Campus Conversations
Highlighting news at Union College

November 5, 2008

Campus Highlight

- Union College is hosting Acrofest 2008. Thirty-two groups with over 900 performers from across the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico are scheduled to participate in the weekend events Nov. 12-15.

  All are invited to attend the Acrobatic Performance Extravaganza at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday night, Nov. 15, at the Devaney Sports Center Indoor Track facility. Plan to arrive when the doors open at 6:30 p.m. and enjoy the Pathfinder's concessions complete with drinks and trolley burgers.

  Admission: $6 for adults, $3 for children under the age of 12, and free for ages three and under.

- Erin Gruwell, author of The Freedom Writers Diary: How a Teacher and 150 Teens Used Writing to Change Themselves and the World Around Them, will be speaking at 8:30 p.m., Nov. 13 at CVC. Gruwell, the inspiration for the motion picture Freedom Writers, will present “Becoming a Catalyst for Change.” This free event is open to the public, so those who come earlier are more likely to ensure a seat.

  Not familiar with the inspiring film that won the 2007 Humanitas Prize? At 7:30 p.m., Nov. 12, students and employees of Union College are invited to the Student Center to watch Freedom Writers, starring Hillary Swank as Erin Gruwell.

- Union hosted the annual Mid-America Union Volleyball Tournament, Oct. 23-25. The event included 130 students, coaches and sponsors from Campion Academy, College View Academy, Great Plains Academy, Greater Miami Academy, Maplewood Academy, Midland Academy, Minnetonka Christian Academy and Sunnydale Adventist Academy. Along with the participants, many parents and friends of the visiting team members came to watch the tournament.

- The Business and Healthcare Career Fair on Oct. 29 brought a great response from approximately 200 students. The 30 booths included four graduate schools and 26 employers. Leonard Yost of Adventist Health expressed his appreciation for the career fair that, over the years, has given him the opportunity to hire 10 Union graduates.

  This year, participants missed Sherry Fox, of Homestead, who was a regular at Union College career fairs. Condolences were shared with family and colleagues of Sherry, due to her death the Saturday before the Business and Healthcare Career Fair.

Gold Stars

- Warriors Women’s Basketball team:
  - Lauren Dickerson
  - Heidi Lee
  - Danielle Jondle
  - Staci Davenport
  - Briana Jenkins
  - Heather Mekelburg
  - Mariah Belveal-Thompson
  - Alex Adams
  - Melanie Stokes
  - Manager: Tracy Christian

- Warriors Men’s Basketball team:
  - Micheal Beams
  - Chris Gutierrez
  - Jonathon Kemper
  - Chavez Morris
  - Shawn Perry
  - Brock Reichert
  - Jason Salt
  - Nick Sharon
  - Jeff Sickler
  - David Tejeda
  - Aaron Thomas
  - Chase Tikker
  - Zach Watkins
  - Manager: Hery Diaz
  - Statistician: MacKenzie Miller

- Oct. 21 Sharon Russell and Spencer Way, student guest services marketing and promotions assistant, represented the Ortner Center at the Lincoln Chamber of Commerce Business to Business Trade Show. The exhibit display was created with the assistance of Steve Nazario, showing various services Union College provides to the local community. Sharon and Spencer heard many compliments about the college during the trade show.

- Chris Blake has completed work on an updated edition of Searching for a God to Love that includes a new chapter and series of study questions that can be used in small groups. It is available in the Campus Store.

- DeForest Nesmith has completed the following marathons in 2008, and hopes to finish his 49th marathon by Christmas:
  39) Jackson, Miss.
  40) Raleigh, N.C.
  41) Myrtle Beach, S.C.
  42) Louisville, Ky.
  43) Portland, Maine
  44) Hartford, Conn.

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Nick Madhiri was recently published in the *Journal of Electroanalytical Chemistry* on Sept. 15, in Volume 621, Issue 2. He co-authored the paper entitled “Reorganization energies of TEMPO/TEMPO* in water.”

Marina Fabrikant gave a lecture and demonstration about J.S. Bach piano transcription analysis on Sept. 18 at the University of Georgia-Athens.

Chelsea Stevens, ASB academic coordinator, organized a political debate about the election for ASB convocation on Oct. 21. The debaters included Linda Becker, Chris Blake, Tom Dunion, Barry Forbes and Malcom Russell.

On Oct. 22 Senator Chuck Hagel received the 2008 Leader in Communication Award, the highest award the International Association of Business Communicators gives to non-members. Cassie Scott, a member of the IABC/Lincoln student chapter, was asked by the editor of IABC/Lincoln NEWS to write an article about Senator Hagel and the award. The article appeared in the November issue of the newsletter.

**Check It Out**

- Nov. 10-14 the **Campus Store** is holding a “Thank You” sale. Stop in and check out the savings.

- On Nov. 20 at 11:45 a.m., learn how **communication and event experts** joined forces to generate buzz, drive ticket sales and set attendance records for an Olympic sporting event that was unfamiliar to the general public. The Lincoln chapter of IABC is hosting the luncheon at Union Market President’s Dining Room. **Doug Parrott**, executive vice president of public relations for Bailey Lauerman, and his team will share secrets guaranteed to help attendees think more creatively, generate more buzz and be more successful in working with the media during the Olympic swim trials.

  The fee for the luncheon and event is $22 for guests and $15 for students. The registration deadline is 5 p.m. on Nov. 17. Visit http://lincoln.iabc.com to register.

- **Tom Simons** is selling handcrafted furniture to raise money for worthy, financially-challenged students. Each month, a new piece will be available in the Ortner Center to bid on.

  Currently, on display are two items made of walnut wood purchased from Union College: a **nightstand** ($75 minimum) and **small table** ($125 minimum).

- **Chapel Calendar** (Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.)
  
  Nov. 11  
  Mike Lowe from Wilderness Way  
  Nov. 18  
  ASB convocation  
  Nov. 25  
  Thanksgiving break (no chapel)  
  Dec. 2  
  Nursing program

**McClelland Art Gallery**

- The landscape photography by **Bruce Forbes** is on display until Nov. 8. “A Prairie Project” exhibit, a collection of photographs from the prairies and plains of Nebraska and South Dakota by **Rachel** and **Alan Orrison**, will be displayed Nov. 9-29.

**Campus Trivia**

- Q: How many secrets were submitted by students, faculty and staff between Oct. 7-19 for the “and I am part of Union” McClelland Art Gallery exhibit?  
  
  A: 115 secrets were entered.

**Getting to Know You**

- Q: What faculty or staff member, in January 2001, went swimming in the South Pacific Ocean (near Christchurch, New Zealand) in the morning and later on the same day went swimming in the North Pacific (near Los Angeles, Calif.)?

  Do you have a **random fact or story** to share? E-mail your idea to haadams@ucollege.edu.

**Take a Holiday**

Nov. 4  
**Use Your Common Sense** Day  
Nov. 6  
**National Men Make Dinner** Day  
Nov. 11  
**veterans** Day  
Nov. 13  
**World Kindness** Day  
Nov. 14-16  
**National Donor Sabbath** Days

**Web Tip**

- You can discover which libraries own a particular book with WorldCat.org. At www.worldcat.org, type in the title of the book you are looking for and click Search. Select the item from the results list that matches what you need. Below the details about the book you will find a box where you can enter your zip code, state, province or country. Click Go and view a list of the libraries closest to you that own that book. WorldCat.org allows creation of personal profiles to save lists of books for later, as well as an outlet to share readers’ reviews and more.

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**Edited by Hannah Adams**