

what’s to come,” Bailey Hann ‘24 stated. The Bears boast some fine young talent, especially in star freshman Kaylin Chen. Chen broke the women’s record at Ursinus College this fall, shooting 7 over 78 at the fall invitational, and is looking to improve during her already stellar rookie season.

Coming off of a 7-8 season, the Ursinus Baseball team is looking to bounce back. The Bears are looking to their veteran presence to carry the boats this year, returning 9 seniors. They also return some standout juniors in Tom Snipes ‘23 and ace

reliever Brady Antolick ‘23. They open up their season at The College of New Jersey on March 1, and we are excited to see them get rolling again!

“We’re all really hype for what’s to come.”

—Bailey Hann,
Class of 2024

Moving on to lacrosse, the Women’s team has already improved upon last season, going undefeated in their fall play day against Widener and Kean. Despite losing a notable amount of seniors, the Bears return some key starters, especially in captains Becca Lewis ‘22, Paige Weid-

man ‘23, Reilly Morgan ‘22, and Emma Wood ‘23. With new assistant coach Izzy O’Connell, the Bears feel well equipped to take on the new season, opening up the year February 23 at Rowan. We can’t wait to see what the Bears have in store.

In men’s lacrosse, the Bears are looking to improve from their 4-2 record from last year. They may have lost star attackman Hakan Atillasoy ‘21 to graduation, however, the boys are more than equipped to improve from last year. Under the leadership of Chris Porzelt ‘22, Tommy Reinhart ‘22, Chase

Rondeau ‘23, Ben Goetz ‘22, and Tyler Neal ‘23, the team is confident that they can get back to the Centennial Conference championship. Lacrosse opens up the season on February 19th at Stevenson under the lights, and they could not be more amped to get the ball rolling.

On the tennis side, the Men’s and Women’s teams are already off to a good start with both teams picking up wins in their fall tournaments. Star duo Lars Jeperson ‘24 and Will Oberholtzer ‘24 came out with an 8-0 shutout in the fall, and we’re really excited to see the

duo get to work in the spring. On the Women’s side, the team is looking deeper than ever. Despite the loss of ace Brenna Trkula, the Bears return seasoned vets Ava Compagnoni ‘23, Caitlin Vinsonholar ‘24, and Avery Samer ‘24. They will get rolling on March 7 when they take on Wittenburg in Orlando, Florida.

We all can’t wait to see our spring athletes get after it this spring, and we can’t wait to see all their accomplishments. With the talent showcased by every team, it’s looking to be a successful and promising spring for the Bears.

Spring Sports are Back!

Vaughn DiBattista
vadibattista@ursinus.edu

February 1 is a pretty ordinary day for most people, but at Ursinus College, February 1 couldn't be closer to a holiday. This date marks the return of spring sports for the Centennial Conference, and student-athletes at Ursinus could not be more excited. Baseball, track, golf, lacrosse, softball, and tennis find themselves taking their respective fields/courts once again. Excited, and surely ready, the Bears are looking to add some hardware to the Floy Lewis trophy cabinet.

On the diamond, we're excited to see softball get it going this spring. Coming off of a 5-7 season, the young Bears look to add more experience this coming season. With only four seniors, the team will have to rely on underclassmen performance, but they are surely in good hands. Sophomore

Grace White has been showing promise at the plate, boasting a .350 average in her debut season. Sophomore Sara Sullivan is also hoping to improve from her already stellar freshman year, when she hit over 300 in her rookie campaign. The Bears are also looking forward to the debut of promising sophomore, Madison Wilson, who lost her freshman season to injury. With young talent, and stellar leadership, the Bears are looking to start their year off on the right foot against Mitchell on March 5.

On the golf side, the Women's golf team is looking bright this season. Led by captain Jessica Lamarca '22, the Bears have been working hard to make sure this season is as great as possible. "We've been setting up team lifts for the first time in team history, and hitting the course when we can. We're all really hype for

See **Spring** on pg. 7



Courtesy of Ro Murphy

Swimmer's Retreat

Kathy Logan
kalogan@ursinus.edu

While Ursinus students were relaxing at home or working shifts over winter break, the swim team was in warm, sunny Florida training for their upcoming season. The workouts took place in Fort Lauderdale or more specifically, Lauderdale-by-the-Sea, over the course of a week or so.

Rosalia Murphy, senior and captain

of the swim team, explained "Our trip is 10 days long, where we are training twice a day every day. Our first practice is from 8-10am and after that we head back to our hotel to make breakfast and eat with the team. Then we go to the beach and come back in time for our second practice, which is from 4-6pm." She further stated that three days throughout the entirety of the trip they are required to "lift from 6:45am-

7:45am, and then we get right in the pool from 8-10 for our first practice. We usually get one day off where our coaches take us somewhere fun so that we can spend time as a team and bond."

During the time in the sunny state, Murphy said her goal was to prepare well for what her body was about to endure. "Florida is, by far, the hardest part of the season. Our bodies are

See **Swim** on pg. 7

Upcoming Games

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Tuesday
Women's BB@ 6pm Men's BB@ 8pm	Men's BB@ 7pm Women's BB@ 7:30pm	Track&Field@All Day Gymnastics@ 7pm	Wrestling@ 11am Track&Field@All Day Men's BB@ 1pm	