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Layla Halterman

Morgan Mason

Brooke Hurley

Alena DeAntonellis

Marie Sykes

See next page for additional authors

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Authors

Layla Halterman, Morgan Mason, Brooke Hurley, Alena DeAntonellis, Marie Sykes, Liam Geib, Danielle Santana Denrich, and Vaughn DiBattista

the grizzly

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That's All Folks! SWEAT Performance Recap

Morgan Mason
 momason@ursinus.edu

Brooke Hurley
 brhurley2@ursinus.edu

September 29th, 2008 was an economically historic day. Not only did the Dow Jones Industrial Average drop 776.68 points in a single day, but the effects on a presidential election impacted industries and families across the nation. The years leading up to this day, between 2000 and 2008, strained working individuals across the country to their core. Lynn Nottage, two-time Pulitzer Prize winner, wrote 'Sweat' to highlight socioeconomic tensions in the country at that time.

The play is set at a local bar in Reading, PA. The local bar quickly becomes an oasis for all characters to unwind.

After tiring days spent in an industrial plant, the bar is where friends have become family, relationships crumble, and everything in between. 'Sweat' highlights how tradition is so deeply rooted in this community's blood. Though, what matters to each character is slowly revealed as tensions run high and jobs become scarce when NAFTA begins moving industries out of the United States. Union workers begin losing their jobs, and gender and racial disparities that existed in Reading begin to put relations to the test.

Nottage's play is a creative way to represent the race, gender, and socioeconomic challenges in America's 21st century. Nottage spent two years in Reading, where she immersed herself in

the city's culture to understand the communication, culture, and implicit effects of the economic recession on working adults and their families. Domenick Scudera, director of "Sweat" at Ursinus College, drives home the importance of Nottage's message. He illuminates her work by stating, "I hope audiences understand Nottage's message that individuals in communities need to care for each other. The characters in the play are faced with some terrible challenges and, as a result, end up turning on each other because they don't fully understand the powers at play in their world."

Scudera, co-founder and former chair of the Theater and Dance department and current theater professor, has directed

approximately 40 productions with Ursinus. Scudera's connection with Nottage adds another layer to his passion for what this play stands for. "Ever since I met her, I have wanted to work on Sweat because I was there when the playwright was creating the work. I believe Lynn Nottage is one of the best playwrights working in American theater today, so I feel especially honored having a connection to one of her plays from the research phase all the way to performance."

The "SWEAT" performance came to life in the Lenfest Theater in the Kaleidoscope Performing Arts Center March 24th through 27th. The production staff consisted of twenty-four students along with nine members of the

ensemble, including two Ursinus staff and faculty members. Michael Thompkins, the Assistant Director of Resident Life, played the role of Brucie, a father working against the economic recession, and Rebecca Roberts, Associate Professor of Biology, played the role of Tracey, a mother and employee directly impacted by the factory's layoffs. Roberts has a passion for theater, and told Ursinus Ed Moorhouse, "I can always keep music and theater in my life, and that's easier to do than biochemistry in my life. So, I went professional biochemist, but musician and theater person at heart."

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Image courtesy of Ursinus College

A Note from the Editor

Layla Halterman

lahalterman@ursinus.edu

Dear Ursinus Family,

After taking a much needed break back in March from writing, I feel rejuvenated to offer up words of wisdom for the month of April. The change of weather, flowers blooming, and the

semester nearing its end are guaranteed mood magic.

It is baffling to think I will be a senior in just a few short weeks. It seems like yesterday I was a scared, apprehensive freshman navigating the waters on her own for the first time, as both Dr. Amanda Reig & Dr. Samantha Wilner in the Chemistry De-

partment can attest. I would often grapple with two questions: what work I'd choose to pursue and how I would leave Ursinus better than I found it. In retrospect, being slightly older and wiser, this is what I wish I knew when I first stumbled on the grounds of Ursinus.

First, surround yourself with people

smarter than you. They will challenge you to your very core and force you to level up. Second, there is no straight path to where you are going – no one has it all figured out. Most are winging it. If you try to draw that line, you will likely get it all wrong and miss out on big opportunities. I promise it works out better

than you could even fathom.

And lastly, find work you love and do it with gusto. When you are passionate and enthusiastic about a discipline, you're more likely to put your best foot forward and succeed beyond belief.

Cheers,

Layla

Coming Up on Campus: Greek Week

Alena DeAntonellis

aldeantonellis@ursinus.edu

Ursinus is home to multiple Greek organizations: Tau Sigma Gamma, Omega Chi, Phi Alpha Psi, Phi Kappa Sigma, Kappa Delta Kappa, Delta Pi Sigma, Sigma Pi, Alpha Phi Epsilon, Alpha Delta Phi, Sigma Sigma Sigma, Pi Omega Delta, and Kappa Alpha Psi. All of these organizations have been anticipating "Greek Week" this coming April. From April 18-23, the sororities and fraternities on campus will be participating in various inter-Greek events, competing to win a prize from the Inter-Greek Council. The opening cere-

mony will be held on Monday, April 18 will be the opening ceremony and field day to start off the week.

On Tuesday, April 19, "Greek Trivia" will be held in Lower Wismer.

Wednesday's event consists of fundraising for the various philanthropies of each organization, with some orgs holding specific activities and tasks for the Ursinus community to participate in to raise money for their chosen philanthropy.

Thursday will be the campus-wide Celebration of Student Achievement, or CoSA, during which many members of Greek life will be giving presentations. To show support for their sisters and other members of Greek orgs,

Tau Sigma Gamma will be putting together a "See the Greeks at CoSA" that provides information about every member of the Greek orgs that will be presenting at CoSA.

On Friday April 22, the organizations will be holding a talent show competition, giving all members a chance to display a skill of their choice towards the end of the Greek Week competition.

Finally, Greek Week will close out on Saturday April 23 with a barbecue and movie night.

Greek Week at Ursinus gives members of Greek orgs the chance to spend time with members outside of their own org, and helps contribute to

Greek Unity -- there will even be t-shirts available for members' purchase in honor of the occasion, with the design drawn and chosen by the members themselves.



Image courtesy of Phi Kappa Sigma

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Including staff and faculty members in the ensemble brings a unique perspective to stage for both students and other faculty members. "At one time in Ursinus' history (20 or 30 years ago), faculty and staff were more regularly included in performance projects on our stages. It was exciting that we revived this older Ursinus tradition by including faculty and staff in the company, along with students, for this production of *Sweat*. It created

a unique dynamic," Scudera noted.

In 2018, Scudera proposed the playwright to be included in the CIE 200 syllabus and has since been analyzed by all students to investigate the four core questions Ursinus poses to all students.

Honor Your Experience

As the Class of 2022's Ursinus story comes to a close, they begin to reflect on their past four years.

During the final year, Ursinus seniors have been encouraged to give back to their beloved institution. It is suggested that students make a donation corresponding to their class year, example: \$20.22. Seniors will make the donation in honor of someone who has made a significant impact at some point during their Ursinus career.

Courtney Amelia Burns

Julia Eckels

Matteo John Falcone

Brooke Hurley

Dr. Ann Karreth

Gabrielle Marrero

Justin Masiello

Jamie Noel Mayer

Devin Nunemaker

Ted William Studt

Dr. Jenn VanGilder

Molly Walton

April Grizzly Grins

"Where flowers bloom, so does hope."

-- Lady Bird Johnson

Fun Dates:

10th -- National Siblings Day

15th -- Good Friday & Passover

17th -- Easter

22nd -- Earth Day

What is your favorite type of flower you love to see bloom each spring?

Let us know! Email: grizzly@ursinus.edu

Get to Know the Alpha Delta Phi Society!

Marie Sykes
masykes@ursinus.edu

The Alpha Delta Phi Society, the only non-Greek “Greek adjacent” organization on campus, is labeled as a literary society but is “a lot more nerdy,” as Sarah Buck ‘22 tells us. ADPS is a national literary society proud of their gender-inclusive past, with the society forming nationally in 1992 after splitting away from a fraternity, and has been on our campus since 2015. Last week, they sat down with me to introduce themselves to the rest of campus.

Though they have their secrets like all organizations, of their traditions and symbols that they can tell us their mascot is an eel, in honor of the founder Samuel Eells, and they have a stuffed eel they bring to each of their events, such as their annual Blind Date with a Book they host every Valentine’s

Day. Their symbols include the star and crescent moon, but their most important tradition? Their acceptance. Buck tells us “It doesn’t matter who you are or how you identify. We accept anybody.”

Philanthropy and service are a core tenets of their society, and they have two causes they have championed this year. First, on the service side, they took a trip to an animal shelter named Pawsibilities where they helped out at the barn location with the cats. They have a lot of animal lovers in their midst, and so serving there was a must. Liv Negro ‘23, the service chair, said she was “super proud of everyone that day” and that “everyone made such a great team.”

They have one more upcoming service event during the informal Greek recruitment week: fundraising for

the Trevor Project, a charity dedicated to preventing suicide among LGBTQ+ youth. The philanthropy chair, Elliot Cetinski ‘24, told us that “it’s a cause that matters a lot to us” especially because “queer young people have very high rates of suicide.” On philanthropy day they’ll have a table set up in the Olin Plaza where anyone can donate.

When asked why the siblings joined ADPS, Kate Foley ‘23 shared that she never thought she would “join any Greek societies at all. I didn’t think that was my style,” but when she heard of the literary society she was intrigued and thought it was “exactly [her] fit.” COVID also played a role, as she was a virtual student in Autumn 2020 and “figured it would be a great way to make friends” during COVID, because everyone was so isolated. For Hira Khattack ‘23, she joined because Negro recruited her, and one member, Juls Valerio ‘24, joked that she joined because she thought it was a book club. Buck tells us that during her rush, “it really all came together” and she was “absolutely hooked” from



Courtesy of ADPS

the moment she began hanging out with ADPS.

ADPS means so much to each of their members. Cetinski tells us that he feels like it’s “another support source. Another community” and that it’s become his family. Valerio shared a similar sentiment, calling it a family and telling us that she grew up in a very small community, and being able to find that at college was perfect. For Diana Burk ‘22, president of ADPS, “It means getting to create a family out of very different individuals that come together and just bond. Just become a safe space for everyone.”

When ADPS members were asked about their favorite moments, Jackie Bogan ‘23 shared hers was Rush Week and when she “knew the set people and [they] all came together that week... [she] was a part of

ADP but [she] wasn’t.” Buck reminisced on how she “came into the Phi” back in 2019 and, before quarantine, they were able to go out to dinner together and have a nice yet chaotic meal together. Burk shared one memory during the sesquicentennial when a member climbed on an ice sculpture of a bear which spiraled into an inside joke.

ADPS members are involved all across campus, such as in Breakaway, the Theater productions, the Lantern, MUN, UC Democrats, UCIMCO, the Anthropology Club, and fellowships such as Bonner, Melrose, Zacharias, and Writing. Make sure to say hi, support their upcoming Trevor Project fundraiser, and follow them on their Instagram @UCADPS.



Courtesy of ADPS

Meet Resident Shakespearean Dr. Kozusko!

Alena DeAntonellis
aldeantonellis@ursinus.edu

Dr. Matthew Kozusko applied for a position at Ursinus in his final semester of graduate PhD work, intrigued by J.D. Salinger's attendance here. He immediately fell in love with the campus when he set foot on it, withdrawing his applications to other positions, and began teaching here in fall 2003 as a Shakespeare professor. Currently, he teaches CIE and a wide variety of Shakespeare classes such as "Gods, Rebels, and Frauds" and "Shakespeare Remakes." "You can have so many conversations within the space of Shakespeare, including many contemporary issues," he explained.

His favorite classes to teach are Intro to Shakespeare and CIE. With Intro to Shakespeare, he gets to introduce "a little bit of everything" while touching upon many components of the plays he loves so much while he enjoys teaching CIE in particular because of the importance

of the program, as "these topics in CIE are difficult to teach, but are so unbelievably important." In general, Shakespeare classes allow him to talk about issues regarding social equality, a topic of great importance to students in modern times. He also expresses how much he has missed teaching Milton. He's excited to be offering it again next semester, letting him revisit his love for Paradise Lost. He also appreciates the teaching flexibility that Ursinus gives him. They allow the faculty to adjust the details of their classes in ways that aren't typical for colleges.

"These topics in CIE are difficult to teach, but are so unbelievably important."

At some point in the future, Kozusko intends on teaching Shakespeare through a Performance class. He's particularly excited about this since it would give Ursinus students the opportunity to learn and understand Shakespeare. By not only seeing it in action, but actualizing the play as they



perform it based on their interpretations, students stand to gain a lot from this class that they wouldn't get from simply reading it as a text. This will also be well-suited for individuals who enjoy Shakespeare and similar topics, and also have an interest in acting or in actively interpreting texts.

Outside of his classes at Ursinus, Dr. Kozusko enjoys surfing whenever he can. He spent a large portion of his life as a competitive swimmer, but when he wrecked his shoulder and could no longer compete, he discovered surfing. He compared it to

yoga in the way it has revolutionized his life and his perspective on things. "It has truly changed my life," he says. "It really alters the way you think of the world."

"It has truly changed my life... it really alters the way you think of the world."

Dr. Kozusko is also a proud parent. "Dad-ing is one of the most fun things I've ever done," he exclaimed. He loves spending time with his family and having a child has become one of the greatest aspects of his life. Being a father is one of the most enjoyable parts of his day, es-

pecially since he has a very social household, living right across from a park in the city. He and his family love interacting with each other and with others, and this social home environment has created an ideal life for him.

Want to Write for the Grizzly?

Pitch meetings are Wednesdays at 7pm in Ritter 141.

Reach out to grizzly@ursinus.edu to get involved!

Bear Bites Are Back

Liam Geib
ligeib@ursinus.edu

As of two weeks ago, Wismer was very hit or miss when it came to their dinner selections. With the revived Bear Bites addition to the dining menu, Upper Wismer is once again a delicious option to look forward to. The menu item of the night is often very different from what students are used to and no matter what it is, it is an absolute hit.

As a senior at

Ursinus, I have seen my fair share of the good, bad, and ugly meals Wismer could offer. And with my nearly four years of experience I can conclude that Bear Bites are the absolute best meals I've had at Wismer. A normal campus dinner could range anywhere from pasta and chicken nuggets to buffalo chicken wings and baked ham, then to a Thanksgiving feast. Whenever a student

may not have interest in an option, they are left with pizza or the cheeseburger of the day. Although these aren't bad options to be left with, Bear Bites offers an additional and beyond yummy option.

Bear Bites this semester that have cemented themselves in my memory have been the pulled pork tostada taco and the jambalaya over mashed sweet potatoes. Both of

these meals have been truly amazing and the line was in constant movement both nights. These are meals that give a glimpse of what can come of Bear Bites. If the past is the measuring stick, Ursinus students have a ton to look forward to. Meals like pulled pork mac and cheese sandwiches, and pork street tacos are some of the few that hit Wismer plates last year.

With less than two months left at Ursinus, I am an advocate for Bear Bites to stay. No matter what dish is being served on any given night, Bear Bites delivers an exceptional experience for Ursinus students. I will be one of many in line for the Bear Bites dishes until the semester ends.

Bringing Back Pride Week

Danielle Santana Denrich
dasantanadenrich@ursinus.edu

The purpose of a Gender Sexuality Alliance (GSA) organization is to provide students with a safe space to discuss current LGBT+ issues, the current events that directly impact our youth. The Ursinian chapter of GSA has been temporarily disbanded for the 2021-2022 school year due to lack of interest from the students on campus. For a student like myself who hasn't been on campus due to COVID-19, it's extremely disappointing

that in my first year on campus as a sophomore, I am unable to experience GSA.

I asked the prospective GSA president for this school year, Ellie Mikus '22, how she felt about this. She stated "as someone who looked forward to being president since my freshman year, it's entirely disappointing to have it fall apart my senior year." She proceeded to comment that she put much effort into keeping GSA up and running, but it wasn't enough to

overcome the lack of interest.

But, it's not all bad. Many are still appreciative that the GSA provided the students here with a safe space when it was still running, through events such as Pride Week and Lightning Talks. Brooke Yanaga, a senior, remarked that during her freshman year, she was super delighted to experience Pride Week on campus. She stated, "I've always been grateful to them for promoting that inclusivity and

representation on campus." With global issues such as COVID, it has made it extremely difficult the last two years to hold events that provide these safe spaces. Fortunately, with the pandemic starting to clear up, we may actually be able to get back on track.

We're hosting Pride Week this year! If you are interested in helping GSA get back up and running, the Pride Week celebration will be in early April with various activities ranging from Karaoke

night to the infamous party known as Gayla. Days and times are still to be determined and more information will be sent out by GSA and Radiance. Also, more information will be sent out regarding GSA elections for leadership positions held for the rest of this school year into Spring 2023. Hope to see you there!

Women's Lax cont. from pg. 8

the pair of freshmen attackmen all while putting away 15 goals. So far this year, the trio has combined for a total of 57 goals. To put that into perspective, Ursinus scored 43 goals in total last season, meaning Lynch, Leonzi, and Morgan have already beaten the team's total goals in 2021 by 14 goals. The trio has been a sight to see this season, and their strong relationship has only boosted their play.

"On and off the field, I think Reilly, Grace, and I have an amazing friendship that transfers over to the field," stated

Leonzi. "It creates great opportunities for all of us, and it's an awesome feeling knowing they have my back."

On top of some shining offensive stars, the Bears have also seen consistent play out of their star goalie Alexa Machado '23. The keeper is leading the conference with 86 saves, and she has been a force to be reckoned with between the pipes. So far this year, Ursinus has only let in double digits three times, an impressive feat in the high scoring game of lacrosse. It's no secret why Ursinus is seeing

defensive success, as the squad is anchored by defenders Becca Lewis '22, Alice Nathanson '22, and Zoey Nikoloau '23. The three have done an amazing job of minimizing opposing offenses, and they serve as matchup nightmares for every team on their schedule.

Heading into conference play, the Women's lacrosse team is hungrier than ever to prove that they are a force to be reckoned with. This team is driven by hard work, dedication, and perseverance, and they are not satisfied with their results thus far.

"Our conference games are just getting started, so we have to continue to work hard. It will be tough but we're not going to let up" exclaimed Lynch. "We are going to prove that we cannot be underestimated."

With conference play coming up, the Bears will face their toughest test yet. However, they are more than equipped to make their mark. They've come a long way since being voted second to last, but the Women's lacrosse team has proven one thing this season: never count out the Bears.



Photograph Courtesy of Ursinus Athletics

Counted Out: The Ursinus Women's Lacrosse Story

Vaughn DiBattista
vadibattista@ursinus.edu

On February 15th, 2022, the Centennial Conference released the results of a pre-season poll for the 2022 Women's lacrosse season. Topping the list was the reigning conference champion Franklin & Marshall, with Gettysburg not far behind. After that, the order went Washington, Dickinson, Haverford, McDaniel, Muhlenberg, Swarthmore, and coming in at second to last were the Ursinus College Bears.

After a winless 2021 season, the Bears found themselves at the bottom of the poll. When at the bottom of the ladder, it can be easy to embrace the loser's mentality. It could seem tempting to treat this season as a chore, and find easy ways to get through the season. However, losing has never been the interest of the girls on the team. Coming in at number nine left the Bears hungry to prove the conference wrong. "When we saw that ranking, we decided to use it as

motivation," stated Grace Lynch '25.

In the face of adversity, the Bears have done nothing but shine. As of March 30th, the bears are 5-3, and are currently the 4th ranked team in the conference. The Bears boast their best record since 2017, with no signs of slowing down. Amidst the success, the team has found a home in their star attack line of Maeve Leonzi '25, Grace Lynch '25, and Reilly Morgan '22.

In her first eight collegiate games, Lynch boasts a mind-numbing 33 points, the second most in the Centennial Conference thus far. Along with her, Leonzi has had an outstanding first season with 21 goals, the 7th most in the conference. The two freshmen have been absolutely dominant this year, and a big part of that has been Reilly Morgan. Morgan is a senior captain on the team, and has done an outstanding job of guiding and mentoring

See **Women's Lax** on pg. 7



Photographs Courtesy of @ucwlax on Instagram