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A Look Ahead:

At *The Grizzly*, we strongly believe there is always something to look forward to.

'A Look Ahead' is a section where our team showcases upcoming articles. The purpose is to generate excitement within our readership and the extended Ursinus community.

- » Rush Week Recap
- » Family Weekend
- » Lack of Traditions
- » Health Hub

Local Thunderstorm Destroys Ursinus' TriCaster

Chase Portaro: chportaro@ursinus.edu



Courtesy of Ryan Carkhuff

A tricaster is a television studio computer vital to a number of departments at Ursinus. Athletics, Theater & Dance, and the Communications Department all rely on it to produce and stream broadcast-quality content. But after a transformer on campus was struck by lightning two weeks ago, the equipment, which is located in the Ritter Center television studio, short-circuited.

After PECO, the electrical company, repaired the transformer, James Shuttlesworth, Ursinus's Deputy Chief Information Officer, was assessing the damage when he discovered the TriCaster destroyed. Shuttlesworth brought in a local vendor who specializes in studio equipment to see if the machine was fixable, but after a failed attempt at a part replacement, they deemed the damage irreparable.

Shuttlesworth said, "The only option we had was to get a new one. The college

has insurance for stuff like this, but it has a very high deductible, so it usually doesn't kick in - and even though this is a pretty expensive piece of equipment, the deductible is still higher than that."

When asked how much a new TriCaster costs, Shuttlesworth swallowed heavily before replying, "\$9,000, almost \$10,000, really." He explained that the company's return policy did allow the school to receive a \$2,000 credit for the old TriCaster, so the new one ended up costing just over \$7,000. Still, for a small academic institution like Ursinus, \$7,000 is a substantial amount of money to spend unexpectedly. Shuttlesworth said the repair costs come out of the Library and Information Technology (LIT) budget because the equipment is essential to multiple departments across campus, not just the Media Communications (MCS) Department, which is primarily located in Ritter.





Continued from page 1.








Among other updates to the television studio, but unrelated to the power outage, is an improved air conditioning system. “There’s been a need to have new air conditioning in here [Ritter] for a lot of years, and facilities came up with this plan to do it without a total reworking of the entire system.” Facilities realized the air conditioning unit in the second floor

arts studio had enough extra capacity to also power the television studio below it. Shuttlesworth said that facilities reworked the ducts upstairs to direct cool air into the studio downstairs, avoiding the big installation and energy costs of a new unit.

They say you never appreciate something until it’s gone, and that certainly rings true for things like air conditioners and TriCasters. Without air conditioning,

early September classes would be unbearable, and without the TriCaster, the viewing of Graduation and Commencement would not have been possible for the last two years. The busy schedule of a college student may not allow for the full appreciation of such vital, albeit boring items, but luckily, Ursinus has a full team of adept individuals like James Shuttlesworth dedicated to solving those difficult problems.

SEPTEMBER 2022

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September Editor's Letter

Layla M. Halterman: lahalterman@ursinus.edu

Dear Ursinus Family,

Ah, September! The summer festivities have come to a screeching halt. While (most) kids are sad, (most) parents feel relieved and elated. But now that we are slowly adjusting back into our familiar routines of school, work, and extracurriculars, what a great time to offer you a new and improved school newspaper.

The Grizzly was given a much-needed facelift, nourishing a more traditional, retro look and feel. The paper will still

cover four different beats - News, Features, Opinions, and Sports. But for your reading pleasure, we've added additional color, thinner paper, and more prominent headlines. Also, in order to reduce waste around campus and preserve mother nature, we have cut the number of copies printed by 22% percent.

We've also added a subsection in our Features section called: A Bear Worth Knowing.

This added addition helps further our

diversity efforts, validating and advancing a variety of voices, especially those who are not often heard.

Lastly, we are on a mission to tell the truth, in the most accurate, ethical, and compelling manner. We are proud to serve the Bear Community, and are psyched to hold true to that promise not just this year, but in the years to come.

Yours truly,
Layla

New Organization on Campus - UC VFOR

Marie Sykes: masykes@ursinus.edu

2022 has been declared a "historic" year, just like the last few before it. However, Ursinus places a firm emphasis on its responsibility to improve the world around us, and so when Roe vs. Wade fell, three students decided to take action, hoping to curate change. Hence, Vote For Our Rights (UC VFOR) was born.

Those three students, Alex Bender, Brooke Adams, and Sarah Symes, all from the Class of 2024, participated in Summer Fellows 2022 and were on campus when the Dobbs decision was released. They have formed an organization dedicated to promoting voter registration and turnout in every local, state, and national election. Symes explains that Roe vs. Wade was a turning point for them as a "Post-Roe world could be a threat to uterus-having people's rights and more," and that they "wanted to bring attention to the matter, educate on what this overturn means for our society, [and] encourage people to understand the importance of this upcoming election on reproductive rights specifically in Pennsylvania."

Now, you may be asking, why is the Pennsylvania 2022 election so important? A few cliffnote reasons. First, Pennsylvania will elect its next governor and senator in this race. Second, the current state congress passed an amendment (Senate Bill 106) that will be voted upon in a referendum next spring unless the current congress has a change of membership. This bill aims to strip Pennsylvanians of any access to abortion while also requiring a government-issued ID (beyond the verified

voter ID card) to vote, as well as expand the General Assembly's power, mandate the auditor general to audit elections, and allow each party's gubernatorial candidate to select their lieutenant governor, per spotlightpa.com.

With both of these issues combined, human rights activism has become a state issue rather than a national one, which is why Miles Noecker '22 said his "political activism is best served on safeguarding human rights in my home state," and that he will do "everything" between now and election day to encourage active voter participation. Bender emphasizes that Roe vs. Wade and this election are not just about abortion rights: "if abortion bans are enacted under fetal personhood, then we could see bans on hormonal contraceptives and IVF. Additionally, there is concern that the current justices will call into question other important decisions, such as gay marriage and privacy in the bedroom."

As a response to the stripping of access to healthcare, Adams says this was already a topic she was passionate about and "felt really compelled" to organize a student group to "advocate for human rights, equality, and equity on campus." Symes adds that they want "to bring attention to the matter, educate on what this overturn means for our society, and [teach] the importance of this upcoming election on reproductive rights specifically in Pennsylvania." This has directly translated into a student group encouraging active participation in the democratic process and increased voter registration and turnout.

Other members of the club explained why they got involved to begin with. Jordan Ulsh '23 says she "feel(s) an obligation to protect my own and others' right to abortion as an extension of my belief in women's autonomy," while Holly Stang '24 made the point, "terminating a person's right to have a safe and legal abortion does not prevent abortions, but instead prevents safe procedures. People with uteruses will continue to suffer major injuries and die without accessibility to safe abortions."

And to those seemingly unaffected by the events of the summer, Adams, Bender, and Symes would like to emphasize that this affects you, the reader, too. Bender reminds folks seemingly unaffected that "someone you know and care about will inevitably be [affected by this]" and "you need to have some empathy." Adams emphasizes that Roe vs. Wade is not just the fall of the right to abortion but it is the beginning of other rights being stripped away as well. "It demonstrates that our nation is in a place where human rights are being called into question, and that human rights in the future may be vulnerable."

All students can register to vote in the state of Pennsylvania and Montgomery County as attending college counts as a form of residency. If you are interested in being involved, feel free to email bradams@ursinus.edu or give them a follow on social media. The deadline to register to vote for the 2022 election is October 24th with the election occurring November 8.



The (Kerr)tain Will Never Close on Jim

Layla M. Halterman: lahalterman@ursinus.edu

On a beautiful morning in May, I was fortunate enough to be invited to iHeart Radio, at 32 Avenues of America – an art deco building that stands tall and proud with a robust history - in the heart of lower Manhattan, to visit Jim Kerr, one of the most respected and popular radio personalities and host of his own Rock N Roll Morning Show (Q104.3).

Walking in through the prestigious revolving doors, I was simultaneously welcomed by both Harry, the pleasant doorman, and Kevin O’Leary (aka Mr. Wonderful from Shark Tank) who happened to be checking in before me. After making my way up the rickety yet charming elevator, I strolled through the doors only to find Anita, the legendary iHeartRadio receptionist who is known as “Mama” to the infamous Snoop Dog.

Kerr has a sidekick, Shelli Sonstein, but she was working remotely that day and I had the pleasure of meeting her on Zoom. In fact, I was lucky enough to meet the entire crew, including Kerr’s boss, Eric Wellman, and executive producer, Trevor Marden. After receiving a warm welcome and tour of all the radio stations at iHeart, I sat down across from Kerr in an empty studio in front of professional microphones, which is where our interview began.

Even though his formal education ended in the tenth grade, Kerr was determined to make his own way. “When you’re young, you believe you can do anything.” He was starstruck when in seventh grade, his teacher, Mrs. Douglas, took them on a field trip to WWJ - a radio show in Detroit, which is where Kerr originally hails from. “I thought it was the coolest place I ever saw. I saw all these people running around doing all of these interesting and exciting things. I was determined at that point to pursue a broadcasting career.”

For many years after that field trip, Kerr would pretend to play in his basement. “I built television cameras out of shoeboxes and microphones out of toilet paper rolls.”

He carried such a passion for broadcasting that his teachers recognized it. They ended up leaving the announcement

duties up to him. By the time he was 14, he decided “to make [his] move.” Kerr was wise beyond his years, embodying confidence and a sprinkle of nerve. He hopped on a Greyhound bus to a radio station thirty miles away from Detroit and informed the station manager of his dream to be on the radio. The manager bargained, “Well I tell you what...for every \$60 worth of advertising you sell, you can be on the air for an hour. You can keep a 15% commission.”

Kerr accepted the challenge and would hitchhike to “every dry cleaner, insurance agency, and used car dealership to meet with small business owners. As a little fourteen year old with a briefcase, I would sell them radio advertising. It was a very reasonable price, and the merchants just wanted to help a young kid out. I told them I would do the commercials, write, and interview them about their businesses so I could learn.”

After weeks passed, Kerr walked back into the radio station to the general manager and presented “about 800 bucks.” Soon after, he was hired to be on the air on Saturday afternoons. His career blew up from there, landing him features in popular publications like the Detroit News.

Fast forward to modern day, he has been on air in the morning for 48 years, making him the longest running morning show radio host in New York City. “My goal was to grow up with my audience, to create a relationship that would last throughout our lives, and that seems to have worked pretty well. It gives me a lot of joy. My show is in the biggest media market in the United States, but the way I treat my show is as if it were in the smallest town in America.”

Additionally, he expresses a deep love for music, especially for British rock bands like The Beatles. It is no secret he takes pride in his work and is committed to serving his audience, which he holds near and dear to his heart. Kerr has built a close-knit community, explaining that it has



Courtesy of Layla M. Halterman

been “gratifying. I honestly believe I have a million and a half friends. We try to wake people in a good mood, try to provide information that is necessary, and [share] great music. [But] there are times when circumstances dictate that we respond to certain tragedies.”

As for advice, he advises students interested in the broadcasting industry to take risks. “It’s better to give it a try. If it doesn’t work out, then [pursue] something else. At least you won’t spend the rest of your life wondering what would have happened. You have to be nimble and adaptable. Everything changes over time.”

Kerr wants his listeners to remember the friendship he extended. “I want them to remember that I was there and uplifted them, and may have helped them through the day. Also, I used [radio] to reach a lot of people, to help do good things.”

Time was running out, as Kerr had to catch an Uber back home, but he ended on this note. “I was just a [young kid] from the midwest who hoped people would like me. And strangely enough, they did and so forty eight years later, I am still here.” Not only do we like you, Jim, we love you!

The Berman is Back!

Marie Sykes: masykes@ursinus.edu

The Berman Museum of Art is once again open for the semester with two new exhibits for the autumn semester: *Theatrum Equorum* by Andrea Modica and *Christo & Jeanne-Claude: The Tom Golden Collection* by Christo and Jeanne-Claude. Modica's work features a collection of photography taken mainly in Northern Italy inside a horse veterinary clinic, and as needed clarification on opening night, the horses are in fact just asleep in those photos. The duo's work includes a collection of photos and recreations of the famous environmental installations of buildings covered in fabric or plastics. All exhibits are free and open to the public and are made possible by the support of the Philip and Muriel Berman Foundation. Check out these new visiting exhibits today!



All photos are courtesy of Sanya Kunicki



Congratulations to these newlyweds, Mr. Marcos Maciel '22 and Mrs. Meredith Maciel née Zimmer '23. Wishing you a lifetime of happiness together!



The Parking Lottery...for Sophomores Only!

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Most students at Ursinus understand the triumphant moment when you get a perfect parking spot. However, the experience of driving around multiple parking lots trying to find a spot has become disturbingly routine. This year, all upperclassmen living on Main Street were given priority parking access, while sophomores were placed in a lottery to secure a spot in the lots behind the houses. However, the remaining sophomores were out of luck and were given parking access in the 9th Avenue lot instead. The parking lottery is set up much like the housing lottery, and the numerical order decides which sophomores get awarded parking first.

The parking lottery follows overcrowding in the Main Street lots, which concerned many students last year. Students living on Main Street

would often have to patrol multiple lots in the hope of securing a spot, especially during the school week when their schedules were packed to the brim. Circling multiple lots is inconvenient and stressful. One might hope that limiting the number of Main Street parking passes would help mitigate this burden.

Even though juniors and seniors are positively affected by the parking lottery, some sophomores feel shunned and others sympathize with the practice. One sophomore, who would like to remain anonymous, did not receive a Main Street parking pass and said, "I find it inconvenient when there are multiple parking lots behind the Main Street houses. Living in a house with a parking lot directly behind it seems useless when I still have to park across campus due to bad luck

of the draw." Another sophomore, who would also like to remain anonymous, thinks "the lottery is a fair practice for parking, but I know it can be difficult. Some of my friends ended up with 9th Ave parking permits and having that farther parking is certainly an added stressor." The parking lottery is a viable way to avoid overcrowding but it proves not to benefit everyone. Is it the best way to conduct business, to ensure that every student has an equal shot at securing a spot? This is a call for Ursinus to explore other avenues. After all, it cannot hurt.

Styrofoam - So Last Year!

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This year, Upper Wismer made the decision to stop using styrofoam takeout trays, implementing reusable plastic containers instead. Some students believe the measure was long overdue. Serena Rose Gaskin '22 said, "I was someone who, like many other students, was concerned about all the styrofoam usage that was happening at the school."

Ursinus centers its curriculum around a core set of questions, including, "How should we live together?" So, the new plastic container system only seems natural when considering the massive amount of styrofoam waste produced since the take-out system was implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Gaskin explained, "Me personally, I think it's really great ... I was

surprised at how many people were taking advantage of it too. It's a nice thing." She also talked about the swap-out option that Wismer offers. "I think it's interesting that students can switch out their containers, so if you bring yours back clean, you can get a fresh one." Before she finished, she conjectured, "Curious enough, they don't do it with cups."

Elliot Hannam '24 expressed his concern about the extra time it takes to clean the container after each use, especially when he is pressed for time between classes. "I get that you need to remove the bigger chunks of food, but it is a little bit tedious." Despite this, he does appreciate the reduced waste. "I do like that we're not polluting as much anymore and that we're reusing things."

Hannam also said that the new system forces him to pay more attention to his eating habits. "The inability to have multiple boxes at once kind of forced me to organize my food - eating a bit more, since I can't really take out any leftovers, but that's a good thing since there's less food waste."

Students seem pleased overall with the college's environmentally-conscious decision, seeing the plastic containers as a step in the right direction toward answering the questions at the heart of our Quest Curriculum. With just a simple signature on the sign-up sheet, these to-go containers are available at the front entrance of Upper Wismer to all students, staff, and faculty to use at their convenience.

The New D-III Mindset

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Courtesy of the Ursinus Volleyball Team

Another school year is upon us. However, is the promise of a D-III balance of athletics, academics, and social life being kept? While student-athletes at Ursinus did commit to be athletes, it sometimes feels like athletics take precedence over their social experience. Sunday, which is largely considered a designated homework 'Sunday Scaries' and relaxation day, has been threatened early this semester.

The first weekend back to school, three women's teams could not attend social outings happening on or off campus due to athletics. Field Hockey was traveling on Saturday, September 3rd for a game at noon on Sunday September 4th. Volleyball, while successful in their 3-0 sweep in New York, departed campus at noon on Thursday, September 1st, and returned Sunday, September 4th at 5pm. Finally, Women's Soccer departed campus early Sunday September 4th for a match-up against Stevenson. The world does not come crashing down for these types of scheduling conflicts, but the athletes who could not celebrate the reunion on campus with their friends felt slighted.

In addition to the social implications of Sunday games, there are academic ramifications. After spending a long weekend team bonding and celebrating wins, senior volleyball team member Ashley Kelly

recalled returning to her dorm on Sunday night with all work and no play. "It was a great weekend, we were successful in our competition and participated in a few non-athletic tours around New York. However, when I finally got back into my room, there was no time for relaxation and I had to finish all of my homework," expressed Kelly. Don't worry, she made it to her Monday morning class on time and with her homework finished. But this was after a mandatory 7 AM run test for the team in the Helfferich Gym! This type of athletic rigor is productive for a team's success, as Volleyball has shown by going undefeated so far as of September 12th. Similarly, Field

Hockey had a mandatory 6:30 AM on Monday, September 5th, after a Saturday practice and Sunday game.

While no academic concerns have surfaced thus far in the 2022 season, the NCAA D-III manual states, "It is the responsibility of each member institution to establish and maintain an environment in which a student-athlete's activities are conducted with the appropriate primary emphasis on the student-athlete's academic experience" (NCAA D-III Manual 2022-2023). With 89 student-athletes named to the Centennial Conference Academic Honor Roll in the Fall of 2021, keeping up such statistics may be an important evaluation of the school-sport balance.

Historically, Sunday game days come only occasionally, and can be a humbling reminder to student-athletes that their sport takes priority over their social experience. Scheduling should continue to take this into consideration.

The rule of thumb in the hierarchy of D-III athletics goes, respectively: academics, athletics, social. Compared to many other highly competitive D-III schools, Ursinus has done a decent job of keeping the trifecta balanced for their student-athletes. In the coming years, will Sunday noon game-days become the new norm? With such a prominent population of student-athletes on campus, will this alter the social scene of Ursinus College?



Courtesy of Ursinus Field Hockey



Wellness Hears Cry for Mental Health

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College students across the country have faced increasing mental health struggles over the past decade, and Ursinus College is no exception. To meet the demand for support, the Wellness Center recently employed additional therapists.

Dr. Lauren Finnegan, Ursinus’s Executive Director of Counseling and Wellness, explains that “we currently have three full-time psychologists, one full-time clinical social worker on staff, and four part-time doctoral psychology trainees.” Five years ago, there was only one psychologist and two doctoral trainees on staff. The team has since grown.

For the last three years, Finnegan has worked at Ursinus and has witnessed an increase in need. “We noticed that our students were reporting a slightly higher than the national average level of distress in the areas of academic issues, social anxiety, and eating concerns. I think much of this makes sense, contextually, with the way in which COVID affected our ability to: learn in a way that we were accustomed to; our opportunities to socialize; and the manner in which we maintained our physical health and lifestyle. I am curious to see if these areas continue to be of particular concern for our students or if moving further away from the more acute period of COVID will stabilize these levels a bit.”

According to the American Psychological Association, there are not enough licensed psychologists in the U.S. to meet

the demand for mental health services. The Biden administration addressed the crisis back in March, noting that 40% of American adults report symptoms of anxiety or depression and that people of color have been disproportionately undertreated.

Just this summer, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services launched the 988 hotline – a number any American can call at any time if they’re experiencing a mental health crisis, such as suicidal thoughts. Finnegan echoes these concerns. However, as a professional, “I do worry that, if we don’t find better ways of supporting our clinicians in the field and making mental health care more accessible, we will have even greater issues down the line. In the area of college counseling specifically, we are seeing greater burnout and more clinicians leaving campuses to work in private practice settings,” explained Finnegan.

Raleigh Owens, a junior, has been attending Wellness Center therapy since her freshman year. She previously had to attend appointments over Zoom due to COVID, and feels that her current in-person sessions are much more effective. “I really like the Wellness Center and my therapist now. It’s a great resource to have on campus, especially for those that don’t have a therapist, can’t see theirs from their hometown, or can’t afford to see one otherwise.” However, she notes, it can be difficult to schedule sessions due to therapist availability. “I had to book my first



Courtesy of Julia Paiano

therapist appointment this semester two weeks out,” claimed Owens. “I’m glad the resources are there, but I wish there weren’t as many clients per therapist so as to make them more available and develop a better one-on-one experience.”

Even with increased staff numbers, Finnegan says she is always looking for new clinicians passionate about working with college students. Yet, she’s still grateful for the workers she already has. “We are very lucky to have such a committed and caring staff here at Ursinus and hope that this will continue to be the case in the years to come.”

If you or someone you know is struggling with their mental health, please do not hesitate to reach out to Wellness at wellness@ursinus.edu.

Upcoming Games

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
	4pm Volleyball	10am Volleyball 12pm Football 2pm Volleyball 4pm W Soccer 5:30pm Field Hockey 7pm M soccer			7pm Volleyball	4pm W Soccer 7pm M Soccer 7pm Field Hockey