



11-18-2010

## The Grizzly, November 18, 2010

Katie Callahan

Briana Brukilacchio

Jennifer Beigel

Kaitlyn Ott

Lisa Jobe

*See next page for additional authors*

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.ursinus.edu/grizzlynews>



Part of the [Cultural History Commons](#), [Higher Education Commons](#), [Liberal Studies Commons](#), [Social History Commons](#), and the [United States History Commons](#)

[Click here to let us know how access to this document benefits you.](#)

---

---

**Authors**

Katie Callahan, Briana Brukilacchio, Jennifer Beigel, Kaitlyn Ott, Lisa Jobe, Katie Haldeman, Christine Dobisch, Alyse Reid, Kevin Tallon, Elizabeth Burns, Elisa DiPrinzio, Kate Kehoe, Sarah Bollert, Jessica Orbon, Kyu Chul Shin, Josh Aungst, Michael Delaney, Monty Reeder, and Nick Pane

---

# The Grizzly

The student newspaper of Ursinus College

Collegeville, Pennsylvania

Thursday, November 18, 2010

Vol 35, Iss 11

## B'Naturals sing their way to success

By Briana Brukilacchio  
brbrukilacchio@ursinus.edu

Everyone on campus has heard of the Bearitones, right? Well, what about the B'Nats, that all-female cappella group? You may not have felt their presence in the past but they are definitely changing that now.

Feedback at their performances this semester was incredibly positive. Don't expect this next year to showcase primarily male vocal talent on campus, because the women of Ursinus College are adding a little healthy competition to the musical scene. With a new student director, auditions, some serious dedication, and a lot of initiative, the B'Nats are creating waves this year.

Student director Caroline Andrews and a few members gave the inside scoop on how the B'Naturals are stirring things up this year.

Andrews has a passion for music and an incredible voice that has been featured in B'Nats' and Bearitones' songs in past years.

Under her leadership the B'Nats are being held to a slightly stricter practice and performance schedule which appears to be guiding the ladies in a very successful direction.

As a director, Andrews has had a lot of experience with creating popular performance groups on campus as can be seen with the Bearitones. She says, "Since taking over the B'Naturals this year, I have had one goal in mind – for B'Nats to be more recognized by the Ursinus and Collegeville communities. Our members have wonderful talent, but unfortunately many people do not know we exist, or only know us by name. My goal is for the B'Nats to draw crowds of our own... I feel that we will (hopefully!)

achieve the status we deserve." It certainly seems as though the B'Nats will achieve these goals. Some of the veteran B'Nats say that they are very excited for



The B'Naturals are making a comeback under the direction of student director Caroline Andrews (front right). They hope to perform at a Phillies game sometime this year, along with performances on campus. Photo courtesy of The B'Naturals

the future of the group. Pamela Horn, a sophomore who participated in the B'Nats in the past as

"B'Naturals" is continued to News, page 3

## Mellon Teaching and Learning Initiative introduced to Ursinus

By Jenn Beigel  
jebeigel@ursinus.edu

Last Wednesday, a group of faculty gathered in Phalar Auditorium, where they were introduced to a new program on campus, the Mellon Teaching and Learning Initiative.

The TLI program was started at Bryn Mawr and Haverford Colleges in 2006 and has spread to Swarthmore College and Villanova University. It is a program designed to strengthen community by having student consultants go to classes that they are not enrolled in and observe the classes, providing constructive feedback to professors in order to make the classroom a more productive environment for both professors and students.

This program has been brought to Ursinus College by Dr. Meredith Goldsmith, an Associate Professor in the English Department. Dr. Goldsmith had always wanted to have a student consulting program at Ursinus and discovered the TLI program when she attended a seminar held at Bryn Mawr College. A student consultant from Bryn Mawr came to consult for her American Literature class last semester, an experience that Dr. Goldsmith found very beneficial.

"It was very nerve-wracking at first and it makes you very vulnerable, but it is also very empowering and

"TLI" is continued to News, page 2

## Ursinus College Facilities continues to shape campus

By Kaitlyn Ott  
kaott@ursinus.edu

Certain conveniences fall to the back of students' minds while they are at school, like hot running water, working electricity, and heating. And who stops to actually look at the well-tended landscape on campus? Facilities service takes care of almost everything that is not academic or sports related. When asked about taking on these responsibilities, facilities manager Andy Feick said, "Let the faculty and the students dedicate 100 percent into a knowledge transfer and not have to worry about anything else."

In addition to the previously mentioned things, all of the construction maintenance, the campus' energy use, mail services,

building cleanliness, college transportation, and much more are handled by facilities. They do a lot of hard work to make sure the campus runs smoothly, and yet many students aren't aware of the location of the office. (In case you were wondering it's between BPS and the College Arms Apartments). Because of everything that facilities provides there is a lot of commotion in the building. "It's a busy place," Feick adds.

Ursinus is an eclectic campus with classical and modern buildings covering the small space. In order for the campus to be able to blend, the landscape elements all must be very similar, with the

"Facilities" is continued to News, page 3

### INSIDE:



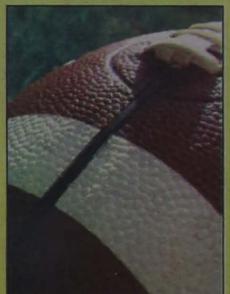
Open Mic Night  
Page 3



UC STAND  
Page 4



Wet vs. Dry  
Page 7



UC Football  
Page 8

# International News with Lisa: Protests and weapons

By Lisa Jobe  
lijobe@ursinus.edu



## Russian journalist assaulted

Monday, November 8

MOSCOW, RUSSIA — A Russian journalist was severely beaten on Monday, the second such attack on a journalist in days. Anatoly Adamchuk, a reporter from a suburban Moscow newspaper, suffered head injuries at the hands of two unidentified assailants. The attack comes just days after leading Russian journalist Oleg Kashin was severely beaten outside his home on Saturday.

Kashin is in a medically-induced coma as a result of the attack. Russian President Dmitry Medvedev has called for his at-

tackers to be found and punished. "There are forces which believe that by using such methods they can shut anybody up, whether it's a journalist or a politician," he was quoted as saying.

Adamchuk had been reporting on the arrest of children protesting the cutting down of a forest to make way for a major roadway, a project that has now been put on hold by the government. Kashin had been reporting on demonstrations against the construction of the same road. (BBC News Online)

## London students protest

Wednesday, November 10

LONDON, ENGLAND — Protests against higher university tuition fees in London turned violent on Wednesday. Demonstrators broke into Britain's Conservative party headquarters, smashing glass and climbing on to the roof. Police said at least eight people were injured, including police officers.

This was the first violent protest against 81 billion pounds (\$130 billion) of spending cuts intended to tackle record budget deficits in Britain. The violence occurred during a march by thousands of university students and

instructors protesting plans by the current British government to triple the amount that universities can charge for tuition.

The National Union of Students, who organized the march, spoke against the "troublemaker" who caused the protest to turn violent. British trade unions have predicted that the budget cuts, which may cause half a million public sector workers to lose their jobs, will cause large-scale strikes. (NewsDaily.com)

## Boy to climb Mt. Everest

Wednesday, November 10

NEPAL — A record-holding Nepalese Sherpa claims that his 9-year-old son will climb Mount Everest in 2011. Sherpa Pemba Dorje holds the record for the fastest Everest ascent at eight hours and 10 minutes. Last week he and his son Tseten climbed Mount Ramdung, a 19,440-foot mountain in Nepal. Dorje told reporters the climb was a practice run for climbing Mount Everest, which is more than 29,000 feet high.

Experts are questioning the potential harmful effects that climbing Everest could have on a child's body. Experts say that the lack of oxygen causes motor-

skill dysfunction, sleep troubles, and language disassociation, among other problems.

Tseten Dorje would not be the first child to attempt to scale Everest. In May, American Jordan Romero, 13, became the youngest person to reach the summit. (CNN.com)

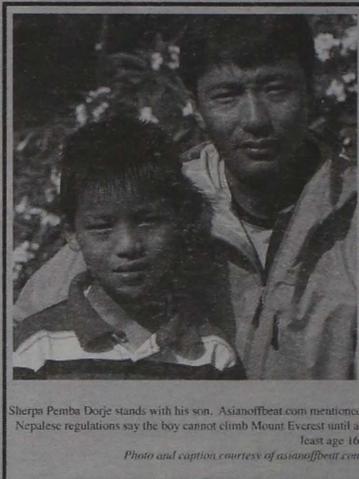
## Nigeria finds smuggled weapons

Friday, November 12

ABUJA, NIGERIA

Nigeria will take actions against Iran if investigations in an arms smuggling case show that Iran violated international law and U.N. sanctions. Thirteen shipping containers labeled as building supplies were seized on October 26 at a Nigerian port, and were found to contain artillery rockets, among other weapons. Nigerian security forces believe the arms may have been imported by local politicians in case they lose in upcoming elections.

Nigerian Foreign Minister Odein Ajumogobia confirmed Friday that the shipment did originate in Iran. He met with Iranian



Sherpa Pemba Dorje stands with his son. Asianoffbeat.com mentioned Nepalese regulations say the boy cannot climb Mount Everest until at least age 16. Photo and caption courtesy of asianoffbeat.com

Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki on Thursday, and called the meeting "very productive." Mottaki authorized Nigerian officials to interview one of two Iranians who have been implicated in the smuggling. However, the other Iranian has diplomatic immunity.

One American political analyst suggested that by shipping the weapons, Iran may be attempting to show Western powers that it can influence a country vital to U.S. oil supplies. (Associated Press Website)

"TLI" is continued  
from front page

thought-provoking," Dr. Goldsmith says.

Dr. Alison Cook-Sather, the director of TLI at Bryn Mawr, agrees with Dr. Goldsmith's assessment of how valuable an experience participating in the TLI program can be for faculty. "What faculty get to do is have an ongoing conversation with a student who isn't in their class," she told the assembled faculty in Phaler Auditorium. She said that she believes the program makes faculty think about why they teach the way they teach and how they can improve their methods.

And professors are not the only ones who benefit from the TLI program. Dr. Cook-Sather believes that student consultants who participate in the program will learn a lot from it and gain an increasing awareness of the teaching styles in their classes. "Students realize what it takes to teach a class," Dr. Cook-Sather said.

Dr. Goldsmith also believes

that students will benefit greatly from the program. "Ideally, you have more empowered students who can become better students because they're asking more questions and thinking more actively," she says.

Sara Hourwitz, a sophomore, is one of six student consultants who have been involved with the pilot TLI program at Ursinus this semester. She has found it to be a very positive experience, even though she was nervous when she first started the program and uncertain of how professors would react to criticism from a student. However, she soon found that she had nothing to worry about.

"My professor was really appreciative of my feedback and was open to various suggestions and ideas," Sara says. "It wasn't just me providing her with ideas; we came up with solutions together. It really was a partnership."

The TLI program at Ursinus has begun slowly, but Dr. Goldsmith hopes to expand it in the future, by recruiting a handful of new students for next semester and then continuing to recruit more students next year.

Dr. Goldsmith is especially looking for students with background in the sciences, since many of the current consultants are majoring in the humanities.

"Ultimately, the program will grow, but it needs more support first," she says.

As for Sara, she has benefited greatly from the program and thinks that others can as well. "Students and professors need to work together to create a productive learning environment," she says. "It has made me more in tune with my learning experience. It has also helped me gain confidence when dealing with professors."

"Ideally, you have more empowered students who can become better students..."

# The Grizzly

The student newspaper  
of Ursinus College

Volume 35, Issue 11

## EDITORIAL BOARD

**Katie Callahan** Editor-in-Chief  
**Michael Delaney** News Editor  
**Katie Haldeman** Features Editor  
**Carly Siegler** Opinions Editor  
**Nick Pane** Sports Editor

## PHOTOGRAPHY

**Brianna Gaddy** Photo Editor

## ADVISOR

Dr. Rebecca Jaroff

## E-MAIL

grizzly@ursinus.edu

# Seismic Step Team holds fundraiser Open Mic Night

By Katie Haldeman  
kaldeman@ursinus.edu

On Monday Nov. 15, Seismic Step held a Multicultural Food Festival in Wismer Lower Lounge. The price to eat was around \$1 and food varied from station to station. The step team held the event to raise money for a step and dance competition they plan on holding in April, 2011. The competition raises money for the Greater Philadelphia chapter of the Autism Society. The captain of the team, Leticia Walston, has a brother who suffers from Autism so this organization holds close to her heart.

Sophomore Shakiya Canty originally thought of the event. She explained that she wanted to provide the campus an opportunity to come together as a whole and experience foods from different cultures. She saw it as a break from the normal Wismer or Lower food the entire campus eats every day.

Some of the cultures repre-

sented were Chinese, New Orleans style, Italian, southern, and Latino. According to sophomore Melissa Kopel, one of the main attractions for the Latino table was the empanadas. Kopel said they were "so good...I love empanadas."

Aside from empanadas there was jambalaya, General Tso's chicken, pulled pork sandwiches, and more. Kopel stated, "There's a great variety...it's more than just the stereotypical foods." Seismic Step really worked hard to put together an event that everyone could enjoy.

Royale Randolph explained that this event is one of many. Upcoming events include a bingo night, pool competition, a fash-

ion show, some bake sales, and a New York step style event. "We will stand outside, probably in Philadelphia, and depending on how much money we are given depends on the level of the step we do," Randolph explained.

Shakiya Canty was excited when Walston mentioned she wanted to organize a step team last year. Canty stated, "I love the sisterhood and I love stepping," explaining how proud

she was to be a part of this organization. Canty explained that Walston is, "a great choreographer." Although only in their second year, Seismic Step has shown hard work and dedication while coming closer together as a group.



Photo by Bree Gaudy

the campus to conserve water and the energy it takes to produce hot water.

The college stays updated regarding remodeling, buildings, and other projects around campus. There will always be some sort of construction on campus, or we are bound to fall behind in renovations. The newest update was the addition to Berman Museum, which not only showcases art, but is art in itself. "The new sculpture terrace is one of those subjective pieces of art, because people are going to like it or they won't" Feick added.

Along with recently finished renovations, there are many facilities projects coming up on campus, including the newest Wismer

and Reimert renovations, and the artificial turf football field.

Ursinus is very fortunate to have a facilities team that cares so much about the appearance and workings of the campus. While it may not be pleasant to hear the occasional lawn mower outside your window at early on a weekend morning, it's important to realize how thorough facilities services are when it comes to meeting student's needs. Whenever something is wrong like, the heating isn't working, bathroom stall doors are broken off their hinges, or a light bulb has gone out, facilities is an easy phone call, and the staff fixes the problem happily and efficiently.

"Having over 50 girls try out, the audition process lasted roughly a week," Andrews explains, "After a difficult selection process, our new members were mostly new... which meant we had to start from scratch."

Some people may wonder what a second rising a cappella group means with regards to the Bearitones, who have been enjoying wild successes recently. Andrews offers a very informed opinion about this as she is connected to both groups. She sees the two groups as sharing a similar mission. She says, "After we achieve the same status as the

By Lisa Jobe  
ljobe@ursinus.edu

Ursinus students had the opportunity to show off their many talents during Sunday evening's third annual open mic night. Performers included freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors. The majority of the acts were musical, although Ursinus' improvisation troop ZBS took the stage to make the audience laugh with skits and games. Sophomore Duncan Evans, who DJs around campus under the stage name "DJ Broseidon," offered his services as MC for the event. Evans played music to bridge the acts and introduced each act.

Junior Liz Palovick opened the evening with an acoustic performance of Death Cab for Cutie's "When Soul Meets Body." "It was a lot of fun performing, I love doing it," she said, "Everyone was really supportive, and the audience was great. All the performers were amazing! I love seeing talented people getting up and doing what they love. It's awesome to see who comes out of the woodwork with hidden singing or instrumental talents, especially at such an academic school."

Junior Will Molden followed Palovick with two original songs. Next, sophomores Vincent Discepolo and Rebecca Hollenbach combined their singing talent with a duet of Bright Eyes' "Lua." Freshman Maria Cassano showed off her guitar talent as well. Sophomore Delicia Wharton also performed, and freshman Ryan Kim finished off the evening with a musical performance.

The Ursinus a cappella performers were also on hand to entertain. The all-female B'Naturals

performed covers of Corinne Bailey Rae's "Put Your Records On," with senior Caroline Andrews as soloist. Sophomore Natausha Davis then wowed the crowd as soloist for the B'Naturals' performance of Sara Bareilles' "King of Anything." Later on in the evening, the all-male Bearitones impressed the audience with a rendition of "Kiss the Girl," from the film "The Little Mermaid," featuring freshman newcomer David Nolan as soloist. Later, sophomore Sean Miller soloed for the Bearitones' rendition of Hellogoodbye's infectious single, "Here in Your Arms."

The event, held in Wismer Lower Lounge at 8:30, attracted a decent crowd of students. Many clapped along to the music. Junior Katie Hausman was pleased with the turnout for the event. "I think it's great that people come out to support their friends and classmates," she said. Soda and pizza was on hand for the audience to enjoy, and a small mob descended upon the refreshment table when Evans announced that free t-shirts were available.

The event was organized by the officers of the class of 2012. The class of 2012 has been hosting open mic nights since the 2008-2009 academic year, and two more are planned for the 2010-2011 year, says junior class vice president Abigail Robinson. Junior class secretary Shawna Corcoran added that the next open mic night will take place shortly after the start of the spring semester, and the third such event will be held towards the end of the 2011 academic year.

Shawna said she felt the event went "really well," and that she was impressed with the quality of the acts.

Bearitones, people will be much more likely to group us together. However, I do not feel as though this will be a detriment to either group. Both the B'Naturals and the Bearitones promote one another. We may joke that one group is better than the other, but ultimately I feel that each group has elements unique to them and because of this people will never completely combine the groups in their minds."

Who wouldn't want to support these ladies after hearing about their hard work and recent success on campus? If you would like to hear the B'Naturals for

yourself, consider attending the Up 'til Dawn event, Thursday Nov. 18, where both a cappella groups will be performing, as well as a few dance groups. As Andrews mentioned they will also be making an appearance in the program dedicated to showcasing the arts at Ursinus which will take place on Dec. 10 in Bomberger Auditorium. Next semester the ladies hope to perform again at the Class of 2012's Open Mic Night, potentially an open mic night at Blend Cafe, and possibly a Phillies game.

## "Facilities" is

continued from front page

standard brick pathways, the same trashcans and benches. Feick says, "You can knit the whole campus together even if you have buildings that all look different."

The team is committed to maintaining the tidy campus has also taken initiatives to make the Ursinus community more environmentally sustainable. Energy efficiency is something the college has invested a lot into, especially in the past six years as the campus has grown in population and square feet. Wismer becoming "trayless" was one example of a "green" initiative allowing

## "B'Naturals" is

continued from front page

well says, "Last year was fun and a good first experience into a cappella singing, but we definitely weren't as strong as we are this year...and I love the feeling of actually enjoying going to rehearsals."

Horn brings up a great point, because of the selectivity that was instated this year, each member is truly excited to practice and perform. Inside of practice as well as on their own the ladies are passionate about singing and

# Ursinus students take a STAND for justice

By Christine Dobisch  
chdobisch@ursinus.edu

STAND, the student anti-genocide coalition at Ursinus, hosted a rally last Friday, Nov. 12 in Lower Wismer, where students wrote letters to persuade state legislators to support the Congo Conflict Minerals Act of 2009.

The Congo Conflict Minerals Act, a bill proposed by United States Senators Sam Brownback (R-KS), Dick Durbin (D-IL), and Russ Feingold (D-WI) in April of 2009, would require companies to disclose the sources of the minerals in their products. The motivation behind the development of

this bill stems from a concern for events surrounding an ongoing humanitarian crisis in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

"In the Congo there is a civil war that is being fueled by all these factions and rebel groups that are taking control of mines, since Congo is a very mineral-rich area," explains STAND President Lindsay Hogan, "They're exploiting the civilian population to mine all of these really valuable minerals that have huge markets in East Asia and India, where they make electronics that we're using right now. There are plenty of places to get tin, tantalum, tungsten; things that go into circuit boards, things that make

your phone vibrate. But the fact is that we're not tracking them, so a small percentage of it is fueling all of the civilian terror in the Congo. We could prevent it and stop it, but we need to trace where all of the minerals come from."

The fact that so many Americans are unknowingly contributing to this issue was further motivation for students to take immediate and direct action to contribute to a solution. However, efforts that support even the noblest causes often become futile when unarmed with the appropriate organizational tools. Consequently, STAND jumped in with a thoughtful approach to the dilemma.

To give the Congo Conflict Minerals Act an extra push in the legislative process, STAND organized a letter-writing campaign that enabled students to exercise their concern for this particular issue. Students carefully constructed pleas for their state senators and congressmen to pass the bill. During the event, students majoring in a wide range of disciplines engaged in light conversation and expressed varying degrees of interest in the project. However, all demonstrated the power that individuals yield when they collaborate to make positive change in the world.

From one perspective, this letter-writing campaign is a tes-

timony to the growing concern for human rights on campus. Some students even argue that this change in student attitudes at Ursinus is a much-needed breath of fresh air. "It's time for Ursinus to do something positive," added Ned Barringer, an officer of STAND. "We have to start engaging in the civic process to help others who can't help themselves," adds Ned Barringer, an officer of STAND.

STAND is a student branch of a national organization known as the Genocide Intervention Network ([www.genocideintervention.net](http://www.genocideintervention.net)). The organization meets on Wednesdays at 8 p.m. in Olin.

## "Merchant of Venice"

By Kevin Tallon  
ketallon@ursinus.edu

Opening night of the Merchant of Venice took place last night in the Lenfest Theater. For those of you who forget CIE, The Merchant of Venice by William Shakespeare follows the story of Antonio who is, well, a merchant of Venice, along with his best friend Bassanio.

There is a love debacle in the show between Bassanio and the woman he loves, Portia, because he does not have enough money to court her.

Bassanio turns to Antonio for help, which causes Antonio to go into debt with a rich Jewish man—Shylock. The drama escalates when Shylock



Photo by Bree Gaddy

comes demanding his money.

As many people should know, back in Shakespeare's time all the parts were played by men; however Ursinus is switching it up and has cast all the male roles with females. Some of the cast expressed that getting into the role of a man was difficult at first, without exaggerating masculinity, but with time found it exciting and are pleased with the outcome of the challenge.

Another shake up to the story that we are familiar with is that this show is set in the modern day, bringing the story into a culturally relevant sphere. The cast is feeling confident in the show.

Tickets are \$2 for students and \$5 for general admission. The show runs from the 17<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup>.

## UCARE promotes Wismer on Wheels

By Alyse Reid  
alreid@ursinus.edu

UCARE's Wismer On Wheels program has been gaining momentum over the last few months, giving the campus a great deal of pride and hope for the future.

Wismer On Wheels is a student-run community service project through which Ursinus students pack up food to donate to local shelters in the area. After every meal, volunteers enter Wismer to package and save the cooked food that is left over after lunches and dinners each day. Thousands of pounds of food have been packaged, and are stored in Wismer until volunteers retrieve the packages. After volunteers pick up the food from Wismer, they are then transported to nearby shelters and soup kitchens.

While students are sometimes hesitant about committing themselves to community service projects, sophomore, Jessica Neuman

assures all students that this commitment does not require a great deal of time throughout the week. Neuman, an intern in the UCARE office, works alongside senior, Adriana Campo.

Campo expressed the same reassurance that any time commitment would be minimal. She then went on to say, "It is a great opportunity because it is such a simple way to give back to the local community." Campo said while some may not be familiar with the work of Wismer On Wheels, those that have taken part in the project have been inspired by what a difference the project makes on others.

Student volunteers are not expected to transport the packages of food to local shelters, all of the work that is done for the program takes place on campus. Many students from each grade level are already involved in the program, and the UCARE interns believe that students will continue to express interest throughout

the semester.

Most of the students that are currently volunteering have been working with the program since the beginning of the semester, if not longer. However, Neuman believes that lack of experience should not dissuade volunteers, "Most students choose to get involved at the beginning of the semester, but that does not mean that we would turn away volunteers!"

Russell Parnon, one of the main proponents of the program, expressed a deep sense of pride in the community service endeavor. As the project continues to grow, the UCARE office encourages students to continue considering taking a part.

If any students are interested in helping out with the organization, please feel free to stop by the UCARE office in Lower Wismer or email [ucare@ursinus.edu](mailto:ucare@ursinus.edu).

## Word on the Street

with Katie Haldeman  
[kahaldeman@ursinus.edu](mailto:kahaldeman@ursinus.edu)

"What was your favorite 90's television show?"



Sarah Anne Rosner  
Middletown, NJ  
Senior, Dance

Sabrina the Teenage Witch



Drew Kravitz  
Glen Mills, PA  
Junior, Physics

The original All That



Courtney Jones  
Hokessin, DE  
Junior, Busi. & Econ

Fresh Prince of Bel Air



Tom Eckleman  
Poughkeepsie, NY  
Sophomore, Physics

Ahhhhh! Real Monsters

# Fight the yawn with Up 'Til Dawn

By Elizabeth Burns  
elburns@ursinus.edu

"Do you have what it takes to be a superhero?" Up 'Til Dawn asks students to be a hero to children with cancer and join their final fundraising event for St. Jude's Children's Hospital Thursday Nov. 18 from 7 p.m. to midnight in the Floy Lewis Bakes Center Field House.

According to the Up 'Til Dawn executive board, the club is a non-profit, on campus organization devoted to raising funds and awareness for St. Jude's Children's Hospital. St. Jude's specializes in treating children with cancer and is the leading research hospital for pediatric oncology. The hospital receives the main portion of its income from donations and fundraising and would not be able to help children without financial support from donors and charitable organizations.

Executive Director of Up 'Til Dawn Erica Schindewolf explained, "[St. Jude's is] an amazing place in which people find community and hope as well as treatment. No family is turned away regardless of if they are able to pay. Every family is accepted because every person deserves

care."

Up 'Til Dawn's final event is the biggest fundraising event the organization holds all year. Sophomore Joanne Althouse, the Up 'Til Dawn Fundraising Chair, explained, "[the finale is] a letter writing event asking for donations to St. Jude's Children's Hospital. Everyone comes to the gym with a list of addresses and fills out letters to be sent to people they know." She also added that for approximately every 35 letters written during the finale event, \$250 will be donated to St. Jude's.

The event won't only be letter writing. Students will have a chance to unleash their inner child at this carnival-like event. "The campus [can] expect to see inflatable games, live entertainment from other student organizations such as the Bearitones, B-Naturals, Escape Velocity and more. There will also be a ping pong tournament hosted by [the United Bears Against Cancer BE.230] management team and of course tons of raffles and food," stated Advocacy Co-Chair, junior Danielle Yentz.

The Up 'Til Dawn team has even planned to raffle off fun prizes. Those who bring 50 or

more addresses to send out at the event will be entered to win an iPad, the prize drawing the most excitement from the student body. Students can also purchase raffle tickets at the event for a chance to win Nike sneakers and either an Ursinus Build-a-Bear Bear or a Batman Build-a-Bear, in keeping with the superhero theme.

Students are not only encouraged to be heroes to children with cancer by attending the event, but they are also encouraged to dress up as superheroes as well. The teams of six attending the event will have a chance to show their spirit with superhero team names and costumes. Sophomore Phil Quick, a member of a participating Up 'Til Dawn team, stated, "Truthfully, I am looking forward to dressing [up] as superheroes. I feel like it will be a great time."

The Up 'Til Dawn team is also bringing a patient's family affected by St. Jude's to participate in their final event. Schindewolf stated, "I can't wait to hang out with the patient and their family so that we can feel the impact that we are making."

The event promises to be both a fun and fulfilling evening for students on the Ursinus campus.

# Internship Profile: Maggie Stauffer

By Sarah Bollert of  
Career Services

Maggie Stauffer, a junior Politics major with a minor in Education, interned for Representative Todd Platts of the 19<sup>th</sup> district of Pennsylvania this summer.

As a part of the 19<sup>th</sup> District Internship Association, Stauffer divided her time between five weeks of work in Congressman Platts' York, Pa. district office and another five in Washington, D.C.

In the York office, Stauffer was assigned to case-work or constituent service. She often dealt with either letters or visits from immigrants who would personally come into the office looking to file paperwork for citizenship. Though Stauffer "loved the D.C. atmosphere" she appreciated the district office's ability to connect her with constituent's personal cases in which she could see the "progression of [their] paperwork." She appreciated that she personally could "help further along" individual's cases

and "could actually see a result."

Stauffer exercised her skills in writing and communications in both the York and D.C. offices where she was either writing letters to answer constituent's inquiries or directly answering their phone calls, tasks that required her to be aware of Platt's positions and recent votes on bills. At times Stauffer dealt with angry constituents who'd call the office expressing their frustrations. Interactions like these required Stauffer's composure and her patience, though she admits handling phone calls "was honestly one of my favorite things." While in D.C., she also sorted mail in addition to giving tours of the capital building.

At the capital, interns from various districts were all connected with speakers through the House and Senate's broader internship program. Through this, Stauffer was able to hear from speakers like former Secretary of State Colin Powell and Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell.

When interviewing for the internship, Stauffer notes

"the one question that they asked [which] I've seen [sic] in multiple interviews is: 'What is your weakness and how do you think you can work on that?'" Most often students will prepare for interviews ensuring that they have enough positive things to highlight, but they can forget that this common question asks for an awareness of an area that needs improvement as well as recognition of how that weakness can be overcome in a future position.

Stauffer says that not every intern she worked with stepped up to answer the phones or interact with constituents, and that she could have spent her time making photocopies or being given other assignments, but because she was eager to involve herself in every opportunity, she feels fulfilled and satisfied with her experience. She says, "I gained so much knowledge just from putting myself out there." Stauffer's advice for students working in internships is to "put in as much as you want to get out of it."

# An "Empire of Dirt"

By Elisa DiPrinzio  
and Kate Kehoe

Students and visitors alike gathered in Pfahler Auditorium last Thursday evening to welcome journalist Manny Howard to the Ursinus campus for a discussion of his new book, *My Empire of Dirt: How One Man Turned His Big-city Backyard into a Farm*. Through a photography slide show, Howard shared his exciting one-year experiment in "Gonzo farming," in which he was required to turn his small Brooklyn backyard into a self-sustaining farm and garden.

New York Magazine asked Howard to conduct this project as preparation for writing an article on local farming entitled "My Empire of Dirt."

As a writer and/or editor for such publications as Rolling Stone, National Geographic, Harper's Bazaar, Cosmopolitan, Esquire, GQ, and Men's Journal, he had established a name for himself even before he pursued "Gonzo," or reporter-involved journalism.

His article was originally intended to convince people that local farming is inefficient, but after living on his own home-raised animals and produce for an entire growing season, Howard's view on sustenance farming has changed completely.

Self-admittedly, Howard knew nothing about farming before beginning this experiment, but like a truly devoted journalist, he was committed to immersing himself in the effort. "I'm not going to do it unless I can live off the farm," he recalled telling the magazine's editors. Aside from salt, pepper and coffee, Howard and his family—a wife and two young children—would only eat the food that they raised themselves in their own urban backyard.

Farming and husbandry were initially more challenging than Howard expected them to be. The night after he filled the garden's dry well with nine tons of topsoil, he forced himself to sleep outside on a mattress in the rain, to see if the well functioned properly. He was also disappointed by a pitiful first crop turnout. Once Howard began to get the hang of farming, however, he found that he wanted

to spend entire days at a time in the garden. "I never left the back yard except to walk the dog," he laughingly told his audience.

Once the garden was set up, Howard purchased twenty-five chickens and three ducks, so that he could begin raising and breeding animals for meat. He also hand-built "a kick ass rabbit hutch," as he puts it, to house other new arrivals, including several twenty-to-thirty-pound

Flemish Giant Rabbits. His family eventually realized that they could use their chickens for eggs in addition to meat, which added a bit more variety to their daily non-carbohydrate-based meals.

Just when everything on the farm was coming together, a tornado

hit Brooklyn for the first time in over a hundred years. This disaster struck a hemlock tree that had been shading the garden, causing it to crush the vegetables Howard was planning to harvest just four days later. To his frustration, he needed to begin planting afresh and rebuild the chicken coops, as well. Yet, following these tedious repairs, the new garden began to thrive and ultimately produced a variety of different healthy crops, such as green beans, potatoes, tomatoes, corn and eggplant. Meal options were somewhat limited, but Howard remarked that the food was delicious and by the time the experiment was completed, he had even lost twenty-nine pounds.

Throughout the course of the project, Howard learned that farming requires hard work, a knack for experimentation and above all, patience. "I've never done anything quite so rewarding in my life," he remarked with a smile, "there's something so liberating about changing your view of food from transactions to growing it yourself."

Howard said that farming taught his family how to shop more economically than they used to, and they still keep a small garden and several animals. With serious conviction, he called Gonzo farming "a rejection of commercial influences," noting that he will always view local and family farms in a different way.



# Point: UC should remain a wet campus

By Jessica Orbon  
jeorbon@ursinus.edu

What are the first few things you think of when the word "college" comes to your mind? For most the answer is homework, new people and parties. No campus would be complete without any of these aspects of college life.

Ursinus College is an extremely unique environment to live and learn in. We are among the best liberal arts colleges in the country and our students are constantly winning grants, awards and scholarships to graduate, medical and law schools.

Does the fact that our campus is considered "wet" affect this? Moreover, does it adversely affect this or any aspect of academic or social life on campus? As far as I am concerned, there is no reason for any college campus

to be completely "dry" as long as there are places where alcohol is prohibited. Ursinus is an example of this.

Whether it is moral or legal or right, alcohol plays a big role in the lives of most college students. There are exceptions to this, but the vast majority of students attending some college or university will consume alcohol regularly within their time at school.

Here at UC there are plenty of places to have sober fun! We have completely substance-free houses, Late Night Lower and there are almost always CAB events on the weekends.

Drinking is a responsibility and is not something that should be taken lightly. There is a definitive aspect of liability attached to the consumption of alcohol and this is something that many college students forget or don't acknowledge.

Coming to college is, for

many, the first time that teenagers are away from their parents. It is easy to lose sight of the fact that college is still school and not one big party. This is where those who are irresponsible with alcohol meet their downfall. There are several students who pass out, get sick and suffer from alcohol poisoning each year. These students are not specific to just wet campuses, though. This happens on both wet and dry campuses all over the country.

Naturally, there will be differences between campuses where alcohol is completely prohibited and campuses like Ursinus. One of the main differences is that there will inevitably be more arrests and citations on dry campuses. It is ludicrous for university administrations all over the country to believe that because they ban alcohol on their campus that it means their students will not consume it. False! Instead,

their students will develop an incredible sneakiness, and when this plan fails they will be cited and arrested, which consequently makes the university look bad.

I understand how it feels to be a sober student on a wet campus; it may be annoying at some times, but that is why places like Ursinus exist. If you choose to go to a party and drink socially, you can, and if you choose not to, there are plenty of places to go and things to do that are still fun.

There is no reason for a completely dry campus if it is going to adversely affect a campus as a whole. The fact that our campus is wet does not affect our academics or goals; it enables us to slowly but surely take on the responsibilities of being adults in the real world. There will always be exceptions to this generalization; however, on a wet campus these exceptions are a rare breed.

# Holiday Treats

By Kate Kehoe  
kakehoe@ursinus.edu

The cold weather came upon us quickly this year, and to the dismay of many Ursinus students (myself included), winter is rapidly approaching. However, with chillier weather comes a wide selection of holiday treats and flavors to warm you up.

This time of year might be my favorite because of all the great flavors that the approaching holidays bring. Those include gingerbread, peppermint, toffee, eggnog, mocha fudge pumpkin cr me br l e, and my personal favorite, pumpkin spice.

Many are becoming obsessed with pumpkin flavored treats: pumpkin spice coffee, lattes, muffins, ice cream, tea, pretty much anything you can think of. Starbucks has been a main contributor to this pumpkin phenomenon, with its pumpkin spice latte (delicious), pumpkin spice bread, and a cream cheese and pumpkin spice muffin that is to die for.

Here on campus, dining services is trying to follow the trend. For the past week or so, Wismer has had pumpkin spice coffee, which is decent, although not as good as Starbucks. Senior, Jamie Miles said, "I look forward to the pumpkin spice coffee every day and when they don't have it, it throws my day off."

In Zack's, at Jazzman's Caf , they also have a few goodies that follow the holiday trends. They often have holiday treats such as cookies and muffins that are either peppermint or gingerbread. With drinks they will usually bring in peppermint mochas and other holiday flavors to spice up lattes and other drinks.

As for me, I will always stick with, and look forward to anything that has pumpkin in it. I even found pumpkin spice Hershey's Kisses. Now that's a great find. After I found those, I put one in my pumpkin spice coffee, and it made my coffee taste even better than before! I highly recommend it.

I also recommend being adventurous with trying new holiday flavors. They are only around for a short amount of time, and they are all worth trying, trust me. Get creative and enjoy the cold weather with a nice holiday treat to warm the soul.

# Counterpoint: Ursinus should become a dry campus

By Alyse Reid  
alreid@ursinus.edu

Administrators and professors constantly remind the students of Ursinus College of the privilege of living on a wet campus, but it is a privilege that administrators might want to reconsider.

The alcohol policy at Ursinus is incredibly lenient. The Campus Safety handbook states, "In accordance with Pennsylvania law, the college does not allow those under the age of twenty-one to possess liquor or malt or brewed beverages on the property of the college. At the same time, the college recognizes that the use of alcohol by those under twenty-one is a pervasive feature of current US society ... The college endeavors to provide students with meaningful and responsible assertions about the use of alcohol."

While the college is not legally able to condone underage drinking, they do go as far as to acknowledge the fact that it does occur. What administrators hope is that we, the students of Ursinus College, will have enough common sense to drink in moderation, in safe and controlled locations.

The question is, are these privileges in the best interest of the students? I would argue that our wet campus should consider

going dry in order to set our students up for the best opportunities both here at Ursinus as well as in our years after graduation.

By no means do I mean to criticize the administration for the alcohol policy; the students choose to drink on their own. However, creating such an indulgent environment, alcohol abuse is being enabled. Junior, Eliza-

beth Burns, pointed out the dangers of underage drinking: "A lot of students, especially freshmen, don't know where to draw the line. RA's and Ambassadors talk to freshmen at orientation and encourage them to test their limits and make sure they are taking it seriously. But when they begin to feel too comfortable, they're not going to stop and consider what was said to them that first week of orientation."

Burns's comment also brought some light to the fact that underage drinking has become too comfortable for students. Students no longer hold themselves accountable for their behavior while under the influence of alcohol.

I cannot count the number of times I have walked into Wismer on a Sunday morning and heard a

student telling a friend about their "random hookup" from the night before. Whether the story is told in pride or embarrassment, the idea of any sexual encounter with a stranger is incredibly frightening. Taking away the catalyst of alcohol, students will be forced to hold themselves accountable for their sexual experiences, which will lessen the rate of sexual assault. There would be a decrease in access to situations in which women or men could be taken advantage of while intoxicated.

The lack of accountability that is apparent on campus right now also enforces habits that could be detrimental to the future of our students. Any college campus, especially one such as Ursinus, which expects high competition and production from students, increases the stress level of students. When students have access to alcohol, they may misconstrue their privileges as an acceptable outlet to deal with the stresses of academia. Dealing with stressful situations or experiences with alcohol is a sign of alcoholism.

Alcoholism, even in an early stage, negatively affects the physical and mental well-being. A na-

tional study by Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University shows that "at four-year institutions, college students with an 'A' average consume 3.3 drinks per week, whereas students with a 'D' or 'F' average consume 9.0 drinks per week. The same study showed that sizable percentages of college students also report having done poorly on a test or project or having missed class because of their alcohol."

Students who participate in binge drinking, or those who consume more than four to five drinks in a row, are considered to be high risk students. Whether these students are dealing with the stressful collegiate environment or are drinking just to get sloppy on the weekend, they are at risk. Their behaviors, which have recently caused interference by the local police department, are embarrassing not only for themselves but for all Ursinus students.

Creating a dry campus will remove the temptation that students feel so comfortable giving in to, and will create a more positive environment in which students can focus on studies. It also takes away a great deal of the dangerous behavior that is very common on this campus. While students may believe it is their right to enjoy substances on the weekend, it is a privilege that we may not be ready for yet.

*"students may believe it is their right to enjoy substances...it is a privilege that we may not be ready for yet."*

# U.S. and India look to strengthen international ties

By KyuChul Shin  
kyushin@ursinus.edu



President Obama's recent trip to India was deemed an economic mission, but it had as many, if not more, political implications. India, until the end of the Cold War, held close relations with the Soviet Union, and the recent increased contact with China did not help thaw these relations.

Hoping to provide some sort of balance in the Far East, President Obama has announced that

he will back India's bid for a seat as a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council. The hope of the United States is that India will provide a balance against China, similar to the way China provided a balance against the Soviets during the Cold War.

Forming stronger relations with India is, without a doubt, a good idea; India and the United States are two of the biggest democracies on the planet and both use English as a lingua franca. However, while this is a very admirable show of respect on the part of the President, it should be noted that stronger relations with India will simultaneously harm relations with China. This attempt is a double-edged sword that could potentially hurt the United States or do it much good.

India's bid for a permanent seat on the Security Council will almost certainly be blocked by the Chinese. Since the inception of the United Nations, the Security Council has had five permanent members; any change in this

system would need the backing of all five members, and this is unlikely to occur in the near future.

A stronger relationship with India will also undoubtedly alienate Pakistan, a long-established enemy of India. With the War in Afghanistan raging with no end in sight, it is very important that the United States has an understanding with the Pakistani government; Afghanistan insurgents have escaped onto Pakistani soil in the past, and if the United States fails to form a stronger bond with Pakistan, it would be very difficult to track down insurgents.

Nevertheless, stronger relations with India will also do much good. It is a high priority of both nations to maintain freedom and democracy, and making sure that trade between the two remains fluid is essential in keeping the economies of both nations dynamic.

The recent cooperation in the handling of nuclear technology is also a step forward. Working

together in improving nuclear energy for civilian use allows firms from both nations to not only improve nuclear foundations at home, but also provides the opportunity to examine the technology of the other nation.

Stronger economic ties can also bring stronger educational ties; India is number two in the number of international students sent to the United States. There are many bright minds on both sides that would be more than willing to cross over and learn new methods and ideas. Only with the establishment of stronger ties and with larger and improved fellowship programs



President Obama should continue to strengthen ties with India to create better economic and educational opportunities.  
Photo courtesy of mydailynews.com

can these students take the first step into another country.

A strong understanding of each other's mentality will be crucial for both the United States and India if they hope to be even closer partners in the 21st century.

## A Personal Diary: No-shave-ember

Josh Aungst  
joaungst@ursinus.edu



Day 8: So far, so good. Although the scratchiness persists, it is slowly diminishing in its severity. A few more days of growth and it's sure to pass. Isn't it strange how the itchiness comes in waves? First when the stubble is short and bristly, then again at the shaggy lumberjack length. I wonder if there is a Beard Nirvana. Did the musical legends John Lennon, Jerry Garcia, and Jim Mor-

ison reach ultimate beard enlightenment? Was their musical MOJO related to their beards' superiority? As for those men who have never tried to grow a beard, I can only say that it is an experience like no other. Why not give it a try?

Day 11: No Shave November means no shaving...period. Recently I encountered a fellow beardsman, who shall remain anonymous, with a freshly trimmed neck. Apparently he was permitted to do so by the authority of the competition. Should shaping be allowed in this competition? I think it's a bunch of bologna. I've suffered through a week of prime neck beard scratching. A clear set of rules about trimming and shaping during the competition should have been agreed upon at the start. I have spoken with a fellow Red Beard and he concurs: There shall be no touching of the razor to the skin during the month of November. And besides, I hope to gain a few

more spare coins because of the extra beard growth, even if it does cause me to scratch like a dog with fleas.

Day 14: Nobody likes a guy who has the neck chest connection. And I'm flirting with that line. There's nothing I can do about it, considering my devotion to my personally instated "no shave whatsoever" rule. We are nearly halfway through the competition now. That means there are about two and a half weeks until I can shave, trim, shape, etc. and I'm starting to look like a werewolf. I don't mean to sound like I'm complaining about it. People have been supporting my wolverine look and I seem to be doing alright in the standings. I guess the Grizzly Adams look is coming back in style. Thoreau had a masterful neck beard and he was one of the coolest cats this side of the Mississippi. The Amish also rock the neck beard on occasion. I will admit that it's starting to grow on me.

Weekly Comic  
by Michael Delaney



Michael Delaney MFB 11/10

The Grizzly will be back for the last issue of first semester on Dec. 9, 2010. If you have an opinion before classes let out for winter break, contact Carly Siegler at casiegler@ursinus.edu by Tuesday, Nov. 30 to have your voice heard!

# Football clinches three-way tie for C.C. title

By Monty Reeder  
moreeder@ursinus.edu

The Ursinus Bears football team beat Dickinson on Saturday afternoon 41-21, clinching a share of the Centennial Conference Championship with Muhlenberg and Johns Hopkins.

After disappointing losses in their previous two games, the Bears (8-2, 7-2 Centennial) ended their season in impressive fashion. The offense racked up 514 yards and held the ball for 38:37 against the visiting Red Devils (3-7, 3-6 Centennial).

Senior quarterback Justin DeCristofaro finished the game 14-for-26 with 309 yards and four touchdowns. Junior wide receiver Nick Giarratano caught two of those scores and tied an Ursinus school record with his 19<sup>th</sup> career touchdown reception.

Freshman running back Bryan Ellis broke another school record, rushing for 136 yards on 32 carries and finishing the season with 793 yards, the most ever by an Ursinus freshman.

On defense, senior linebacker Joe Gallie and senior defensive tackle Wills Wendell led the team with six tackles each.

For Dickinson, junior quar-

terback Jordan Kaufman led the team with 43 rushing yards. Junior quarterback Ricky Martz went 4-for-12 for 91 yards and a touchdown. Senior wide receiver Craig Helfer caught five passes for 103 yards and a score.

The main contributing factor to the Bears success this season was not only their impressive depth throughout their roster, but also their team chemistry.

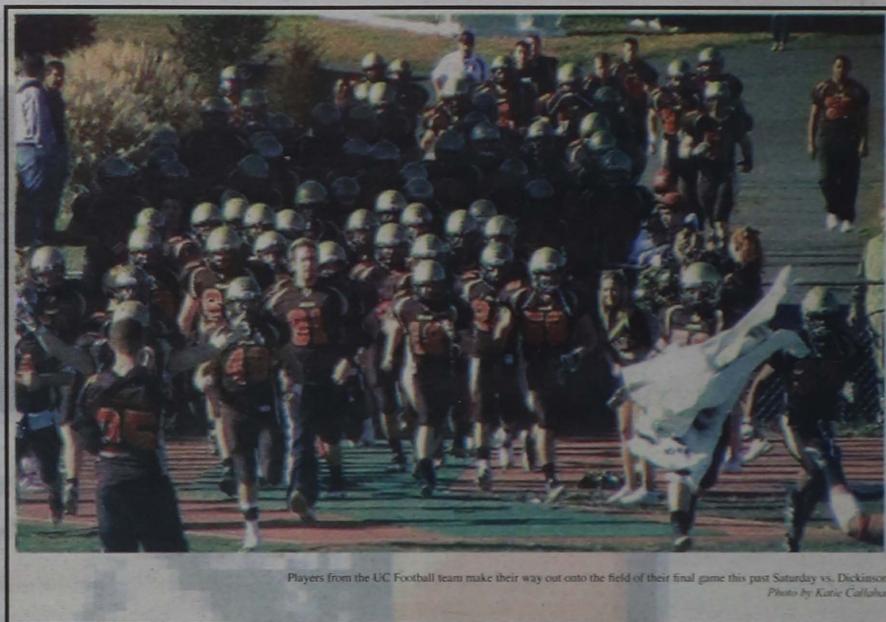
"Our philosophy throughout the year was to press on and finish," DeCristofaro explained. "Things are going to go against you in games, the key is to forget about it and press on."

The team stuck together through their two straight defeats and did not let that get in the way of their ultimate goal of winning the conference.

"During that two game stretch, we just couldn't put everything together," DeCristofaro continued. "We would get a few positive plays in a row, and then have a penalty set us back."

Even though the team was struggling, the team never doubted each other. "The great thing about our team was that we picked each other up," DeCristofaro said. "The hard work we put in together in the offseason definitely helped us come together."

Although the Bears will



Players from the UC Football team make their way out onto the field of their final game this past Saturday vs. Dickinson. Photo by Katie Callahan

share the conference championship, they will not be playing in any postseason games this year. Muhlenberg will represent the Centennial Conference in the NCAA Division III Tournament and Johns Hopkins, Moravian and Franklin & Marshall will all play in bowl games.

If the team hopes to contend again next year, someone will have to step-up and fill the void

that senior quarterback Justin DeCristofaro leaves on the team. The team will also lose Gallie and Wendell on defense and wide receiver Tony Santino and offensive lineman Bob Wise, Victor Jaramillo on offense, Shane Whalen, Matt McHugh, Dave Queroli, and CJ Yespelkis.

Despite the departures, the future looks bright for the team, as they return most of their core,

along with a few key playmakers from the 2010 team, including Giarratano, Ellis, and junior wide receiver Al Desiderio.

What might be the biggest challenge for the returning Bears is not just replacing the production of graduating seniors, but to continue strong leadership as well and develop the same type of cohesion that the 2010 Ursinus Bears had.

## Free agents look for new teams in Major League Baseball

By Nick Pane  
nipane@ursinus.edu

With the World Series ended two weeks ago in a victory for the San Francisco Giants, Major League Baseball now turns to its most exciting part of the offsea-

son. Players who have completed the length of their contracts now enter free agency, leaving them eligible to talk to any team in baseball, and ultimately sign a contract with any team. It is a time for each to evaluate their individual situations, which includes negotiations with their

former players, and determining the best possible approach to improve their teams. This year's free agent class features a number of big-time players, and it will be interesting to see what takes place between the top available players, and the teams that can put together the money to get them.

Headlining the free agent class this year is Texas Rangers ace, Cliff Lee. Lee, who has also played for the Phillies, Cleveland Indians, and Seattle Mariners, is highly regarded as the best available player, and he won't come cheap. Lee is expected to get a contract worth \$160 million, and is expected to either re-sign with Texas, or sign with the New York Yankees. The Yankees are one of the only teams with the payroll to acquire Lee, but it is also possible that Lee will give his former team a "home-town discount" so that Texas can retain him. There will surely be other teams that show interest in signing Lee, and he probably will not be signed un-

til next month as he holds all of the leverage in contract talks. If teams lose out on acquiring Lee though, there are a number of other players that teams will be interested in.

Joining Lee in free agency is Yankees shortstop Derek Jeter, outfielders Carl Crawford (Tampa Bay Rays) and Jayson Werth (Philadelphia Phillies), and third baseman Adrian Beltré (Boston Red Sox). While Jeter is expected to re-sign with New York, the remaining free agents will garner plenty of interest from other teams. Crawford and Werth are expected to sign max contracts that will put them among the highest-paid outfielders in the game. Teams are expected to pursue Crawford harder, because he is two years younger than Werth, and more of a dynamic player. However, both are extremely talented players that will be paid handsomely. If teams fail to land one of the bigger names, there are a number of quality players that

are also available.

Pitchers such as Jeff Francis (Colorado Rockies), Hiroki Kuroda (Los Angeles Dodgers) and Aaron Harang (Cincinnati Reds) are the second tier group of pitchers behind Lee that will certainly get a deal done once Lee has been snatched up. Position players also available include big names Manny Ramirez (Chicago White Sox) and Magglio Ordonez (Detroit Tigers). Both players are older though, and will probably have to wait longer in the offseason for a contract offer to come their way.

The offseason is an opportune time for teams to try to improve without having to make any trades, and lose their minor-league prospects. Teams in bigger markets normally have a heavy advantage because of their higher payrolls. Either way, the free agency period has begun, which means the spending will soon be in abundance.



Cliff Lee of the Texas Rangers can currently demand a \$160 million contract. Photo courtesy of foxnews.com