The Grizzly, March 28, 2019

Courtney A. DuChene
Skylar Haas
Shelsea Deravil
Rosalia Murphy
Sienna Coleman

See next page for additional authors

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Authors
Courtney A. DuChene, Skylar Haas, Shelsea Deravil, Rosalia Murphy, Sienna Coleman, Johnny Myers, Daniel Walker, David Mendelsohn, Peter DeSimone, and Zack Muredda
Alumni award winners announced

Shelsea Deravil
shderavil@ursinus.edu

On March 20, a number of participants shared their personal stories with an audience of CIE students, professors, and the UC community as part of the Diversity Monologues. According to the Ursinus College website, the Diversity Monologues are “a compilation of uncensored, open, and free monologues that are meant to share with the Ursinus Community how it feels for different students to be themselves on campus and in the greater community.” The Diversity Monologues are meant to evoke feelings of unity and togetherness between the speakers and audience members by sharing stories and personal experiences. The event is one of the few times when the Ursinus community can gather as one and listen to students’ stories and learn more about the many diverse identities on campus.

The event was sponsored by UCARE and the Bonner Program, and had Bonner students Emily Shiplett ’20, Jennifer Berrios ’22, Thea Pastras ’21, Chase Opperman ’21, and Emily Harris ’21 co-hosting this year. Berrios said, “[it] can give a platform to so many POC students...it is encouraging to have [them] be brave and voice their stories because it is important being in a [primarily white institution].” Berrios would like to participate in the future Diversity Monologues event and talk about her family’s immigration problems. Shiplett, who co-hosted for the first time, discussed new changes in this year’s event. “In previous years, students have felt uncomfortable or ill-prepared for the intensity of some monologues,” Shiplett began. “To combat this, we reached out to CIE professors to provide verbal trigger warnings to their classes.” Shiplett added that there were Peer Advocates outside the Lenzfest Theatre auditorium in case students needed some comfort or support during or after the event. The doors were propped open in case students got uncomfortable and decided to leave.

Monologues were introduced before starting, so students in the audience were able to prepare themselves for what was shared. In terms of collaborating with her Bonner teammates and getting the work done, Shiplett stated, “tons of work was put into planning and creating this event. [But] the event truly relies on the willingness of the students to share their experiences to the rest of the campus.”

The speakers spoke on a variety of topics such as sexual assault, drugs, disabilities, and race. Some of the speakers were Emily Riley, Tyree Williams-Jackson, Paul Vecchio, Kiley Addis, and Jailene Rodriguez. The hope is that the event was especially meaningful to first year students. The CIE Ques-

Diversity Monologues: a night of sharing

Skylar Hass
skhaas@ursinus.edu

Every year Ursinus presents a handful of alumni several different awards, and this year there are two particularly noteworthy winners: Matthew D. Weintraub ’90 and Ross Doughty ’68.

Weintraub will be awarded the Alumni Award for Professional Achievement and Doughty will be awarded the Henry P. and M. Page Laughlin Educator Award. Other winners this year include: Samuel C. Totaro ’69 who will be awarded the Alumni Award for Service to Humanity, and Elizabeth Cannon ’10 who will be awarded The Rising Star Award for Service to Humanity, and M. Page Laughlin Educator Award. The recipients, Weintraub, and Doughty have been involved with Ursinus for 50 years now. Weintraub graduated from Ursinus in 1990 with a BA in politics. He has accumulated several accolades such as being a resident advisor and being a member of the Cub and Key Society and of Delta Pi Sigma. Doughty is a professor who taught from 1975 to 2018. During his extensive professorial career, he has served as a history department chair on two separate occasions, lent his leadership to the education department as acting chair, and was an advocate for the International Relations Program.

Awards have been given to several alumni each year including "What should we do?" and "How should we live together?" Some of the speakers were Addis, Berrios, and Doughty. The hope is that the event was a very emotional event, and I expect to be very open-minded to everyone’s stories. This event will really answer ‘How should we live together?’

Photo courtesy of Ursinus Communications

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Ursinus honors Dr. Crigler’s legacy

The late Dr. Robert Crigler was honored on March 5 at 4:00 pm in the Berman Museum. Crigler was the first African-American graduate at Ursinus in 1956, and is the namesake for the Crigler Institute program, a four credit course offered during the summer and fall of the first semester for first-year students.

In addition to the coursework, students have the opportunity to participate in a community service project, connect with Ursinus alumni, and attend leadership workshops. Crigler passed away on Oct. 28, 2018 at the age of 84. The event celebrated student founders or “firsts” on Ursinus’s campus, and looked back on Crigler’s legacy and the impact he left for future and current students of color at Ursinus.

Paulette Patton, emeritus director of multicultural student services and Crigler Program, spoke on Crigler’s life and legacy at Ursinus. She first learned about Dr. Crigler through an old box of findings that were brought to her office the first year she started at Ursinus in 1997. Patton played a major role in petitioning for the name change of the Bridge Program to the Crigler program in 2011.

“The challenges Dr. Crigler had to endure as a black boy moving to another state and community he knew nothing about,” Patton said. “we need to take the time to honor him.”

At Ursinus, Crigler played football, baseball, sung in the choir, and majored in psychology. He shared an experience with Patton about the time he was rejected service at a restaurant because he was black—protest, the rest of his football team decided not to eat there.

Dominique Adger-Thomas ‘01, founder of ALMA, said she “doesn’t know what her four years at Ursinus would’ve been like without the Bridge Program. [It] gave us perspective to be determined...to do something better with life and school. I’m grateful for [it].” Thomas added that SUN was the model for Thomas, and a few others, to create ALMA in 1998 for their own community. Thomas majored in Spanish and minored in Secondary Schooling. She serves as an ESL specialist, and in other educational settings.

Sabrina Clarke ‘09, founder of MAPS, earned her doctoral degree of Osteopathic Medicine from Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. She started MAPS to bridge the gap that caused underrepresented minorities to stray away from obtaining their goals of professional positions. Clarke was unable to attend the event but Rodolfo Coplin ‘13, a former president of MAPS and biology major who had the opportunity to work with Clark, spoke on her behalf.

“Dr. Crigler made history as Ursinus’ first African-American student.

“t was great to hear from a couple of former students. Ms. Patton is the keeper of this history of Dr. Crigler...[with the] knowledge and experience on him”
—Dr. Edward Onaci, Assistant Professor of History

All the “first” alumni recognized Patton as their biggest mentor throughout their four years at Ursinus. Other speakers at the event consisted of an alumnus reflection by Dr. Lynne Edwards ’88, also a Crigler RA the same year, remarks by Dr. Nzadi Kieta and Dr. Patricia Lott. The event ended with closing remarks by President Blumberg and began with a welcoming by Presidential Advisor for Inclusion and Equity Dean Terrence Williams. The blessing of the event was done by Rev. Terri Ofori. The Voices in Praise Gospel Choir also performed.

Dr. Crigler’s impact on this campus was profound and he will be missed.
Changing comic books one superhero at a time

Artist Edgardo Miranda-Rodriguez is coming to Ursinus to tell all about his work with Puerto Rico and how that influences his comic books.

Ro Murphy
romurphy@ursinus.edu

On Thursday, March 28 at 7:00 pm in Olin Auditorium, Edgardo Miranda-Rodriguez will come to Ursinus College to share his comic book, “La Borinqueña,” which translates to “the Puerto Rican,” and is also a reference to the Puerto Rican national anthem.

Miranda-Rodriguez created a female Puerto Rican superhero as the main character of his comic book with the lofty goal of defying the stereotypes set by typical white, male superheroes. Instead of fighting villains and other “bad guys,” she is a woman who fights the crises occurring in Puerto Rico. Her costume uses the colors of the country’s flag — “red and white stripes with a blue triangle” — which helps to portray exactly what she is fighting for.

What inspired Miranda-Rodriguez to create this female superhero was his awareness of the comic book industry and its lack of diversity. He realized that there was a need for more female characters and decided to create a superhero with Puerto Rican roots.

“[Women] are the majority of comic book consumers, but they are rarely represented in the stories. I wanted to create a superhero that would resonate with a wider audience and challenge traditional gender roles.”

Over the last year, he has dedicated his time to raising money for Puerto Rico via the La Borinqueña Grants Program. Miranda-Rodriguez admits that, “La Borinqueña directly impacts the lives of many people in Puerto Rico and the world. Our work inspires artists, activists, and families to find ways to help one another and to truly recognize the hero in all of us.”

For this event, Miranda-Rodriguez will speak at 7:00 pm in Olin Auditorium. All are welcome to attend.
Tess Beck ’20 embracing Aussie

Skylar Haas
skhaas@ursinus.edu

Tess Beck ’20 made her decision to study abroad in Australia this semester because, as she explained, it is “such an incredibly beautiful place, with huge swaths of protected lands and national parks — there was just so much to see and explore, including the animals that only exist here.” Beck said, “Study abroad is this awesome opportunity to spend 4-6 months of your life elsewhere without slipping behind in your school work and career path, and that just won’t happen again for a very long time. I wanted to use that to go somewhere I would never be able to spend time otherwise.”

“Missing winter back at school is great, but the best part is that I can be outside everyday.”

—Tess Beck
Class of 2020

Beck was surprised to find that the culture in Australia is very similar to the culture here in the United States. “Australia doesn’t hit you with much culture shock - it’s so similar to the U.S. in a lot of ways. I think the biggest part of being in Australia that I didn’t prepare for was just how big it is. It’s actually about the same size as the continental U.S. (7.7 million square kilometers compared to 8 million kilometers), so it’s been harder than I was expecting to get out to certain places,” she said. “Getting out to certain national parks takes hours of travel time, and getting over to Western Australia is a 6-hour flight - just like crossing the U.S. I think it’s a feeling most study abroad students get - it’s hard to accept that the world is so big and you won’t get to do all the things you want. That’s just life.”

Although the study abroad application process may seem daunting, Beck assures students that it is not as scary as it may seem: “The application process was surprisingly easy! There weren’t long essays to write or anything - just making sure you hit deadlines, as they can be early, getting your passport together, and answering a lot of basic questionnaires.”

Taking classes in a completely different country may also seem inconceivable, but Beck says that it is nothing to worry about: “The professors are really personable and do a good job of demanding your time and attention in class, using class time efficiently, but not loading you with outside work so you can use time outside of class to explore and really be here...I also think classes are easier here because that’s part of Australian culture. It’s so laid back and casual. Due dates are always flexible, projects can be twisted to focus on something you’re extra interested in.”

While Beck has been exploring and enjoying the laid-back atmosphere, she is still “writing papers and doing research, but everything is much more informal over here. You call professors by their first names, they all hand out their phone numbers and spend the first 10 minutes of class actually talking with you about what you’re up to, and you’re expected to have a life and be enjoying yourself - getting your work done is meant to happen sort of on the side.”

This kind of environment allows for study abroad students to get the full experience of the new country they are in without having to stress about due dates. Beck said that she is taking “mostly international business courses. They are all very small classes maybe 20 students tops, so they’re similar to the smaller UC courses in size. This program is really great as far as availability of professors and other resources.”

As far as getting homesick goes, Beck said that there are ways to deal with it: “We have a full-time counsellor on campus for any home sickness or other issues, [along with] a couple other people focused on weekend activities and information just to make sure you’re having fun, trying new things, and really embracing the Aussie culture.”

Beck’s favorite part about being abroad so far this semester has been the weather. She explains, “Down under the seasons are flipped, so it’s actually mid-summer right now. Missing winter back at school is great, but the best part about it is just the fact that I can be outside every day. It’s something I really miss at school, where I’ve been overloading every semester and spending all my time in my room or the library. This experience was meant to be a little break for me, and a chance to do things I love and miss doing. The warm weather has just been really conducive to that: spontaneous hikes, beach days, picnics, outdoor workouts, or just watching the sunset.”

Studying abroad is something Beck believes everyone

Fridge of the week

Ashly Chavez ’22 made sure to stock her fridge so she could “chef it up” over break.

Calling all interesting fridges! If you have a refrigerator you would like featured in the Grizzly, please email sico@ursinus.edu

See Beck on pg. 5
Sienna Coleman
sicoelman@ursinus.edu

Many students come to think of Ursinus as their home; not simply because it is where they live for a few years, but because the campus is where they become who they are, learn what they want to do, and meet friends that mean the world to them. This Spring break, Angela Upright '17, Program Coordinator for the Harold C. Smith Program in Christian Studies, and 25 Ursinus students explored what home means when they drove down to South Carolina to work with Habitat for Humanity and help build houses for community members in Georgetown.

Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit organization that envisions a world where everyone has a decent place to live. Habitat partners with families in need of decent and affordable housing who then work alongside volunteers to build their house.

Ursinus students worked with community members and experienced construction workers to help build one of the three homes with Habitat in Georgetown. Students worked to install roofing, paint walls, put in doors, and price items for sale at the Restore, a resale store organized by Habitat for Humanity. Lizzy Dewitt '19 shared that “the best part of this spring break experience was being exposed to new, challenging tasks... I learned how to assemble different parts of a house and just how much work goes into something as simple as a window or door.’

Alexa Beacham ’19 commented, “It was so lovely seeing people become comfortable on the construction site and in the ReStore, especially those folks that hadn’t had a lot of prior service experience. Everyone on this trip had so much to offer [to] the greater community of Georgetown, SC. regardless of their prior service experience. Likewise, the greater community of Georgetown has so much to offer us as visitors, and we learned a lot about local customs, community, and strength while we were there.”

Sonya Jacobsen ’19 explained that she loves Habitat because it “allows the volunteers to work alongside homeowners... it gives volunteers the opportunity to form relationships with the community they are helping. On this trip, we met and worked alongside people from the local community, many of whom came from different backgrounds and had different political or religious views than us. This trip challenged us to overcome these differences and focus on the values that we shared.”

This sense of community extends to the bonds that the students made while on the trip. Jonathan Monkeneyer ’20 commented that “the best aspect of this trip for me was getting closer to people I did not know before and the priceless experience of helping Habitat for Humanity.”

Angela Upright added that “the Habitat trip is a journey in connection and meaning-making... The genuine friendship and love demonstrated by the Ursinus students and Habitat community was incredibly inspiring and transformative.”

The trip is also an opportunity for vocational discernment, which Upright explains is “the intersection of student’s passions, gifts, and education with the needs of the community... students got to learn from a new community and build new relationships. One of the key takeaways is learning that we must get to know the community in order to best serve with them, which sometimes means changing our preconceived ideas [of] what it means to serve. Each student also gets to affirm their strengths and how they can authentically bring themselves into new spaces.”

Many students find that this trip helped them to think about how they can use their skills and education to address the issues that they care about. Craig Lauer ’20, said, “I had never been involved in longer, more immersive service opportunities before the alternative spring break trip. So last year was beyond life changing for me. It was the trip that sparked my interest in the Peace Corps and continuing service in my life, and Ang of course has been such an incredible inspiration as well.”

Jacobsen said, “As a pre-health student, housing insecurity is relevant to my future career because it is a major factor in health outcomes. This trip allowed me to extend my education outside of the classroom and to make a difference in community health.”

Jacobsen believes that service is important for college students of any major “because it helps students to understand social justice issues and to find ways to incorporate those issues into their future career goals.” The students who attended this year hope that in future years, Ursinus continues this trip and creates more opportunities for immersive service.

Beck continued from pg. 4

should get the chance to do. “I would absolutely recommend studying abroad to anyone and everyone,” she says. “It’s such a healthy break from reality, and it’s something you can really make your own. My experience is all about being comfortable and doing what I love, but you can choose an experience that will challenge you, go somewhere with different languages, cultures, ways of life, you can be in a big city, out in the countryside, or in a remote jungle - there’s no one way to do it... I would also say Ursinus is a really difficult school. I love it there, but it’s very demanding, and it is a constant grind in a tiny little town. I think it’s really healthy to take a break from that, and take some time to see how big the world is.”

### Happening on Campus

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WWW.URSINUSGRIZZLY.COM
Johnny Myers
jomyers@ursinus.edu

Operation Varsity Blues shook 18-year-old high school seniors across the country, made parents of middle-class students more anxious about the college selection process, and forced high schools and colleges to take an honest look at their practices. At least 50 people were indicted in the nation’s largest college admissions scandal to date and more than $25 million was paid to college officials, administrators, and coaches in order for elite colleges like Harvard, Stanford, and USC to accept sub-par students from underclass parents who had inflated college application packages, allegedly the head of the operation, ran a company called Key World Wide Foundation, which helped students falsify SAT test scores, sports participation, and other aspects of the college application. One example of the type of fraud he is accused of is photo-shopping high schoolers’ faces onto the bodies of professional athletes in order to claim that the student was a top-star competitor in a sport which that student had not played. Another accusation suggests that students were taking their SATs in a private room with an administrator who would change their answers in order to secure a better score. The list of flagrant lies continues.

I am not surprised. Growing up in Menlo Park, California, a newly wealthy hotspot of the country in proximity to Stanford, I saw the competition, anxiety, and stress that students felt in order to get into top schools. Both Henry M. Gunn High School in Palo Alto and Palo Alto High School, a short 20 minutes from my house, have experienced waves of “suicide clusters,” dozens of students who faced insurmountable stressors could not continue their lives. These incidents are felt by the community as a byproduct of the high stress and stakes that students face in order to be accepted into these elite schools.

There are many factors that have led to a high-pressure system for high school juniors and seniors. One of the sources of this stress is the ranking hierarchy as pushed by the U.S. World and News Report. Every year, USWNR publishes a list of the Best Colleges based on a survey sent to higher education institutions. The results are weighted as follows: Peer assessment at 15%, Guidance Counselor assessment at 7.5%, six-year retention at 20%, Faculty resources at 20%, Student selectivity at 15%, Financial resources at 10%, Graduation rate performance at 7.5%, and Alumni giving rate at 5%. If one were to devise a list of rankings that solely measured parent’s financial status and elitism as the top factors in school ranking, it would look something like this because these factors revolve around reputation, brand, elitism, and money. None of these factors include personal development of students, strength of relationships between professors and students, or initiative of students to take risks, make mistakes, and learn from others. I would prefer to spend this opinion piece talking about the greatness of Ursinus, liberal arts colleges, and other schools as opposed to discussing the elite universities. Ursinus offers over 60 majors and allows students to self-design their curriculum, be involved in clubs and activities, and forge their own path. As is often repeated on campus, everyone does everything here. I am an Applied Economics and English double major, I have swam all four years, I started an investment company that helps Ursinus, and I write for “The Grizzly.” Other students I have met here have had half the resources and privileges that I have enjoyed and accomplished twice as much. Placement results from Ursinus are fantastic, and students that work hard and do well in school go on to have interesting, unique, and quintessential liberalarts careers. The skills I have learned at Ursinus, as well as the people I have met during my time here, have helped prepare me for the world after college. I have learned important life lessons at Ursinus, including humility, patience, and ambition, that I do not think I would have learned at other schools.

The liberal arts education is devalued by the parents of wealthy children because it does not bring with it the prestige and brand of an Ivy League university. For 4.0 high school athletes trying to determine between Harvard and Yale and for Ursinus freshmen wondering if this school is the right fit: do not spend time wondering where you should go, but who you should strive to become. One 2011 paper, “Estimating the Return to College Selectivity over the Career Using Administrative Earnings Data” by Alan Krueger, economist at Princeton University, claims that “the typical student does not unambiguously benefit from attending the most selective college to which he or she was admitted. Rather, … students need to think carefully about the fit between their abilities and interests, the attributes of the school they attend, and their career aspirations.” Students are not better off attending prestigious universities than they are any other schools. Ursinus is a fantastic place to understand who you would like to be and what influence you would like to make in the world around you - if you so choose.
The Ursinus Baseball team is off to an 8-5 start to the season and right in the middle of it is junior Dom Fiorentino.

Fiorentino has been a fixture atop the Bears’ lineup, batting a whopping .420 with an astronomical .920 slugging percentage, making his OPS 1.428 through 13 games.

Where Fiorentino has been most impressive is his ability to hit triples. He’s already totaled seven (7) triples in the young 2019 season, which ties the Ursinus record for triples in a season with over a month to play in order to get one more and break it.

That’s not the only bit of history that Fiorentino has made in the early going this season. He also notched his 100th career hit against CCNY, and also hit a grand slam in that performance.

Against CCNY, and also hit a grand slam. He’s already totaled 12 games into his junior campaign.

However the trip isn’t supposed to just be a warm-up before the conference schedule picks up. It is also a great time for the team to bond with each other and increase the team cohesion.

“One night we [went] mini golfing, another night we went to Disney Springs, and every night we would all hang out in the rooms that we stayed in. A lot of us really got to know some of the freshman better after living with them all week,” Stanziale, who had four RBI’s, 5 runs, and a home run in Florida, said.

There were plenty of memories made that did not involve the actual on-field play.

“One of the freshman tripped and fell while running out on the field. I smashed an egg on [senior Alex] Soriano’s head the day we were leaving… The trip definitely brought us closer together,” Stanziale said.

Now with the Bears getting ready to play a big chunk of their schedule, the trip is something they can look back on.

“The trip was a great experience. It was a great time to hang out with all the guys and play baseball for week with no distractions. Felt great for all of us to get back on the field again and compete against other teams,” Stanziale said.

The Bears have maintained the momentum from the win against Rhode Island, taking their first game back from break on Wednesday Mar. 20 in a 14-3 onslaught of Delaware Valley University. This continued on Sunday, Mar. 24, when they managed to sweep the City College of New York in both games of their double header.

The Bears hope that this trip to Nashville will help propel the team to future success in the second half of their season.

**Baseball continued from pg. 8**

strong pitching performances from sophomores Nick Defeo and Will Peiffer, along with freshman A.J. Palumbo.

Peiffer appeared in 3 games and walked away with a 2.25 ERA, nine strikeouts, a win and a save, in eight total innings.

Palumbo defeated SUNY Poly with 5 innings pitched where he allowed two earned runs and recorded four strikeouts.

Defeo pitched a total of 9.1 innings with an era of 2.89 and six strikeouts. In the last game, Defeo pitched a gem, allowing only four hits in his complete game shutout to help the Bears leave Florida with a win over Rhode Island College, a regional team a year ago in 2018.

However, the Bears have maintained the momentum from the win against Rhode Island, taking their first game back from break on Wednesday Mar. 20 in a 14-3 onslaught of Delaware Valley University. This continued on Sunday, Mar. 24, when they managed to sweep the City College of New York in both games of their double header.

The Bears were able to pick up their first win of their 2019 campaign after carrying a three-goal lead into halftime and closing out the Tigers 16-12.

The Bears were led by big performances by senior midfielders Kaci McNeave (4 goals, 4 assists) and Bridget Sherry (6 goals, 2 assists). Sherry credited the victory to the team’s “composure” in the hotly contested game, which is something she hopes will carry over into conference play.

“Emily DiGiorgio chipped in a goal and an assist believed that ball movement was a major reason for the Bears success,” Cortese said.

“Something that we have to continue in future games,” DiGiorgio said.

While the trip to Nashville may have had some alternative entertainment and excitement outside of lacrosse, Courtney Cortese’s focus is apparent.

“Getting our first win [was my favorite part of the trip],” Cortese said.

For the Bears, the next challenge is successfully navigating the ever-competitive Centennial Conference. With the likes of defending national champion Gettysburg and the currently ranked no. 2 team in the nation, Franklin and Marshall, residing in the CC, that will be no easy task.

www.ursinusgrizzly.com
Women’s Lacrosse travels to Nashville and earns first win of the season

Peter DeSimone pedesimone@ursinus.edu

Spring break often a time for sports teams on campus to get away. While the usual re-location destination is Florida, the Ursinus College Women’s lacrosse team often visits places that you might not expect for their trips.

Two years ago, the team took their trip to Colorado, where they were able to explore the beautiful terrain including the Garden of the Gods and the US Olympic Training Center located in Colorado Springs.

This year, the team traveled to Nashville, Tennessee for a four-day trip. The team began its trip on Saturday when they flew from Philadelphia to Nashville after a morning practice in preparation for a Sunday contest against Kenyon College which was held at Sewanee.

The first game of the trip didn’t go as planned for the Bears. The bears went down early against Kenyon, trailing 18-8 at the end of the second half and was able to double the lead by playing well in the third quarter as senior LHP David Drea was among those leading the way in UC’s victory in their home opener against Delaware Valley. Drea spun 6 innings of one-run ball en route to his first win of the season.

UC Baseball picking up steam as season gets into full swing

Zack Muredda zamuredda@ursinus.edu

The Ursinus baseball team went down to Florida over break to get their season underway. From March 10th-16th the Bears played a total of ten games including games against SUNY Poly College, Curry College, Nichols College and ended with Rhode Island College.

During their trip the Bears went 5-5 and played some exciting baseball that should have the team motivated to start their season off. They lost the opener to Worcester St. in a slugfest that ended 14-13, then later that day they came back and beat Gordon College 9-8 in the 10th inning.

They then went on to sweep SUNY Poly and split with Curry before getting swept by Nichols and splitting with Rhode Island. However this team showed that their strength is going to be at the plate. During the totality of their trip, they outscored their opponents 78-67, an 11-run differential.

Offensively the Bears were led by juniors Dom Fiorentino and Alex Mumme.

“Dom Fiorentino and Alex Mumme picked up where they left off. Mumme is close to beating the program doubles record and got to 100 hits down there. Dom had 6 triples in 10 games, he’s one triple away from tying the Ursinus single-season record.”

As a team the Bears batted .326 with a .422 on base percentage, .511 slugging percentage, and four home runs.

The Bears also had some