The Grizzly, November 1, 2018

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Midterm elections November 6

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Next Tuesday, November 6th, is election day. If you’re registered to vote in Pennsylvania, you will be able to vote for a United States senator and a representative in the 4th Congressional District at the federal level. At the state level, governor and lieutenant governor, senator in the General Assembly’s 44th district, and representative in the General Assembly’s 150th District are all on the ballot.

The candidates on the ballot for U.S. senate are Democrat Bob Casey Jr. and Republican Lou Barletta, along with Green Party candidate Neal Gale and Libertarian candidate Dale R. Kerns Jr.

Casey, who is currently the senior senator from Pennsylvania, is running for reelection. According to his campaign website, some of his priorities include addressing issues surrounding public education and changing tax policies to “support working families and actually encourage job growth.”

Casey states he is “fighting for expanded access to everything from pre-K to technical schools [and] universities.” His website says he has also fought to improve student safety. “As concerns arose across the nation about the dangers of campus sexual assault, Bob took action and passed into law the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act, which outlines steps schools can take to educate students and help prevent sexual assault.”

Republican Lou Barletta represents Pennsylvania’s 11th Congressional District and is challenging Casey. Barletta’s campaign page says the policies he is focused on include lowering taxes on small businesses, creating new, restrictive legislation around immigration, and supporting the second amendment.

Barletta’s campaign website states that he “saved taxpayers nearly $4 billion by implementing a policy to move federal agencies into smaller spaces, cutting waste, and forcing them to negotiate long-term leases.” In regards to immigration, Barletta has “advocated for legislation to cut off all federal funding to sanctuary cities; introduced legislation to make overstaying a visa a criminal offense; and co-sponsored legislation to levy a two percent fee on wire transfers sent south of our border and use that revenue to pay for the southern border wall.”

Cutting funding for sanctuary cities could have serious consequences for nearby Philadelphia. The city has gone to great lengths to protect its sanctuary city status. Philly even sued the Trump administration after it threatened to withhold $1.5 million in federal funding from the city’s law enforcement agencies over policies that protect undocumented immigrants, according to the “Philadelphia Inquirer.”

As for the race for governor, the list of candidates includes Democrat Tom Wolf, Republican Scott R. Wagner, Green Party candidate Paul Glover, and Libertarian Ken V. Krawchuk.

Wolf is the current governor of Pennsylvania, and is running for reelection. His policy priorities include supporting older Pennsylvanians, fighting for affordable health care, and the expansion of Medicaid. As stated on Wolf’s website, “Tom has increased opportunities for older Pennsylvanians to remain in their homes, stood up to Donald Trump’s proposed ‘age tax’ on insurance, and has saved more than 180,000 seniors from losing their Medicare Advantage health

IDC opening honors past President Fong, celebrates campus milestone

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“My man has Ursinus College socks on that are so good looking…you just never fail,” said Congressman Ryan Costello about Ursinus’ president, Brock Blomberg.

Whether or not Blomberg ever fails is still up for debate, but on Saturday he celebrated a big success for Ursinus and his administration with the official opening of the IDC.

The college’s previous president, Bobby Fong, was behind the planning of the new building before his passing in 2014. When Blomberg succeeded him, he took over the planning.

Saturday afternoon, community members, staff and faculty all gathered eagerly in the Lenfest Theater of the Kaleidoscope Performing Arts Center to celebrate the project’s completion.

In addition to Congressmen Costello, ’99, several other members of the Ursinus community spoke at the event, including Senator John Rafferty and National Medal of Honor winner and alumnus Joe DeSimone ’86.

“[The IDC] is a game changer in the way we teach and learn here at the college,” Blomberg said in his speech at the cer-
Costello took his final minutes at the podium to say that the college is headed in the right direction with the IDC.

“This college knows we need to double down and invest in tomorrow... People will look at Ursinus College and say, ‘Boy, they are getting it right.’”

Senator John Rafferty used his time at the podium to speak about the outstanding presence of Ursinus College in the community as a whole. He spoke about how Ursinus College and say, ‘Boy, they are getting it right.’”

DeSimone wrapped up his speech by saying that, “It is really stunning how...quick this building went up.”

Moments after everyone finished their speeches, everyone on stage gathered to cut the big red ribbon. An enthusiastic Blomberg, “Here we go...1, 2, 3,” and applause filled the room. People were then told to make their way to the IDC for the rest of the festivities.

Upon arrival at the IDC, Suzanne Fong, widow of former president Bobby Fong, gave a speech before the unveiling of a portrait of her husband. She opened her speech by stating, “I’d much rather be standing next to the man than the portrait.”

The rest of her speech was dedicated to her husband’s life and his contributions that helped make the IDC possible. She said that her husband lived for the “aha!” moments in the classroom, which was why he was so driven to make the building and concept of the IDC a reality.

She concluded her speech by saying it was an honor to have Fong’s portrait hanging up in the IDC.

The day ended with tours of the IDC accompanied by hors d’oeuvres and refreshments.

Even though its official opening ceremony was Saturday, the building has been in use since the beginning of the fall semester. Blomberg believes this has allowed the building to become a big part of campus. “This building seems to be occupied 24/7,” he said. 

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Board of Trustees comes to campus

The board members toured the new IDC and discussed college issues.

Courtney DuChene
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This past weekend, the College’s Board of Trustees visited campus for one of its yearly meetings. During the visit, trustees toured the newly opened IDC, visited the renovated student affairs suite in Wismer, and met to discuss the future of the college.

Board member and former chair of the Academic Affairs committee, Michael Lewis ’67, described the role the Board of Trustees plays on campus. He noted that members meet three times each year to go over everything from athletics to academics.

“We’re the people who are in charge of all the operations,” he said. “Virtually everything that goes on at Ursinus has to come before the board. We’re the governing board, we’re the people who make all the basic regulations, do the budgeting.”

During their visit, the board members were able to tour the newly renovated student affairs suite in Wismer, during the Passport to Student Affairs event, and they were able to attend the official opening of the IDC in addition to their regular meetings.

Lewis was impressed by all the new construction projects on campus, especially the recently completed IDC.

“I think it’s remarkable. I’ve never seen anything like it. I know other institutions that have new construction, nothing like this. The caliber here is so much better,” he said. “With [all] the new construction here it’s going to be fabulous.”

He particularly wanted to highlight the new labs and equipment that the IDC has brought to students. “They have fabulous labs, wonderful facilities you won’t find anywhere else,” he said.

Additional reporting by Johnny Myers

Word on the Street

Was Halloweekend Oct. 26-27 or is it next weekend, Nov. 2-3?

“Halloween weekend was this weekend. Just because this weekend was actually in October and next weekend will be in November.”
-Ace Melendez, 2019

“Halloween is this weekend, because anyone who wears their costume out after the 31st is baiting people into pitying them.”
-Daniel Walker, 2020

“It was this weekend and it’s next weekend.”
-Travis Venables, 2019

“I don’t hate Halloween, I do hate that being on a wet campus turns most holidays into drinking ones that have the potential to occupy 2 weekends. I’m just saying, if Christmas fell in the middle of the week you wouldn’t have a Christmas party before and after Christmas”
-Sam Pope 2019

The Tour Guides have a new dress code, but not everyone is pleased with the “business casual” requirements, read more on pg. 6
Geology professors go under the IDC

Soon after the construction of the IDC began, two Ursinus Environmental Studies professors found themselves donning hard hats and walking down into the pit that would become the new building’s foundation. There, they were surrounded by four “walls” comprised of slightly tilted, reddish shale, the same rocks they’ve been telling students they would see under campus for several years now.

The professors, Dr. Leah Joseph and Dr. Tristan Ashcroft, were inspired to go into the pit when they saw workers digging the new building’s foundation and realized that they would have a chance to look at rocks.

“Both of us are geologists and we study rocks, and we’re used to looking at rock formations through our undergraduate days and beyond and so an opportunity to look at what’s underneath when you don’t usually get to is just a nice opportunity,” Joseph said. “We got our hard hats on and we were ready to go.”

Another part of their motivation to go into the pit was to confirm that the rocks under campus are the same types as what Ashcroft and Joseph have been telling students they are. During the intro to geology class, “Geology: Earth Around Us,” both professors teach a lab where students examine rock outcrops on the Perkiomen trail to determine what types of rocks are under campus.

“It was a good way for me to have a reference and for Dr. Joseph to have a reference about what the rocks under campus are, what they’re doing… so we can feel a little bit better about making pronouncements about them and giving assignments about them,” Ashcroft said.

While in the pit, they saw many of the same kinds of rocks, primarily shale, that they’ve seen on the trail, but they also found something unexpected: sandstone.

“We found almost sandstone in there. There was a line about two feet thick,” Ashcroft said. “In hindsight it makes sense, because when the contractor who was doing the pre-site survey was drilling he ran into a spot that was very hard… so we figured out why.”

Even though they mostly saw what they expected to find, the professors were happy to confirm that the rocks under campus are exactly what they have been telling students.

“It was in ways comforting that we saw what we thought we were going to see. We’ve been going to the Perkiomen trail and seeing we can extend these formations under campus as well and then we got there and we actually could see that the fracture traces were about the same orientation as they are on the Perkiomen trail, the beds were the same range of thicknesses, grain sizes were mostly similar, the colors were the same,” Ashcroft said.

“We had looked around the fence before, but it’s different to go down and see the structures,” Joseph added. “There’s certain outcrops on the area, such as on the Perkiomen trail and there’s their geologic maps, but it’s always nice to see if it makes sense by actually getting to see what’s on campus.”

The professors were accompanied by the head of facilities, a few representatives from the construction company, and Dr. Victor Tortorelli, a chemistry professor who served as a liason during IDC construction.

During their time in the hole, they examined the rocks using hand lenses, which magnify the size of the rock’s individual grains, so, they could have a better idea of what they were looking at. They were also able to see man-made structures, such as the walls of Pfahler and Thomas, and the IDC’s elevator shaft.

“I think any opportunity we have to learn about the underground structures, whether they’re human-made or natural is important,” Joseph said. “It’s just like ‘Oooh, can we go down and see the pipe system? Can we go down and see anything?’”

While they were excited to see many different structures, their journey was primarily united by their love of rocks.

“The simple answer [for why we went down] is we love looking at rocks,” Ashcroft said.

Fridge of the week

BUGGS!

Fridge of juniors Jamie Vandegrift and Kevin Leon proudly displays ice cream taken from Wismer, apple cider, and three bugs collected for a friend.

Calling all interesting fridges! If you have a refrigerator you would like featured in the Grizzly, please email sicoeman@ursinus.edu
Meet the Charles Rice post-graduate research fellows

Two alumni will go abroad to pursue justice and publish manuscripts

The other recipient, Rose-angela Hartford ’18, will observe and work with organizations throughout Peru, Bolivia and the Dominican Republic to investigate how religious-affiliated institutions aid in the healing process for women who have survived domestic and sexual violence, and their families.

Hickey discussed his undergraduate life at Ursinus and his future plans for the project. He aims to discover the psychological impacts of war and Moral Injury (MI) on combat veterans. “I plan to work with various institutions and researchers to reconstruct the current conceptual models of MI to adequately address the inherent spiritual component that is indivisible from the condition,” Hickey explained.

Hickey said his main goals are “to refine the current understanding of the spiritual component of MI, [and] under the tutelage of Dr. Edward Tick, [he] will study and facilitate psycho-spiritual, cross-cultural, and international community-based reconciliation practices.”

Hickey described the different types of work he would be doing during his year.

“[I will be] facilitating various retreats, workshops, institutes and programs with Soldier’s Heart, a spiritual faith-based nonprofit organization whose mission is to ‘transform the emotional, moral, and spiritual wounds that often result from military service,’ culminating in a humanitarian, service-based journey of reconciliation and transformation through Japan, Korea, and Vietnam,” he said.

In Australia and the Czech Republic, Hickey’s plans will be more “research and academically based, while the Healing Retreat through Japan, Vietnam and South Korea will be largely experientially based.”

Hickey was a Psychology and Philosophy double major and minored in Neuroscience. He was “involved in a little bit of everything” at Ursinus, and said that Rev. Charles Rice had a major impact on his life, like he did many students. Through talking with Rev. and developing a relationship with him, “every conversation [they] would have would circle back to social institutions and systems of injustice.”

When Hickey heard about the fellowship, he “felt as though applying for it would not only allow [him] to pursue something that [he is] very passionate about, but also to have the opportunity to honor the impact that Rev. had on the Ursinus community.”

Given his childhood experiences, Hickey felt it was his duty “to serve [wounded soldiers and those who passed] as they have served us—with selflessness, honor and integrity.”

Hickey is excited to contribute to MI research about veterans and to travel the world while also helping people, and the Ursinus community looks forward to reading his manuscript on the journeys.

Happening on Campus

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Alum Doug Hickey, ’15, will spend a year abroad helping veterans struggling with their mental health, a topic he is deeply passionate about.

“Growing up in a small rural community with a strong culture of service in the armed forces, I thought of the many classmates, friends, and relatives who joined the service after turning 18,” Hickey said. Some of them died, “[and] in over half of these cases, the fallen soldier had not died overseas, but on the battlefield at home by their own hands.”

Hickey will travel to Australia, Czech Republic, Japan, South Korea, and Vietnam. He will study the psychological effects of war on combat veterans, according to the UC website. His travel is funded by The Charles Rice Postgraduate Research Fellowship.

The new fellowship honors former Ursinus chaplain Rev. Charles Rice’s passion for assisting students in their faith, lives, and careers, while providing them tools to analyze social injustice. As a way to keep Rice’s influence alive and inspire others to pursue justice in the world, the fellowship granted two alumni $15,000 each to study abroad and research topics of their choosing, and then publish a manuscript after their year-long adventure ends.

“In over half of these cases, the fallen soldier had not died overseas, but on the battlefield at home.”

-Doug Hickey
Class of 2015
Kavanaugh and the powers of the Supreme Court

Is the new UC tour guide dress code sexist?

THE GRIZZLY

OPINION

Kavanaugh and the powers of the Supreme Court

Tom Bantley
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Brett Kavanaugh’s appointment has become another debate that has further polarized an already divided nation. While Kavanaugh’s nomination pitted the popular #MeToo movement against the power of the Republican Party, another aspect of Kavanaugh’s past has been largely overlooked: his controversial judicial philosophy, especially with regards to presidential power, reproductive rights, privacy laws, and domestic surveillance.

The controversy over Kavanaugh’s beliefs and character is due to the high-stakes nature of Supreme Court nominations and the gargantuan power that the court holds over American society. The judges are appointed for life and they have the authority to interpret the Constitution and federal laws. But the Supreme Court of the United States is not an impartial judge of the law. It is a political institution. This conundrum exists because of the problematic policy of judicial review. Judicial review, and the powers of the court more broadly, must be re-examined going forward in order to make the United States a more perfect union.

Judicial review is the legal principle that the Supreme Court has the right to review and strike down actions made by the legislature and executive branches. The concept of judicial review has been an essential part of the American system of government since it became an established power of the Supreme Court in 1803’s landmark decision Marbury v. Madison. However, Judicial review has been a trite attempt to American freedom.

In American history, we have seen how devastating the impact of the Supreme Court’s excessive power has done to the United States. For example, in 2000’s Bush v Gore, the Court trampled over Florida’s rights and chose Bush as the president of the United States. Next, in 2010’s Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission, the Court ruled that corporations were people so they could effectively buy elections, thus ushering in an age of banana republic-style corruption. In 1944’s Korematsu v. United States, the Court ruled that Americans of Japanese heritage can be imprisoned in internment camps because individual rights can be suppressed during wartime, earning the notorious case universal condemnation. Also, in 1856’s Dred Scott v. Sandford, the Court ruled that Black people are not human beings. While there are examples of good decisions, such as Brown v. Board of Education, there are more examples of horrible decisions. It is apparent that the Court has a poor track record when it comes to defending liberty and decency.

Nowhere in the Constitution of the United States is the Supreme Court given the power to strike down or create law. For the six years after the Constitution was signed, there was no judicial review until the Supreme Court granted itself that power. During this period, the Supreme Court was the final appeals court of the United States and would handle legal matters between citizens of different states and US citizens versus citizens of other nations. Thomas Jefferson, who was petrified by the newfound power of the Supreme Court, stated that “the opinion which gives to the judges the right to decide what laws are constitutional, and what not, not only for themselves in their own sphere of action, but for the legislature and executive also, in their spheres, would make the judiciary a despotic branch.”

Jefferson also said, to Virginia Supreme Court Justice Spencer Roane, “If the judiciary is the last resort in relation to the other departments of the government… then indeed is our Constitution a complete felo de se (suicide pact)… The Constitution, on this hypothesis, is a mere thing of wax in the hands of the judiciary.” The solution to the issue of the Supreme Court’s rampant unaccountable power would be a series of dramatic reforms. First, smaller reforms such as term limits, more public access to Court meetings, more public appearances, a higher code of ethics, and tighter regulations around conflicts of interests would be helpful. However, the Congress must deal with the issue of the Court’s power directly. Congress must act to curb judicial review by using the power endowed to the Congress in Article 3, Section 2 to regulate what the Supreme Court can adjudicate on.

However, some would argue that we need the Court to check the power of the Federal Government. If an incumbent administration acts in ways that defiles the Constitution, it is the responsibility of the opposition to expose the abuse and for the people to vote out of office the incumbents through the democratic process. It is up to the people to make the government better. No one will do it for them. Brett Kavanaugh is part of a bigger problem in American government and if anybody wants to do something about it then the people must act, through their representatives, to change the Supreme Court.

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Ursinus instituted a new dress code for campus tour guides this semester. The new guidelines were introduced at the team’s first orientation, and seem to be aimed at encouraging a more business-casual look at the workplace and during tours. A flyer laid out the details, identifying acceptable and unacceptable attire for men and women. The women’s list is longer than the men’s. It calls for no leggins, yoga pants, or spandex. The men’s list only prohibits athletic gear like tank tops, other than Ursinus-branded sweat-shirts. To me, this seems pretty sexist. The policy limits women’s clothing choices, and forces female tour guides to change outfits if they don’t want to stay in their business clothes all day. It seems sexist because women are given stricter guidelines. The discrepancy is blatant.

Per a copy of the flyer obtained by “The Grizzly,” women have nine different guidelines or sub-guidelines for their apparel, while the men only have six. Additionally, all the men’s rules are written in standard-case font without punctuation. The women’s criteria, on the other hand, feature two rules that are in all caps and one with excessive punctuation, “LEGGINGS ARE NOT PANTS!!!!!!!” and “PLEASE USE THE FINGER-TIP RULE FOR LENGTH.” The fingertip rule seems to refer to a guideline often featured in high school dress codes that states skirts, dresses and shorts should extend past a woman’s fingertips, if her hands are at her sides. There is also a quote from Lady Bird Johnson at the top of the page which reads, “I’ve really tried to learn the art of clothes, because you don’t sell for what you’re worth unless you look good.” Allison DeGerlais, a junior who’s been a tour guide for almost two years, is quite vexed. She said the office is “creating an image of students that is not really there.” She also objects to the fingertip rule. A week after the orientation, she sent an email to assistant director of admission Brittany Grason about how strict and sexist the new policy is, but Grason has not gotten back to her. Grason also has not replied to “The Grizzly’s” request for comment.

“You would expect that in college, you’d be treated like an adult and be given more respect,” DeGerlais says. “It’s very condescending and a turnoff [for me].”

Kiley Addis, the president of the campus’ Feminists in Action club, shared her perspective on the new policy. “I am angry,” she said. “This dress code is similar to the ones in high school. It is inherently sexist.” She added that the policy splits tour guides into a gender binary, making nonbinary people have to choose which dress code to follow.

On the other hand, Dan Becker, also a tour guide, does not see this new policy as inherently sexist. He understands the frustration of some of his co-workers, but believes the code is not as bad as it appears. “[There’s] an easier understanding for men’s clothing range [because there] is a much better, defined barrier…which makes it difficult for women to dress professionally due to this nuanced-gray area.” This new policy, he adds, is not unfairly policed.

Nevertheless, I think the kind of attire being required of female tour guides in particular is uncomfortable and unnecessary for a college campus. Tour guides will probably have to change their wardrobes constantly, if they get the chance at all. Otherwise they’ll sit in class looking like Lady Bird Johnson. The policy is a pain, it’s unfair to women, and hopefully it will be changed again in the near future.

www.ursinusgrizzly.com

Kevin Leon
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Join us for our weekly news meeting

Mondays, 6 p.m. Olin 101
Women’s Swimming begins title defense with back-to-back dual meet wins

The Ursinus College Women’s Swim Team has won five consecutive Centennial Conference championships and began its pursuit of a sixth last weekend, winning a pair of dual meets against Cabrini and Dickinson on Oct. 26 and 27.

The team was ranked number one in the conference in the pre-season poll of Centennial Conference coaches, and enter the season nationally ranked at No. 17.

The Bears are feeling good about their chances as the season kicks off. Junior Haley Sturla said, “I’m feeling pretty pumped. I’m happy that we got a couple of wins to get us started, but overall we are eager to compete all season.”

Sophomore Allie Thomas said, “I am feeling good. The team has been putting in a lot of hard work. We have amazing camaraderie and energy as a team and you can feel that at practice.”

One might expect that having meets on both Friday and Saturday as well, 119-85. It was another relay win in the 400 free relay.

Sophomore Sophie May swam on the first-place relay teams as well.

The swimmers are feeling confident that they’ll continue their dominance among Centennial Conference opponents.

Sturla said, “I’m really excited for this upcoming season. The team is in the right place, mentally, and we have a lot of big goals that we can definitely meet.”

Thomas said, “I think that this season will be interesting considering losing several of our impact swimmers [to graduation]. All of the girls have been stepping up at practice and going really fast. We also have a lot of really well-rounded swimmers so it makes practice competitive helping us have more of a race-like mentality all of the time.”

The Bears will make their home debut in the Floy Lewis Bakes Center on Saturday, Nov. 3 against Swarthmore.
Senior Bridget Sherry nominated for NFHCA Senior Game as Field Hockey preps for post-season

The Ursinus College Field Hockey team has enjoyed yet another successful season thus far, as it closed out the regular season with a record of 12-5 overall and 8-2 in the conference. This earned them a third-place finish in the Centennial Conference standings.

Spending much of the season nationally ranked in the top-20 requires a team effort, of course, but among the leaders of the team is co-captain Bridget Sherry, who was chosen to participate in the annual National Field Hockey Coaches Association (NFHCA) Senior Game this year.

Only 60 seniors across the country are selected for the event, which will take place on November 17 in Manheim, Pa.

Ursinus head coach Janelle Benner said, “Each institution is allowed to nominate up to two senior athletes each year. Selections are quite competitive as they look at the whole body of work from the players’ freshman year all the way through their current senior year stats and awards.”

Sherry has proven to be a deserving participant in the event with her track record at Ursinus. She is already a three-time All-Centennial-Conference and all-region performer. The Bears have won two conference titles and appeared in the Final Four while she’s been a staple in the Ursinus lineup.

“Bridget is a team captain and has been a starting back for us since her freshman year. She brings energy, grit, and relentless effort for every play which I believe helps to motivate and inspire her teammates to do the same,” Benner said.

Sherry, a two-year captain for the field hockey program at Ursinus, has accumulated six defensive saves and established herself as the team’s penalty stroke sniper, converting eight of ten penalty stroke attempts.

Benner described what an honor it has been to be Sherry’s coach.

“It has been a pleasure coaching Bridget the past four years. She is a great athlete and has always demonstrated her passion to not only improve individually, but also to do whatever she can to help the team succeed.”

The Bears are no strangers to success. They have won 12 Centennial Conference Championships and “are looking to claim our 13th Centennial Conference Championship this year,” according to Benner.

They are also accustomed to having players represent the program in the NFHCA Senior Game, sending then-seniors Amber Steigerwalt and Aliki Torrence to the competition in Geneva, N.Y. in 2016.

Ursinus went undefeated at home this season, continuing to make Snell Field an unpleasant destination for opponents.

The Bears have a top-three ranking in the Centennial Conference playoffs which allows them to avoid a dreaded playoff game between the fourth and fifth seeds to earn the right to face top-seeded Franklin and Marshall in the postseason opener.

Instead, on Nov. 3, they will face Johns Hopkins, who defeated the Bears on Oct. 20, 2-0 in Baltimore.

If they win that game they will likely face Franklin and Marshall (F&M) in a rematch of an Oct. 6 matchup that the Bears would like to take back. They lost 3-2 in a wild sequence.

In the Oct. 6 game at F&M, the Bears lost on a final-minute goal by Erin Coverdale of the