What do we owe each other?

Q’s:

What are we doing for each other?

Why are we doing it for each other?
Right and Wrong. Good and Bad. Virtuous and Evil. Human beings are obsessed with thinking about morality in black and white. This is seen as a major cause of human suffering: how do we know what is right and how do we live our own truth consistently with being a ‘good’ person in mind?

Talking with Millersville University Philosophy professor, Dr. John Kaiser Ortiz, morality and ethics are more complicated than anyone can conceive on the surface. Some believe that morality and ethics are two ideas separated by small distinctions, but Dr. Kaiser Ortiz has another opinion.

“I don’t think there is any significant difference. It’s in many ways a false dichotomy. Call it ethics or morals, the terms are rather synonymous. The focus is on what we should do and why we should do it. At that point, we’re quibbling over the language of the ideas, not over the importance of the ideas themselves which are how to behave, how to act, and why.”

The major takeaway is that the distinction between morality and ethics doesn’t matter; it’s trying to get a sense of how to be a better person rather than the connotations of the words themselves.

But do personal morals ever conflict with each other? If morality is subjective, this theoretically means that an idea of right and wrong could directly oppose another’s idea of right and wrong, and this is what creates arguments. Though, again, Dr. Kaiser Ortiz doesn’t think people need to be thinking about it so subjectively.

“It’s not all just subjective. We don’t just have our independent moralities. Our parents raised us, we’re raised in a culture, in a society, in place, space, and time. If who we are is a function of where we come from, our identities are tied to the community. The question here is really not of whether we are doing the acting, who is doing the thinking that precedes the acting, as well as follows the acting. In all cases, we don’t have a conflict of morals. The conflict isn’t really there, it’s in our minds.”

Some may take this opinion and argue still that there are cultural differences of morality, that a Western view of morals and ethics is so unique from Eastern or Southern African views of morality. There is a question that comes up that discusses how these cultures manage morality differences. Dr. Kaiser Ortiz again refutes this as a significant opposition in the idea of morality.

Human beings differ in their moral ideas “only to a degree. Human beings generally like to have relationships with other human beings. Those cultures are still defined by people, political institutions, actors, economic realities, religion in a local context. Ultimately, when we’re talking about ethics and morality, like how should we behave? Usually, we only ask that question when it’s in question. People going about their daily lives aren’t thinking about that. It’s more about ‘what do I gonna do next?’ We’re faced, very rarely, with moral problems in that way. It’s not always a question of right or wrong.”

Dr. Kaiser Ortiz states that this is called ‘paying it forward, putting out positivity instead of paranoia,’ which the world could use a little more of all around.

Thinking about our choices and decisions can be quite difficult when mulling over these complexities in their entirety. “There’s a kind of truth telling to ethics and morality that you have to be willing to have frank conversations about topics and situations that many of us would prefer simply to not be in.” Ethics is no easy topic, but it can also be worth it to have a better understanding of why we act the way we do and how to use that knowledge to better ourselves.

He goes on to say, “We can’t help but question it because we do have options as human beings; we have choices. A famous philosophers named Jean Paul Sartre said ‘not to choose is a choice.’”

So, at the end of the day, what do we owe each other as human beings, as friends, as people trying to be good people? According to Dr. Kaiser Ortiz, the answer is far from concrete: “Nothing. And everything. And everything in between.”
Random acts of kindness impact campus

In the article, “Reactions to random acts of kindness,” published in the Social Science Journal on April 1, 2000, Kim Baskerville and her colleagues define random acts of kindness as “something that someone does for an unknown other that they hope will benefit the individual.” These actions can be as simple as holding the door open for someone or offering to help carry something. Kindness comes best in small packages. Millersville students incorporate these acts every day.

When asked about random acts of kindness on Facebook and Instagram, many students mentioned that Marauders display such actions every day. They try to hold the door open for people and thank others when they do it for them. Sara Heavner, a freshman, said, “Everyone on campus is so friendly!”

Heavner also said that she tries to pick up cans from around campus to reduce the amount of garbage sitting around. Heavner said that in her experience people are very willing to lend a hand. Her dorm neighbor showed her how to do laundry on campus and people are always offering to help carry bags of laundry. These small gestures stood out to her and impacted her heart.

Mackenzie Nealen said that she tries to help other people in her classes by sharing study guides. Nealen explains that while a study guide may seem small, even small things can help someone get a better grade or understand a concept. Sharing information and taking time to help can not only improve someone else’s grade, but also your own. Nealen said she tries to compliment people on campus when she sees them.

Even an “I really like your t-shirt” or “your hair looks nice today” can make a positive impact on someone’s day. Everyone likes to be complimented so why not compliment each other more often. Many times on campus students will hear these compliments and it is a nice feeling to have someone make a positive comment no matter how small. Often times small things are more meaningful.

Taking time to listen to friends and to help them where they can is another important act of kindness students mentioned. Every MU student needs someone to listen to. Taking five minutes to help a friend out is a great way to give back and also support kindness. It may not always be random, but it is just as important. Helping others does not have to be difficult, but it can be supporting your friends through a difficult time or offering to listen when life is stressful. Any small action could be an act of kindness in someone else’s life.

As a campus and community, it is important to support each other and offer small acts of kindness when we can. Even smiling at someone or saying “hi” in passing can make a difference in someone’s day. Every moment is a chance to be kind to others and share positivity with our Marauder family. Giving back is one of the most amazing things we can do for others. Offer someone a compliment, smile, or listen to a friend that needs support.

It is important to remember that everyone is fighting their own battles, and often we do not know what they are. As a community and campus, we should strive to be kind to all those we meet, and try to contribute a random act of kindness daily. Ask not what to do for yourself, but what we can do for others to make not only our campus but our world a better place.
Millersville is dedicated to keeping safe and is recognized as being a safe campus.

SIMREN SHAH
Associate Features Editor

BRIAN MARKLEY
Associate Sports Editor

Millersville University ranks year after year as one of the safest universities in the state but some students still feel unsafe.

Campus police are always out, whether it be helping students cross the street or simply patrolling campus. Along with their efforts, there are emergency call box systems scattered around campus that will contact the local authorities when pressed.

But what happens if those emergency stations don’t work? What about the conflicts that occur out of sight of the university police? Police Chief Pete Anders points out that that’s where we come in.

We need to help when we see someone struggling at a party or walking alone after a night class. The university police do their best, but they can’t stop everything that happens behind closed doors.

“I see simply “being nice” and looking out for each other as something that has always been at the core of our Ville culture,” Millersville University Police Chief Peter Anders says.

Anders cares deeply about this because he is more than Millersville’s police chief. He is also a parent and a Millersville alumnus. Student safety isn’t just his job, it’s something that he takes personally.

We need to carry that same culture that Chief Anders describes in times when the University police force isn’t around. Many Millersville students already have tactics to keep themselves safe.

“I always carry an additional large water bottle with me whenever I go out to parties, just in case someone else needs it,” says one student.

Something as small as extra water can improve someone else’s night. However, another female student raised another concern when it comes to walking on campus.

“Always being aware of my surroundings. Knowing if there is someone behind me or how far they are is another thing I pay attention to when walking on campus, especially at night,” she points out as things she tries to do.

Safety becomes even more of a concern on the weekend, with many events and parties taking place. A “designated friend” is a tactic that another female student uses.

These are examples of how students are taking responsibility into their own hands when needed. Creating a safe campus is our obligation.

“Community engagement is also a theme that is integral to community policing,” Chief Anders says.

Community can take on many different forms, from roommates and friends to Greek life and other campus organizations.

ORGANIZATIONAL SAFETY ON CAMPUS

Justin Yerkes, President of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, says “whenever we have a mixer or event we have sober brothers, at least one or two.” Yerkes said that his fraternity supports the work that other organizations do to prevent driving under the influence. Some of his brothers attend events like Alpha Omicron Pi’s Mothers Against Drunk Driving 5K run they participated in recently.

“Fortunately we haven’t had issues with [drunk driving]. A big piece that contributes towards that is having open conversations about that,” said Yerkes.

Yerkes said that he personally has never run into a situation where he needed to stop someone from trying to drive under the influence. However, his fraternity has implemented precautionary measures to prevent dangerous behaviors and promote safety.

“We have had sober brothers that have taken keys just for precautionary reasons because there are guys that are commuters that want to be here for the events and have a good time but want to go home after. That is not always the best idea,” said Yerkes.

Yerkes said sober brothers have called Uber and allowed brothers to spend the night so that they did not drive under the influence.

As far as accountability for violence and fights, Yerkes said that there have not been any issues in his Sigma Tau Gamma.

“If there is someone who is becoming violent, angry, or irritable usually we will have somebody who knows the person talk to them and diffuse the situation [by] removing them from the [other] person or whatever is going on,” Yerkes says.

Yerkes said there is a standards board that is separate from his fraternity that brothers are sent to if they are involved in an altercation.

As for incidents involving sexual assault and harassment, Yerkes said he has not dealt with many instances of that. However, he gave one example of a time when he intervened on behalf of a female student who was uncomfortable with a male student’s advances toward her.

“I noticed that one of our brothers was talking to a girl and... I think it was one of her first times coming around, so she never really knew him too well,” Yerkes says. “Now, he did not really mean anything wrong by [his actions]. He is a nice guy but you could see that she was a little uncomfortable. Personally, I stepped into that situation and just talked to the guy... I pulled him aside, I said ‘let’s go over here. I want to show you something.’ Rather than addressing it there and making it an awkward alteration, I just pulled him off to the side, distracted him with something else and it was fine.”

Yerkes said all fraternities and sororities attend mandatory events where sexual assault and harassment prevention discussions take place. At these events, students are given tips on what to do in specific situations to make sure everything is consensual and no sexual
assault or harassment occur.

“We were recently rated one of the safest schools. I think it is nice to see there are not that many incidents in Greek life that are violent or anything too drastic,” said Yerkes.

Yerkes, Delta Zeta Sorority and Peer Educator with the Center of Health Education and Promotion (CHEP) said she feels that “Millersville is safe for the most part but could be improved.”

For example, McDonald said the blue light system could be more effective if more blue lights were implemented. She said she has taken it upon herself to speak with Chief Anders about her concerns and was told that the university tries to add one or two each year; however the lights are costly as they must be directly linked to 9-1-1.

“I contribute to making this campus safer by presenting programs through the Center of Health Education and Promotion. We focus on many areas that we feel the campus needs, but one of them is bystander intervention,” said McDonald.

As far as driving under the influence goes, McDonald said that she has personally helped someone get home safely from a social event.

“They were very intoxicated and insisted on driving. Others as well as myself did everything in our power to prevent them [from driving.] It ended up working since they got an Uber home,” said McDonald.

McDonald said Delta Zeta has a system similar to the “sober brothers” precaution that fraternities use.

“We always have sober designated drivers who look over the sisters who are over 21 at events and who are consuming alcohol,” said McDonald.

McDonald also said that her sorority has a “risk management chair” who advises her chapter on risk management strategies as well as checking in with sisters who are over 21.

Although sexual assault statistics at Millersville are comparatively low, incidents do happen. The statistics do not account for unreported cases which cannot be accurately represented.

“I saw a really drunk male touching females inappropriately,” McDonald says. “I was with some of my society sisters and they brought it to my attention. Some of them were even victims of this. I instantly went up to someone that was in charge and told them about the situation. I told them that the male was clearly intoxicated and should not be in an atmosphere where he is touching females inappropriately. The male was then kicked out.”

McDonald notes that there are free programs with trained staff located in the Montour House that CHEP is involved with to prevent and eliminate sexual assault. She says it is important to be responsible and active rather than just being a bystander when someone needs help.

“When I go out with friends, I usually keep an eye out for them and make sure everyone is accounted for,” McDonald says. She said she is willing to help both her friends and people she does not know.

According to the US Department of Education’s Campus Safety and Security analysis conducted earlier this year, Millersville was named the safest campus in Pennsylvania. However, there is always room for improvement.

While there are institutions put in place to promote safety, students play an integral role in keeping each other safe. We owe it to each other to ensure a shared sense of responsibility that will positively impact our community and help to make those improvements happen.

“I told them that the male was clearly intoxicated and should not be in an atmosphere where he is touching females inappropriately. The male was then kicked out”
- Leah McDonald
performances, games and ac-

hood cancer.
cancer, along with funding the families coping with childhood non-profit organization to aid to benefit Four Diamonds: a organizes fundraising events Mini-THON (MU Mini-THON)

6 p.m.-12 a.m. Millersville's Mini-THON in the SMC from ersville held the 5th annual Mini-THON featured On March 2, 2018, Mill -

Standing on sore feet, Millersville Students show their fundraising amounts after a long night of dancing at the Mini-Thon event.

SHAUN LUCAS
Associate News Editor

On March 2, 2018, Millersville held the 5th annual Mini-THON in the SMC from 6 p.m.-12 a.m. Millersville's Mini-THON (MU Mini-THON) organizes fundraising events to benefit Four Diamonds: a non-profit organization to aid families coping with childhood cancer, along with funding the research for a cure for child-

 oid cancer.

MU's Mini-THON featured performances, games and ac-

tivities, food stands, and prizes for students to win.
The event cost had a $5 en-

trance fee for students, with all additional benefits going towards Four Diamonds. The event raised $6,815 for Four Diamonds.

Other events in 2019 includ-
ed tie-dying shirts, with stu-

dents paying $5 to dye a t-shirt, and the "Dodging Cancer" dodgeball tournament with teams of 8 competing for Four Diamonds gear. Charles and Irma Millard formed Four Diamonds in 1972 following their son's, Christo-

pher Millard, passing at age 14 due to childhood cancer. In his three-year battle, Christopher wrote a story titled “The four diamonds.”

Christopher's story repre-
sents courage, wisdom, hon-

esty, and strength and led to the naming of the organization, with the Millard's believing these four characteristics are key to overcoming childhood cancer.

The Penn State Panhellenic Dance Marathon (THON) in-

spires branching Mini-THONs and Four Diamond-based events. THON also began in 1972 and is an annual event held at Pennsylvania State University. PSU. THON features college students on their feet for 46 hours to raise awareness for childhood cancer.

As of 2019, the events raised over $157,000,000 for Four Di-

amonds. In addition, THON is the largest student-run organi-

zation throughout the country. Since the organization was created, over four thousand families have been supported, with Four Diamonds handling all medical expenses not cov-

ered by the family's health in-

surance.

A large portion of funding comes from charitable events around the country, such as 5k races, restaurant promotions, and especially Mini-THON events held in high schools and colleges.

As a member of a Four Dia-

monds family, I am ecstatic to attend at a University that aids families in need. Combining the community's efforts dis-

plays selflessness, as we are working for a cause greater than us as individuals.

Please consider partaking in future MU Mini-THON events, as they are amazing ways to have fun while raising aware-

ness and funds for a powerful movement.

Bio reserve acts as hidden gem for students

CHLOE BARRETT
Associate News Editor

Within the reforested area behind the Millersville soccer fields lies a building known as the Biological Reserve also known as the Biological Preserve. Within this building students receive the materials to continue their lab work while being along-side nature.

This unknown spot around Millersville serves as a developing laboratory as well as vegetation area for the Conestoga River. A partnership between the Millersville Biology Department and the Stroud Water Research Center has cleared acres of the re-

serve for stormwater management purposes. The reserve helps Biology students greatly by giving them experience out in nature with materials and a laboratory at the edge of their fingertips.

Around campus, this spot seemed to be greatly unex-

pected, with the exception of the biology stu-

dents. Marine Biology student Haley Beck deemed it a necessity for Millersville, saying, "it is impor-

tant for us to have the Bio Reserve, because it is an extra lab that gives us the opportunity to use, other than the one in class. It is a quieter place, that is more laid back as well as another resource." The Bio Reserve is a helpful resource that many do not know about. It helps students greatly. When asked how this resource helps others on campus Beck noted, "it helps us have a different lab ex-

perience, out of the classroom, with a different envi-

ronment; it helps you become more in-tune with nature."

Though the Bio Reserve may be unknown it is a key re-

source to Millersville as well as its community. It has been known to offer tours in the past around Earth Day to spread awareness of what the facility offers. The Reserve also supplies information regarding ecosystem health.
In the rolling hills, just 10 minutes outside of Millersville University, sits a picturesque 31-acre farm called Longshot Stables LLC. This farm is where the MU Equestrian Club rides and practices throughout the semester. I had the honor to tour this beautiful farm and get a glimpse of how the team represents MU.

When I first entered into Longshot, I was greeted by this adorable miniature horse in front of the stables named Tulip.

“She’s such a baddie!” says senior English student Halle Mosser. “She’s just so adorable,” Mosser continued, “and has grabbed a lot of attention here at the stables and she knows it!”

Mosser has been part of the MU Equestrian team for over a year. She is the fundraising manager for the club and has ridden horses for most of her life. Mosser explains, “I didn’t know about the club until someone in Millersville introduced me to it,” she continues, “However I did ride when I was younger and started when I was about eight years old. I lessoned and showed from that age until about 14.”

When I asked why she had suddenly stopped after 14, she explains, “I had a really bad fall during a show so I kinda got spooked for a little bit. I then just started trying other sports, but the thing with horseback riders is no matter what, you always come back to it. It’s like a running joke.”

Mosser walked me inside the center of the stable, where I was introduced by Sebastian, one of the horses that Mosser will be practicing on. I examined Mosser’s pony and saddle, Sebastian. Outside the stables, horses graze in the pastures and relax after active practice rides.

As I was petting the horses, I instantly felt a connection between the horses and I. Christine Glover, a team member at Longshot, explained how horses can help relieve stress, “Horses have that special ability to make you be totally in the movement, making talking about whatever stress you’re going through so much easier, and I feel like that’s what brings MU students here, to release stress from studies.”

Glover stated, “I’ve been boarding my horse, Pocono, here since 2014, and I’ve seen tremendous growth in popularity in MU students coming here to ride and learn.”

Mosser also agrees with my own personal background with it, it started out as a therapy for me. I think it gives me something to look forward to during the week and also something to be proud of because it’s something I know I’m good at getting better.”

While watching the practice and lessons, I noticed that not only MU students are welcomed, but kids of all ages too. Longshot Stables welcomes everyone, including riders of all levels and backgrounds.

Halle Mosser showcasing Sebastian while jumping over a cross-rail.

Bottom photo: Longshot Stables welcomes everyone, including riders of all levels and backgrounds.

“The thing with horseback riders is no matter what, you always come back to it.” - Halle Mosser

MU EQUESTRAIN CLUB PROVIDES THERAPEUTIC HEALING TO STUDENTS

KAT VIRULA
News Editor

In the rolling hills, just 10 minutes outside of Millersville University, sits a picturesque 31-acre farm called Longshot Stables LLC. This farm is where the MU Equestrian Club rides and practices throughout the semester. I had the honor to tour this beautiful farm and get a glimpse of how the team represents MU.

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While watching the practice and lessons, I noticed that not only MU students are welcomed, but kids of all ages too. Longshot Stables welcomes everyone, including riders of all levels and backgrounds. As stated by MU blogs and on the Equestrian Club’s Get Involved page, it doesn’t matter if you have never been around horses before and simply want to visit the barn, or if they have been competing for years and want to ride on the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA) team. The team does not hold tryouts. Everyone is welcome.

When it comes to bringing horses here at the farm, Heidi Dout, the owner/head instructor at Longshot Stables, works with rescues/projects across PA. “We have some wonderful ‘ponies’ at Longshot... several of which were rescued from bad situations or rehabbed from neglect. Our horses have been desensitized and exposed to many situations, making them ideal school horses for beginner riders on up. All of our horses have experience in several disciplines and enjoy a variety of different activities. In addition to our Longshot ponies, we are fortunate to use several of the privately owned horses that live here for beginner to advanced lessons.”

Halle Mosser showcasing Sebastian while jumping over a cross-rail.

Bottom photo: Longshot Stables welcomes everyone, including riders of all levels and backgrounds.
Opioid addiction is a public health crisis that is happening all across the nation. Data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, shows that more than 130 people a day die from opioid-related overdoses and nearly 80% of heroin users reported misusing prescription opioids prior to heroin. Drug overdose is the most common cause of accidental death in the country and the majority of these fatalities involve heroin and opioid painkillers.

Opioid addiction is also one of our most misunderstood addictions. Whom or what is to blame for this is not clear and should be the subject of greater discussion. So far, most of the blame has been placed at the doorstep of illicit drug dealers and toward the people suffering from their own addictions.

“If someone is diagnosed with diabetes and they have an issue, we don’t show them passed out, we don’t show them eating cookies and snacks as diabetics or someone with heart disease eating cheeseburgers, but we do that with addictions. The result is people with substance use issues or other addictions start to feel a tremendous amount of shame and embarrassment and they don’t get help,” quotes Dr. Alex Redcay, an assistant professor in the School of Social Work at Millersville University. She is the principal investigator on the $1.35 million three-year grant from the Federal Health Resources and Services Administration. This grant will help combat the opioid crisis. According to Redcay, the bulk of the money is for Millersville students interested in becoming experts in addiction and recovery. They will receive $840,000 in scholarships.

Redcay explicitly explains how important this grant is for students, “The purpose of the grant is to educate people properly in the area of prevention, treatment, and recovery from addiction. Generally, as a society, we don’t understand it very well. For example, one comparison is if someone has a heart attack, we don’t show that person in the midst of a heart attack. But for someone with an addiction issue...we show them in the midst of an overdose and we show them all the ugliness that involved with addiction. But we don’t do that for every other medical condition. We need to change that. We need to change how we communicate about it.”

Redcay has been working for the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE) since 2014 and has been at Millersville since 2016. Being a professor that’s still relatively new at the university, getting a grant this large is a huge accomplishment, “I’ve written five or six grant proposals before, but this is the first $1 million award,” says Redcay. “I feel like I won the lottery on behalf of our students. It feels great.”

The proposal was submitted in April and Millersville was notified that the grant was awarded on August 8th. Redcay worked closely with Dr. René Muñoz, director of Sponsored Programs and Research Administration, to meet the April deadline. “René definitely deserves credit,” says Redcay. “He did the second most amount of work to secure this grant; he helped me write it and sat with me for 12 hours on the day it was due to finalize it. I am so grateful for his expertise in grant writing. If it wasn’t for him, we wouldn’t have gotten this grant. I can’t say enough about René; he’s smart, talented and a nice, easy person to work with.”

The majority of the grant is broken down into 84 scholarships for $10,000 each to Millersville students enrolled in the Master of Social Work (MSW) or the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) starting this fall and lasting for three years. Redcay states the three elements that the grant actually does: “We offer $840,000 dollars in scholarships for students. The eligible recipients are MSW students. Now we have combined programs, so we have a combined program with emergency management, sports management, and DNP students, so doctoral, doctorate and

“Everything I do, I do for students.”
- Dr. Alex Redcay

MU receives $1.35 million grant
Redcay advocates for better student learning

KAT VIRULA
News Editor

PHOTO COURTESY OF MILLERSVILLE SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK FACEBOOK
The majority of the grant is 84 scholarships for $10,000 each to Millersville students enrolled in the Master of Social Work (MSW).

PHOTO COURTESY OF DR. REDCAY
Dr. Redcay is thrilled for what this grant will mean for students and for the University.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MILLERSVILLE SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK FACEBOOK
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nursing practitioners, so any of those programs would qualify. Those are the folks that are eligible, but if you have a bachelor's degree in psychology, come to the master's program in social work, and you can be eligible for those scholarships. So MSW students receive $10,000 dollars, DNP students receive $28,000 and I think it's $352, so it's a pretty sweet deal. The grant will alleviate the financial burden for our students while at the same time providing the opportunity to receive specialized knowledge and to develop their expertise in addiction: prevention, treatment, and recovery," says Redcay. "We'll also be developing a new curriculum for classes to expand the students' knowledge of addiction.

While the grant title is “Opioid Workforce Expansion Program” Redcay says it’s not just about opioids. “It’s about all addictions. We want to meet the needs of the community," says Redcay. "Social workers don't make a lot of money. They get into the area because they want to help others. Since they don't get paid a lot of money, they have a rare opportunity to get a $10,000 scholarship so they can worry less about loans and can focus on helping others."

"We want MSW and DNP students who are interested in working in the addiction field to apply," says Redcay. "We also want students who are interested in students, or potential students, who are in recovery. We'll work with that person because they understand the field better than others.

The first scholarships will be given out this fall to eligible students. Now the requirements for scholarship recipients, there are three requirements. They have to be in an approved internship that fits the grant requirements. Two, they have to take two graduate-level courses related to addictions over the year of their internship. So it's all a one year sort of grant, one-year scholarship program," Redcay continues, “During that one year, they're placed in this advanced-level internship, they take these two graduate-level courses preferably one per semester, and then they attend six pieces of training that will be a total of 30 continuing education hours. It'd be three semesters focused specifically on one on prevention, one on treatment, and one on recovery. They're required to attend and once they complete all of those things, we hand them a check and say, ‘go buy a car’ or whatever they want.’"

Dr. Kelly Kuhns, associate professor and chair of nursing is the co-principal investigator with Redcay says, “The grant will allow our DNP students to acquire a placement/internship related to addiction.” Kuhns continues, “They may be placed in police departments, so when a call comes in about an addicted person it becomes not just a criminal justice matter, but a treatment matter as well.”

Other faculty involved with the grant include Dr. Marc Felizzi, associate professor of social work; Dr. Laura Gran- rath, assistant professor of social work; and Dr. Karen Rice, associate professor and chair of social work. Also assisting will be Tammy Carson, Millersville’s social work field coordinator.

According to Millersville, in addition to the scholarships, the grant will pay for three training events per semester related to prevention, treatment and recovery and a new program coordinator to schedule and arrange the events. The events will be for the scholarship recipients and the community. “We will have trainers to help our students become experts in addiction recovery to the best of their ability...So our students will come out with marketable skills and jobs,” says Redcay.

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On Sept. 30 and Oct. 1, Chief of the Millersville University Police Department Peter Anders lectured MU students and faculty regarding responses in the case of a school shooting. The presentation featured videos, statistics of past shooting events, and interactive demonstrations, educating individuals on how to respond to active shooter situations.

MU has a reputation for upholding campus safety. According to the Security Center website, Millersville University is titled one of the safest campuses in Pennsylvania. Many attribute this ranking to the diligence of the MUPD, constantly surveilling the campus and acting as security for MU public events. In addition, the emergency pillars along the campus are available for threatened students. When the students press the "emergency" button, MUPD officers arrive on time.

Along with officers, MU offers multiple programs for student safety, such as the online “Not Anymore” courses teaching freshmen the dangers of drugs, alcohol, and sexual assault on campus. Several clubs provide interactive learning for the protection benefits, such as the Martial Arts organization teaching students self-defense methods.

The presentation focused on “ALICE”: alert, lockdown, inform, counter, and evacuate in the case of a public shooting.

The presentation also debunked the common “intruder alert” procedures held by many high schools, with Anders using statistics from the Virginia Tech shooting on April 17, 2007. Through a chilling model of fatalities based on specific campus rooms, Anders analyzed how the room with the most survivors were ones who took actions, rather than those who simply hid from the shooter.

Anders gave a physical demonstration on removing guns from a shooter, with plastic weapon models. Audience members could then learn detailed ways to pressure a shooter into submission until receiving officer aid. Another demonstration involved volunteers moving back and forth, with other audience members attempting to follow the volunteer with their thumb. This activity displayed how moving makes one less likely to be wounded or killed by a shooter.

Mental health and watching for signs were another key concept of the presentation. Anders encouraged individuals to report suspicious messages or behavior. Doing so will assist officers’ ability to investigate and prevent a potential shooting.

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Millersville University introduced the College of Business this fall.

CHLOE BARRETT
Associate News Editor

This fall semester, Millersville University introduced the College of Business to the number of colleges a student can choose from within the university. As said on the Millersville website the College of Business was created to, “transform learners into effective, ethical business professionals, who bring value and are capable of leadership in evolving markets.”

The choice of bringing the College of Business to Millersville puts the university in good standings with the rest of the business community surrounding Lancaster County. The curriculum will meet the standards of the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs, ACBSP, organization, which accredits business programs focused on teaching and learning. The college will be offering accounting and finance with the department chair, Dr. Eric Blazer. In addition, classes on management and marketing with the department chair, Dr. David DiRusso.

The College of Business vision as found on their website is to, “prepare students for careers and life-long learning, offering value and are characterized by relevance, rigor, and excellence.”

The college seeks to expand the current academic programs they already have standing with bachelor’s degrees, certificate programs, online programs, and other academic programs designed for student success.

According to the Millersville, each student attending the College of Business is to develop the ability to integrate across business disciplines, analytical and problem-solving skills, written and oral communication skills, life-long learning and professional skills in their chosen field, high standards of ethics and social responsibility, and a global perspective.

When asked about the College of Business, Chairperson and Associate Professor of Accounting and Finance, Dr. Blazer said, “We are excited about the opportunities the new College of Business provides to grow and develop new programs under the leader of our interim Dean Dr. Frazer.”

The College of Business has a core curriculum that will meet the standards of other business schools around the country as well as prepare students for the workforce.

The college prides themselves on their ever-changing curriculum, academic advisement, as well as their involvement with various professional associations.

Millersville alumni, Katherine Martel was very pleased with the choice of introducing the College of Business. When asked about the College of Business, Martel says, “With Millersville University opening their college of business, I believe this is a great choice on their end. Being in the business administration program here at Millersville, the professors who teach are well educated in their topics, and the program is excellent in teaching students how the business world operates. Now having a college of their own will only allow Millersville to provide better education to their students that enroll in their program. Having a college of business allows focus on the program to expand and will only better the future for Millersville University business administration program.”

As stated by Millersville, the College of Business has added core values to its program such as, “accountability, academic freedom, ethical decision-making, diversity in faculty, students and staff, individual interaction between faculty and students.”

Millersville is taking an entrepreneurial approach to targeting and serving the key needs of industries in the surrounding communities.

With the introduction of the College of Business, Millersville strives to continue to grow as a university. The college is aspiring to be a top choice for local, regional, and international students.
Meet John Tintera. He is the President of the Student Government Association from Haverford PA, Delaware County, with a double major in education and government and political affairs.

A denied funding request to attend a conference is what first attracted Tintera to SGA.

“I wasn't happy with the system so I decided that I'm going to try and run and be in this organization, and try to change it and make it a more professional and consistent organization,” he said.

Tintera worked his way up the ranks by running for a general executive member position on the board within two weeks of joining SGA, and won the role by the end of the semester.

The following year he was appointed chief justice, but still saw areas where progress could be made.

Thus, shortly after, he finally decided to run for president.

Tintera defined what democracy means to him as, “Having valid opinions and everyone's voice at the table allows an organization in a governing body to be able to make decisions that are right for the population in which they're serving.”

This year Tintera's focus for SGA is going to be all about advocacy and getting the word out about their structural changes. The organization is centering a theme around their purpose statement for the remainder of the year.

“It says that we strive to be a conscious and transparent governing body, and that we represent the student body,” said Tintera.

Tintera considers one of his biggest accomplishments during his time in office as creating a new constitution and bylaws, but more specifically, “creating an avenue for all students to be able to have a voice within the student government association, have a seat at the table and have their voice be valued, because our representative system now allows that to happen,” he said.

But to get here, SGA had to overcome the challenge of up to four-hour-long meetings every Thursday night, for several weeks in a row.

The main key takeaways Tintera has learned throughout his experiences at Millersville are compromise, especially in professional settings, people's perspective is their reality, and being engaged and being present in anything that you do.

“I wasn’t happy with the system so I decided that I’m going to try and run and be in this organization”

“Because if you’re not going to be present, then why are you doing it?,” he said.

Tintera gives a piece of advice from his different experiences in leadership roles.

“Don’t criticize someone’s way of doing things, until you've done it yourself. If you think someone’s doing a bad job, just understand that they come from a different perspective, and that there are sometimes external factors that influence certain things,” he said.

Tintera would like to follow in President Wubah and his cabinet member’s footsteps, and continue to promote the engagement of students around campus.

“I think there is a new breath of life on campus and I think that anything I can do to encourage and foster an environment in a climate of engagement, inclusivity, and support for students, that is ideally what I’d like to do,” he said.

Tintera would like to see more students stay at Millersville throughout the course of their four-year college education.

“When everyone wants to see the university and the campus succeed, people tend to stay past their freshman year,” he said, “I think that certain aspects of campus are really coming together and giving that environment for people to stay engaged.”

“We’re really seeing a culture change right now at Millersville. I’m really excited about it, and I can’t wait to see when I come back in 10 years, what it looks like,” said Tintera.

In the future, Tintera can see himself working either in the southeast or central PA, due to his love of Pennsylvania, where he will continue to strive to create “a better society and a better environment for people to live in.”
“A WAKE FOR THE FUTURE”

The “A Wake for the Future” Climate Strike, hosted by the Sunrise Movement, took place on Sept. 27 at Binns Park in downtown Lancaster. University students and community members who attended the protest were asked to wear black as they shared thoughts and advocated for solutions to preserve our planet.

There were multiple tables set up promoting District Attorney, Hobie Crystle for upcoming elections, due to his advocacy for environmental change.

Attendees held up colorful, hand-made signs stating “There’s no planet B” and “Save the Earth,” to support the going green mentality of the strike.

Multiple speakers from the Sunrise Movement spoke during the event, demanding action against the fossil fuel companies, and promoting the Green New Deal.

Leaders of the movement also performed slam poetry followed by a small choir that sang songs with an inspirational message. Overall, the event gave a platform to those who are passionate about the climate change crisis.

““I want to spend my life caring for the inhabitants of this planet and honestly watching it get destroyed in front of my eyes is so devastating to me.”

-Nicole Notarianni, Millersville student

“We want more action taken in government and also to learn a little bit more about why everyone else is here and get information.”

-Alana Bezas and Rebecca Russel, Millersville students
“I live here. I have children. I have family. I love my Earth; I have been a tree hugger forever.”  
-Ginny Gibble, Millersville Alumna

“It’s September and it’s like, 80 degrees...two Christmases ago I remember everyone in my family was wearing shorts.”  
-Climate Strike Protester

“I am here because I know that climate change is a huge problem for our planet. It affects every single person and animal on our planet. It doesn’t exclude anyone.”  
-Melissa Lane
Students win FREE money
Participants compete in a game show to win up to $80

Millersville’s Free Money Game Show hosted by Scott Alexander, took place on Thursday, Sept. 26, where students played for the chance to win up to $80. Students were picked for each of the four rounds by either showing off their dancing abilities to songs like the macarena and the chicken dance or being the fastest audience member to show the host a certain item, like a picture of your ex or the ability to do a split. Four students competed for $20 the first round by reminiscing on many childhood nostalgics. Participants had to name what Disney movie a certain song was from, like “Tangled,” “Toy Story,” and “Frozen.” They also identified popular Nickelodeon theme show songs, like “iCarly,” “Drake & Josh,” and “Zoey 101.” The round concluded with more beloved movie franchises, as students named songs from “Harry Potter,” “The Hunger Games,” and “Star Wars.” The stakes were raised for the second round, as students competed to win $40, by naming what Netflix show a theme song was from, like “The Crown,” “Orange Is the New Black,” and “Stranger Things.” The round transitioned from popular TV series to rap music, as participants had to name the artist of various rap songs and vis versa. Throwbacks like “Ice Ice Baby,” “Wild Thing,” and “Rappers Delight” were a few songs that participants found themselves trying to remember. The $40 winner also had to be familiar with classic Broadway musical songs from shows like, Greece, Hairspray, and Annie. Alexander ended things off by bringing back the music trivia to the recent 2000s with “name that pop princess.” Songs by artists such as, Selena Gomez, Ariana Grande, and Halsey concluded the round, as the audience turned the night into karaoke.

I was one of the participants picked for the third round, due to my ability to do a split, but unfortunately I did not win the $60 that was on the line. Alexander started off the round by throwing cartoon theme songs at us, like “Kim Possible,” “Family Guy,” and “The Jetsons,” but raised the bar on how to win. If a participant could not answer correctly, then an audience member had a chance to steal their position. If an audience member could correctly answer the question, they were selected to pick one of four balls out of a bucket, revealing what participant’s spot they were about to steal. Next up was older movie quotes ranked from most familiar to more unpopular movies, like “Titanic,” “Fight Club,” “Dazed and Confused” and “Scarface.” The round eventually transitioned back to popular but older TV theme shows, like “Scrubs,” “30 Rock,” and “Will and Grace,” which is where I got kicked off by accidentally guessing “Two and a Half Men.”

The fourth and final round held the grand prize of $80 that one lucky contestant would take home. After losing out on the $60 from the previous round, Millersville student Rob Farinella, won the jackpot by stealing back his original spot from the previous round. He had to correctly name famous 90’s and 80’s artists, like Nirvana and Michael Jackson, as well as famous boy bands, like One Direction and The Jonas Brothers, before proudly claiming his prize.

Know a professor or student who is doing something exceptional? Contact our Features Editor at features@thesnapper.com
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A common complaint regarding high school is the emphasis on required classes. Many students must alter their schedules based on requirements and class availability, unable to attend courses of interest. In addition, multiple colleges require two or more years of foreign language classes in high school, removing the ability to choose non-required courses. Collegiate programs differ from the standard high school curriculum, with major and minor programs specializing in a student's career interests.

Despite the specialized programs, however, I am left scratching my head regarding my non-major-specific classes. In regards to credits, prerequisites require me to take 10 credits worth of science classes. In fact, this semester, I was assigned to take a class titled “The World Ocean.” With all due respect for the class and the teacher, I am a bit confused how this course will aid me in pursuing a career as a journalist.

I pondered if there was a program at MU which solely focuses on the major at hand, tremendously preparing its students for a career in the specific field. In my pursuit, I learned of the depth of any music program within the Tell School of Music.

“As a music education major, most of our classes are focused on the music major,” freshman Henry Miller said.

“I like that because we get to devote our time to music: playing music, studying to music, listening to music. It helps me feel prepared for my musical career.”

While music majors have stringent class requirements, these requirements relate directly to musicanship. Students must partake in multiple group ensembles per semester, along with individual lessons and recital performances. These requirements allow for one to practice of musical craft while allowing for exposure and critique in an empathetic environment of fellow music enthusiasts. Along with hands-on experience, the program pushes music theory classes, along with requiring students to view a minimum of 49 performances before graduation.

The Millersville music department possibly provides the most resources for an aspiring music major to utilize: practice rooms, rentable instruments, recording studios, instrument repair tools, and programs to compose music. All these resources allow for application of learned material, encouraging experience prior of a formal career.

The Millersville Marching Band, a required ensemble credit, begins in the summer and ends in the winter. This early start allows for students to be accustomed to campus, allowing for a smoother transition from high school to college.

“The professors and the classes gave me the means and the knowledge to better myself as a musician and an educator,” Senior Chris Herry said.

“But as far as getting prepared for a career in music, it all comes with the amount of effort put in by the student.”

While all the requirements may seem excessive, the program pushes music students towards extensive career preparation, especially with Lancaster’s rich connections to the music industry.

The Winter Center is the hub for all music and musicals based in Millersville. Above, students perform in one of the auditoriums in the Winter Center.

ThURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2019.

SHAUN LUCAS
Associate News Editor

Opinion

Strict curriculum challenges Millersville Students

The Winter Center is the hub for all music and musicals based in Millersville. Above, students perform in one of the auditoriums in the Winter Center.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MILLERSVILLE UNIVERSITY

PHOTO COURTESY OF FICKR

Trump revisits venomous rhetoric via Instagram

As a journalist, I recognize the unmistakable power of words. The words we use to describe each other have the power to humanize, to dehumanize, and to shape societal norms.

On September 18, Donald Trump posted an image of himself with the words “No Mas” on his Instagram account. The message displayed on Trump’s image reads: “No more fake asylum. No more ‘catch and release’ No more illegal entry into the United States.” The message appears in a red box and was typed in all capital letters.

What is the problem here? Is Trump not enforcing policies put in place by presidents who were in office before him?

The phrase “catch and release” is usually used when referring to trapping and releasing animals. The implication with Trump’s language is that it dehumanizes undocumented immigrants from Spanish-speaking countries. As was evident in the Stanford Prison experiment, people who commit crimes should not be denied their humanity.

I bring up the Stanford Prison experiment because it is a prime example of how people treat each other when they are made to feel like someone is less human than them. Abuse of power has been proven to be an unfortunate aspect of human nature which is justified through dehumanization. When people in power convince themselves and others that a group of people are less than human then abuse follows.

Donald Trump’s image has been a precursor of many horrific events; this includes genocide and slavery. When human beings are spoken to and about using exclusionary rhetoric, it becomes easier for them to be further marginalized and abused.

While I do not anticipate an upcoming genocide, it is still worth noting the dangers that occur when human beings are spoken about as if they are animals. Animals are hunted and put into cages and this sort of imagery adds to the existing issue of racism in America.

The fact that Trump added quotation marks around the term “catch and release” in his post, leads me to believe that he knew the potential implications of his chosen terminology; however, he decided to use it anyway. I am arguing that regardless of what the laws are and what they should be, undocumented immigrants are people who take a huge risk to provide a better life for themselves and their families. They should retain the right to their humanity. People who commit nonviolent crimes should not be spoken about like animals.

When people are referenced to as “aliens,” “animals,” the “n-word,” “savages,” etc., they are placed into categories outside of larger society. They are made out to be less than human which serves as justification for unexplainable actions committed against them.

When United States citizens are arrested and released, it is not uncommon for them to dehumanize each other.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MILLERSVILLE UNIVERSITY

PHOTO COURTESY OF FICKR

Donald Trump’s rhetoric is dangerous and not worth looking even considering.

While Trump’s photo a second time but the second photo was completely in Spanish. It is clear that the post was meant to both rile up US citizens, who have strong opinions about undocumented immigrants and intimidate undocumented immigrants themselves.

While many people argue that society is becoming too sensitive to trivial wording, I am arguing that one look at history can prove that we have a responsibility to not dehumanize each other.
Autism Speaks: The so-called face of autism

Autism Speaks barely helps autistic people

As an autistic person, I think Autism Speaks barely helps autistic people. A lot of differences for us autistic people. It is a spectrum disorder and there is a lot of variety on the spectrum and I dislike understanding my autism and I doubt they are exploitative. I do not want to go to a Walk. Autism Speaks has a message that says this is it: Autistic people do not have the right to define themselves. We do not have the capacity to make those decisions for ourselves and we are not capable either. It is infuriating and it makes me upset. According to ASAN, “We work to empower autistic people across the world to take control of our own lives and the future of our common community, and seek to organize the autistic community to ensure our voices are heard in the national conversation about us. Nothing About Us, Without Us!”

Autism Speaks’ mission is less appealing: “Autism Speaks is dedicated to promoting solutions, across the spectrum and throughout the life-span, for the needs of individuals with autism and their families through advocacy and support; increasing understanding and acceptance of people with autism spectrum disorder; and advancing research into causes and better interventions for autism spectrum disorder and related conditions.” This quote sounds great, but it is not true. The money that Autism Speaks receive is used mainly for lobbying. According to the Autism Speaks 990 Non-Profit Tax Exemption Form, 42 percent of the money is used for awareness and lobbying. Thirty-two percent is used for research. Less than two percent is used for Family services. The numbers above are incorrect and were skewed to make Autism Speaks look better.

Two percent used to help those families affected by autism, 42 used to lobby congress. Then there is the 16 percent used to fund the events for fundraising and 32 goes towards research. According to ASAN, “Only 1.6% of Autism Speaks’ budget goes towards the ‘Family Service’ grants that are the organization’s means of funding services. Autism Speaks spends 10x as much—16%—on fundraising. Although Autism Speaks has not prioritized services with a practical impact for families and individuals in its budget, its rates of executive pay are the highest in the autism world: some salaries exceed $500,000 a year.” This is not acceptable at all and it needs to be put out there. There are other groups that are doing good out there. Such as ASAN and many others.

Autism Speaks: Consider the Facts

Autism Speaks is an international charity organization that works to promote awareness about autism. After looking at the finances and graphs that Autism Speaks published, I have an issue. An issue with a lot of charitable people I have noticed. Why are charities for profit? Why is only 20 percent of the funds that Autism Speaks has used for support programs and 49 percent used for awareness and acceptance?

I am all for autism awareness and acceptance as has been evident in my past writings for The Snapper, but I do not agree with how Autism Speaks goes about promoting acceptance. My understanding of their examples that they have on their website is that they are exploitative. I do not want to defame them, but I believe that autism acceptance should be about autistic people. There are two people that are on the board that are autistic. There are 26 people on the board. There should be a lot more representation for autistic people.

Also, I know I will be called out for saying autistic people over people with autism, but I want to make something clear: I am autistic and if I choose to say I am an autistic person then let me. Do not tell me how I should identify; you are not living the life of an autistic person and honestly, a neurotypical person has no place saying what autistic people should be my own. There are two people on the board. There should be a lot more representation for autistic people.

According to the Autism Self Advocacy Network (ASAN), “Autism Speaks uses its platform and advertising budget to portray autism and autistic people as mysterious and frightening. Their fundraising tactics increase stigma and stereotype autistic people. There are no place saying what a autistic person should describe themselves as. Autism is hard enough, and I do not need to be told what is best for me. It is a spectrum disorder and there is a lot of differences for us autistic people. The walks are great, but what do they accomplish except to make the people walking feel good about themselves? I have never been to a walk and honestly, I do not want to go to a Walk.

Autism Speaks: The so-called face of autism

Autism Speaks barely helps autistic people

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The Snapper reserves the right to approve, edit or reject any submissions.
Greta Thunberg is a climate change activist, United Nations speaker, multilingual author, award winner, and late night American late night television interviewee. Oh, did I mention she’s 16 and has Autism?

Thunberg has been in the news since her second appearance at the United Nations conference. Yet again, Thunbreg spoke in front of many world leaders about how she is concerned about her future due to global warming.

While many people have looked at Thunberg and praised her for her activism, many others flipped out about her speech. Not only has people flipped out about her speech, Twitter exploded with insults directed towards the young teen. On Twitter, Spiked, an online news source, demonised Thunberg by referring to her voice as “monotone” and her call to action “cult like.”

Helen Dale, a self-proclaimed “Australian literature’s lone classical liberal,” according to her Twitter profile, made fun of Thunberg for having a “meltdown on national [television].” Which in my opinion is one of the most ignorant things a person can make fun of because due to Thunberg having Asperger’s, meltdowns can be part of her daily routine. These are just a few of the, not as hateful and appropriate for The Snapper Tweets.

I have so many issues with this. So. Many. Issues. The first is that grown adults are attacking a 16-year-old girl is absolutely appalling. In my opinion she has been more successful than I ever hope to be. At the tender age of 16 Thunberg should be attending school, sitting in class with her greatest worries being her next science test. But instead, she is so passionate about whether our shared planet will die is wise way beyond her years.

No one, except for a select few, deserves to be blasted on social media for their activism, unless rooted in hate. Not only do very few people deserve that, but a child deserves it even less.
Entertain 42 brings student voices to theatre department

There is a new monthly student series coming to Millersville that is ready to bring a new voice and vitality to the Millersville campus. The monthly series was created by Zacc Bang, the student producer of the group, with guidance by Millersville professor, Adam Boyer. Through Entertain 42, the aim is to create a show for the Millersville audience by Millersville students. It gives students practical experiences in various fields such as writing, directing and performing in ways not quite seen yet on the Millersville campus.

The shows in this series are at the end of the month with a different show on Friday, Saturday's and Sunday's in Dutcher Hall's Studio Theatre. The first show which premiered this past month, Nox Iam Vox is a late night variety show in the style of popular television programs such as “The Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon.” There will be two student hosts for each performance guiding the evening along. Although the hosts will be the same, there will be different talent every night. Bang feels that it is important to have consistent student hosts as “audience members can have recognition and so they can feel grounded.”

For the show, “Game On” premiering next month there will be a new game introduced called “Maraud er Conquest.” It is a capture the flag type of game with new types of power-ups, and extensions to the writers’ room. In the writers’ room, Bang described that as a producer, he has had to work with scheduling and getting people together, along with mentoring others to communicate a vision. This series is meant to give students real world experience and that extends to the pre-production, where the actors and crew don’t load the set and their material into the theatre until six days before the show. In the real world, the load in process for a production can be very quick and by introducing students to this intense process of opening a show in college, it will give them a chance and the freedom to learn and take risks with not as many consequences. Bang says “Because it’s so fast paced, it has definitely been an on edge kind of thing.” The team was chosen carefully by auditions and continues to flourish and grow.

Auditions will begin in October for “Game On” and any talent will be open and accepted. There is a wide variety of talent and backgrounds which even reaches to the writing room. In the writers’ room, Bang described that as a producer, he has had to work with scheduling and getting people together, along with mentoring others to communicate a vision. The team was chosen carefully by auditions and continues to flourish and grow. This will be a theatre year of great change and innovation, and Entertain 42 just follows in that footsteps. With hands on student programming and one of a kind showcases, Entertain 42 is sure to be an exciting and innovative new part of the local arts community.

Entertain 42 gives students the opportunity to take the spotlight.

This article is part of the ARTS & CULTURE section of the Millersville Snapper.

JOSH RITTBERG
Arts & Culture Editor

PHOTO COURTESY OF MILLERSVILLE THEATRE

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAILEY GRANT

Creatives:

Entertain 42 gives students the opportunity to take the spotlight.

See any good shows lately? Contact our Arts & Culture Editor at culture@thesnapper.com
“Evita” opens Fulton season with flair and authenticity

The cast of “Evita” performs with great passion at The Fulton Theatre.

**JOSH RITTBERG**

Arts & Culture Editor

Evita opens The Fulton’s theatre season with a production of epic scope and authenticity. Evita tells the real life rags to riches story of Eva Peron, the wife of Argentinian president and dictator Juan Peron. She was a much loved 1940s celebrity figure by the people of her country. The musical Evita by Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber has been performed all over the world, including a film version starring Madonna, yet The Fulton’s production frames the piece as a political drama/satire, making the piece more relevant than ever.

Serving as a narrator and voice of reason in this musical is the character of Che (Omar Lopez-Cepero). As an observer and guide for the audience is shown throughout Eva’s journey, watching her as she goes from a poor young Argentinian woman to the height of society and glamor. At each moment, the character is critical of her success and views her as self centered. Cepero puts in an incredibly commanding performance in his interpretation of Che. In this production, Che is onstage for the majority of the show, and signals the passage of time with just the literal snap of his fingers.

Cepero brings a hamminess to the role that makes the case for Che as the showman of this piece. With comically mocking looks throughout and with a winking glare in his eyes, Cepero plays Che’s cynicism with an infectious glee. He also sings Webber and Rice’s beloved ballad, “High Flying Adored” with a gentleness and tenderness that shows the character’s slight bit of admiration for this lady of Argentina. He displays excellent chemistry with the rest of the cast, and although not as much of a dance role, he moves very well, particularly in the buoyant “Rainbow Tour” sequence.

Cepero leads the show and audience effortlessly through this exciting story. Monica Ramirez gives a star-making performance as Eva Peron. Ramirez, with a fierce belt and energy that is on full display in iconic numbers such as “Don’t Cry For Me Argentina” and “Rainbow High,” is performed with great passion as the character gains power.

“Rainbow High” specifically has the actress belting to the heavens as she completes glamorous outfit changes. She portrays this Argentinian icon as a sparkly driven young woman who’s desperation for the love of her people and control of her country, are what brought her up, but also were her biggest detriment and divider.

Ramirez also dances Robin’s pulsing latin inspired choreography with a fierce force and spirit as strong as Eva herself.

“The Fulton’s Theatre production of “Evita” is a socially relevant piece of theatre”

- Josh Rittberg

Ramirez’s Eva is driven, yet she also is very self centered, always focusing on how the people and public respond. Ramirez creates an Eva that is admirable yet also flawed and complex. This three dimensional portrayal of this person humanizes this iconic figure and brings her to a modern audience. Enrique Acevedo is an equally commanding presence as the Argentinian dictator, Juan Peron.

Although a quieter role than the showier Eva, Acevedo displays his character as a symbol of authoritarian rule yet also a mild nature that makes him a perfect fit for the more lively Eva. Acevedo particularly shines in his second act ballad, “She is a Diamond” as Peron defends Eva and her legacy to his fellow officers who are skeptical of her success. He is a strong counterpart to Ramirez’s Evita and supports her very strongly as the character gains power.

Shea Gomez also has a nice moment as Peron’s mistress who sings the vulnerable ballad, “Another Suitcase in Another Hall”, with the tenderness it deserves. The entire cast is very strong as they dance and guide the audience through the story of “Evita.”

Marc Robin’s choreography and direction for this production is grand and sweeping as it is very smart and economical in its storytelling. Robin makes the wise choice of framing Che as the piece’s narrator and guide through the story.

Robin has Che begin the show with a snap of the finger and he has the character onstage constantly and questioning the events in Eva’s life. The biting cynicism of the Che character contrasted against the optimism of the crowd scenes, keeps the audience questioning whether to dislike or adore “Evita.”

Robin also frames the piece as a smart political drama keeping the scenery and lights meet their artistic nomical in it’s storytelling. Robin also frames the piece as a smart political drama keeping the scenery and lights meet their artistic nomical in it’s storytelling. Robin brings to the stage the people of her country. His various looks and fur coats for Ramirez’s Evita in the “Rainbow High” sequence also impresses as Eva gracefully struts across the stage. Charles S. Kading and Paul Black’s scenic and lighting elements are also extremely well done. Black’s grayscale projections transport the audience back to the 1940s.

The jaw dropping white spotlights particularly in the opening “Requiem For Evita” sequence add a cinematic sweep to the proceedings. Although eye catching throughout, the scenery and lights meet their artistic peak in the glorious balcony sequence that opens the second act.

With outstanding direction, a talented diverse cast, and an incredibly strong creative team, The Fulton’s theatre production of “Evita” is a socially relevant and enthralling piece of theatre for today.

See any good shows lately? Contact our Arts & Culture Editor at culture@thesnapper.com
For two weeks in the cool air of Toronto, Canada, some of the biggest names in American and foreign films gathered to show off their newest works.

In total, I managed to catch about fourteen films during my trip there. I had made over 70,000 steps in the four days the Millersville Study Abroad group was at the festi- val, walking back and forth between two theatres that were almost thirty minutes apart.

Perhaps the biggest obstacle of the journey was the box office, which was limited to getting same-day tick- ets, which meant a lot of big showings were well past sold out by the time we wandered in.

We managed to be lucky with some screenings, however, with our industry passes, and we were able to see a lot of spectacular (and some not-so-spectacu- lar) films.

Many of these screenings were attended by the cast or director of the film, marking the only time I have ever been within a hundred feet of Scarlett Jo- hansson or Adam Driver. I also made a personal achievement at the festival when I met director Mark Cousins, whose 2011 docu- mentary “The Story of Film” was instrumental in my love of film during my early teen years.

His newest documentary, “Women Make Film,” is an invaluable fourteen-hour tome of the forgotten women directors of the world.

Watching it on the big screen was a magical mo- ment, yet sadly one I may never have again.

That truly is the double-edged sword about festival screenings.

More obscure films like Abba Makama’s “The Last Okori”, a Nigerian comedy about a worker who becomes possessed by an ancient spirit, or Mako- to Shinkai’s “Weathering with You,” an emotional and harrowing cell by cell.

Winning the coveted Midnight Madness award, “The Platform” was recently acquired by the streaming service.

The film marks Baumbach’s second film about the strains of divorce (his first being 2005’s excellent “The Squid and the Whale”) but while that first film was told through its child characters and their cries for help, Marriage Story focuses almost wholly on its husband and wife characters.

Adam Driver plays Charlie, a successful though controlling director of a successful theatre company, who is married to one of the company’s most popular actresses, Nicole, played by Johansson.

Though the film opens with both sides paint- ing flattering portraits of the other throughout their marriage, we are soon thrown into their cold reality through their couple’s therapy session.

Nicole feels trapped by Charlie, watching as their theatre life and home life become almost indistinguish- able. She plans to move to Los Angeles to live with her mother and sister and work on a TV pilot.

Charlie, meanwhile, feels the divorce is unfairly pitting him against Nicole for their son Henry’s affec- tion.

From there, Baumbach crafts a masterclass of act- ing and narrative that touches on all the uncomfort- able nitty-gritty of divorce, of looking back on your wrongdoings in a relationship, on moving past a per- son who was so integral to your stability for so long that it doesn’t feel right to not have them anymore.

And despite this seemingly dour and dramatic de-scription, I have to say this was also one of the funniest films in the festival.

There are certain scenes I dare not spoil as they ratchet up the comedic tension before delivering great punchlines from both our lead actors and a surpris- ingly loaded supporting cast.

Driver and Johansson deliver some of the best performances of their career, imbuing their charac- ters with a raw honesty and vulnerability that puts you right in the middle of their divorce tug-of-war.

There’s a scene near the end of the second act that genuinely made me feel uncomfortable, as Driver and Johansson begin slinging insults at each other and you begin to wonder, “Hey God, how far are they really go- ing to go?” The film never gives you an easy way to look at their marriage. No one side is obviously better than the other and they’ve both made mistakes.

It’s that emotional reality that Baumbach draws from his actors and his script which makes the film such an easy recommendation. This was my favorite film of the festival by far and you should catch it when it premieres on Netflix December 6th.

While not premiersing from the Netflix roster per se, Galdor Gazel Ashurrrut’s debut film “The Platform” was recently acquired by the streaming service.

Winner of the coveted Midnight Madness award, the film is a socially conscious Spanish dystopia about class.

In the Pit, hundreds of two-person cells are verti- cally stacked as a table full of food slowly passes down- ward cell by cell.

Those below any given cell must eat the leftovers of the cell above. Though this set-up will instantly re- mind fans of other interior dystopias, such as Cube or Snowpiercer, Gazel Ashurrrut’s set-up is the most di- rect and simple approach to displaying class dynamics.

In one scene, the cellmate of our main character, Gare, urinates on the cell below.

When confronted, he responds that he doesn’t care about those below as they are below him literally and figuratively. Goreng asks how he would respond if the people above pissed on him to which the cellmate re- sponds, “They probably would. Bastards.”

The film is rated R and certainly reminds you about it.

The bloodiness of certain scenes was incredibly brutal, though none of it was gratuitous or without purpose. Some scenes echo the hopelessness of those much lower down in the Pit by displaying depraved acts of violence and cannibalism as people merely try to survive.

Characters appear and re-appear throughout the Pit, like one woman who rides the table in the search of her lost son or an officer who interviews those enter- ing the Pit only to end up in the Pit herself.

All of them are indicative of different politics, of different personalities, all trying to survive in the Pit.

The film creates moments of edge of your seat tension through its close framings and industrial soundtrack which serve to drive you mad like the charac- ters in the Pit.

Even with all this dark edge around it, The Plat- form can pull out some moment of brilliant comic tim- ing and some interactions have real wit behind them.

It’s the best social commentary action-horror we’ve had in years and it’s truly a delight to see some- thing so deliciously wicked.

If you’re looking for a great midnight movie, you can catch “The Platform” whenever it premieres on Netflix.

Amazon payed their Sundance hit “The Report,” starring Adam Driver, Annette Bening, and Jon Hamm, in the vein of movies like Spotlight, “The Re- port” is a stripped-down political thriller about the hunt for the truth of the CIA’s torture of terror suspects following 9/11.

Driver plays Daniel Jones, a real Senate staffer who lead the Senate investigation under Senator Di- anne Feinstein, played by Bening.

If films like “Spotlight” or “The Big Short” frus- trated you with the brutality and incompentence of our political and social institutions, The Report will leave you with much the same feeling.

As new information is discovered through Jones’ long, sleepless nights, we piece together the truly ter- rifying scope of just how negligent and disturbing the CIA’s practices were.

The first half of the film is intercut with flashbacks to a detention facility where we witness firsthand scenes of waterboarding, of psychological torture, and other so-called “enhanced interrogation techniques”.

Once Jones begins to investigate, the CIA begins to cover up their trail and insist there was no wrongdo- ing. The cat-and-mouse nature of the movie makes it feel almost incomprehensible, like a thriller straight from the 70s.

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Playoff baseball is in full swing

JARED KISH
Sports Editor

That time of year that has arrived where the best baseball to watch returns. All MLB teams have concluded their 162 game seasons and now the best of the best will get the opportunity to square off with one goal in mind, get to the World Series and win a Championship. Before that happens, the Wild Card games and the Division Series will commence as teams will look to advance to the Championship Series and then finally the World Series.

As the Dodgers sit back and wait to see who will win the NL Wild Card game, the St. Louis Cardinals and the Atlanta Braves will face each other in one of the two NL Division Series.

For St. Louis, they managed to be atop the NL Central Division as the Cubs had a disastrous end to their season and the Brewers couldn’t pull it out in the end which is why they fell to the Wild Card spot. The Cardinals starting pitching is all right-handed which falls right into the wheelhouse of Braves first baseman Freddie Freeman.

Despite nursing an injury at the end of the season, Freeman has a .309/.416/.590 slash line against righties this season with 30 homers. Freeman is a veteran with the Braves but has been the leader of an Atlanta squad that has been rejuvenated in the last couple of years with a new wave of young talent.

With players such as Ronald Acuna Jr., Ozzie Albies, and Austin Riley, the Braves have regrown the crown for NL East champs and will look to ride that new talent right to the World Series.

Russell suffered a brake failure early on in the race which caused him to retire from the race. This in turn caused a Virtual Safety Car, giving Mercedes the perfect opportunity to pit their drivers undeterred by the undercut.

The fantastic performance from McLaren extended their midfield lead in the Constructors Championship with 101 points in fourth place and their first time having over 100 points since 2014.

Other notable performances include Red Bull Racing driver Alex Albon, after crashing in the beginning of qualifying on Saturday, he was forced to start the race from the pit lane.

Despite this disadvantage Albon had a crazy race. He quickly cut through the midfield and managed to finish all the way in 5th place, mirroring a similar performance from the pit lane following his crash in FP3 of the Chinese Grand Prix.

Formula 1 now heads to Suzuka, Japan for the Japanese Grand Prix on October 11th to the 13th. Mercedes has extended their strong lead over the Constructors Championship and Lewis Hamilton remains in 1st for the Drivers Championship.

Ferrari will be hungry to make a stronger recovery to make up for this weekend’s failure. But both Mercedes and Ferrari will be facing stiff competition from Red Bull Racing who view this as a home race for their engine suppliers Honda. Red Bull has already announced they will be using a new fuel and upgrading their car to hopefully secure a victory for the home crowd.

The stakes are high as all attention shifts to Suzuka and the race is shaping up to be great one with the top three teams all having something to prove and all clamoring for a victory in Japan.
The women’s soccer team is a force that no team wants to deal with right now. Starting the season off 6-0, the Marauders are hitting the field with intensity, passion, and a determination to win that is unparalleled.

They took that determination into last weekend facing off against PSAC division rivals West Chester. Millersville has been a dominant soccer team, but West Chester has been arguably just as good.

Coming in at No. 6, the Golden Rams came in 5-3 and 4-1 in PSAC play. The Marauders knew they had a difficult task ahead of them, but it set up for a matchup between two PSAC East powerhouse teams.

West Chester struck first finding the back of the net in the 10th minute and put Millersville down 1-0 early. For the next 19 minutes the game would be scoreless until Marauder senior Kay Liem scored on their first possession, breaking the ball on a late flag was thrown against a Marauder cornerback for unsportsmanlike conduct as he complained about the interference. The crowed was audibly upset, as this caused the Marauders to lose the ball on a failed fourth down conversion. The Golden Rams first play was a pass to the right side, which was tipped away by a Marauder cornerback with little-to-no contact. The referees threw a flag for defensive pass interference.

After almost four years of attending West Chester University, it was their third straight loss of the season.

The first half told a different story for each team. The Marauders went three-and-out on their first six possessions, and after finally obtaining a couple of first down conversion late, the game was halted by a Golden Rams goal to get Millersville on the board.

Going into the second half tied, both teams were going to have a find a way to try and produce a little offense to take a lead. Fortunately for Millersville, Savannah Rennix fired a shot for a goal in the 10th minute giving the Marauders a 2-1 lead over their bitter rivals.

Millersville’s offense held strong to the final minutes and as the final whistle blew, the Marauders continued their overall dominance and their historic run which has led to the best start in the program’s history.

All around the game was close in terms of score, shots, and corners, West Chester did outshoot Millersville 11-10, but what matters is the shots that found the back of the net and the Marauders were better at finding it then the Golden Rams.

The refs also let both teams play. The Marauders know they had a difficult matchup with West Chester, but their ability to stop shots and keep the Marauders defense, the refs were extremely accurate throughout the rest of the game, but the Golden Rams would eventually score another touchdown on that drive. A touchdown fans believe should have gone to the Marauders.

The game was not completely horrible for the Marauders though, as they were able to score a 19 yard touchdown pass to Evan Morrill. The Golden Rams responded with a running touchdown of their own, and the clock expired with a score of 48-7.

While it was another blowout loss, head coach J.C. Morgan remains positive for the team stating, “The message in the locker room is that there is no quit in this family. We will come back tomorrow and get ready to go. It’s the same mentality as if we won by 40. Come back, get better and clean up the mistakes. This is part of the foundation that we are trying to build.”

Defensively, we did a pretty decent job in the red zone. We got some stops, forced some field goals, got an interception. There are some things we can build on.”

The Marauders are an exciting team to watch and they will be back in action Wednesday night October 2nd to face Mansfield who they beat last year 2-1. Be sure to head out and show support to the women’s soccer team as they go for the school record winning streak.

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There is something special brewing at Chryst Field. The No. 1 nationally ranked Millersville field hockey team looked to continue their special run over the weekend with two matches, one PSAC conference match against Mercyhurst and the other against Slippery Rock.

The Marauders traveled to Mercyhurst on Friday, September 27th to take on the Lakers. The Marauders struck first, with a goal from their first penalty corner of the game. A precise set of passes led to junior midfielder Annabelle Tierney receiving the ball directly from the inserter and put away her first goal of the season.

Multiple penalty corners led to the Marauders first goal 11 minutes into the game from senior forward Erica Tarsi. Millersville's 1-0 lead was doubled by sophomore midfielder Alexis Gazzio who found the back of the cage off a re-bound from the Mercyhurst goalie to give the Marauders a 2-0 lead. Sophomore midfielder Georgia Werkiser would redirect a shot into the cage from freshman forward Kate Strickland to give the Marauders a commanding 3-0 lead.

Millersville dominated the game from beginning to end, out shooting Mercyhurst 16-3. The Marauders were efficient when it came to their penalty corners, with a conversion rate of 50% (3/10), which is where a majority of their goals came from.

Six different Marauders found the back of the cage against Mercyhurst and they improve to 18-4 in the series against the Lakers.

The Marauders moved to 7-0 on the season and 2-0 in conference play with their win against Mercyhurst. The Marauders would take on Slippery Rock just two days after their win against Mercyhurst.

Slippery Rock was awarded eight penalty corners in the last five minutes of the first quarter, which resulted in a goal from their first penalty corner, marking back-to-back games where six different Marauders contributed.

Tarsi would then add an assist in the second quarter, setting up senior midfielder Alexis Gazzio who found the back of the cage and doubled the Marauder lead.

Things got out of hand in the third quarter, where Millersville had an offensive explosion. Boucher put in two goals within three minutes of each other, one being assisted again by Tarsi. Brown gave the Marauders a 5-0 lead after a great solo effort that led to yet another Marauder goal.

Junior defender Brooke Troutman scored the fourth goal of the third quarter off of Millersville's 20th corner of the game, as the scored off of the back of the pads of the Slippery Rock goalie. Boucher tallied an assist on the goal that gave the Marauders a dominating 6-0 lead heading into the fourth quarter.

Millersville would score another goal a minute into the fourth quarter through senior forward Kyra Brakefield. Slippery Rock would spoil the shutout with a goal in the fourth quarter, but the match was already decided after the Marauders domination in the third quarter.

For the second time on the weekend, six different Marauders contributed to the scoring outburst that occurred over the span of the game, marking back-to-back games where six different Marauders contributed.

“I think are players are all very versatile and I am happy to see some of them being in situations to finish and contribute on the attacking side,” Said Marauders coach Shelly Behrens.

Millersville recorded 27 shots on the Slippery Rock keeper, marking their highest shot total in a single game this season. The Marauders have now won 12 straight against Slippery Rock.

Millersville remained perfect after their weekend road trip, remaining undefeated on the season.

“Two good wins on this road trip and the key has been perseverance. I’m proud of how the team has played on the road.” Said coach Behrens.

The Marauders and coach Behrens are looking forward to returning home, where they play number two ranked and PSAC rivals West Chester.

“We are excited to be back at home and looking forward to another great match with a PSAC opponent. Overall, I am really proud of our team for a great September and great first half of the season,” Behrens said.

Millersville has been atop the national ranks for three weeks now, and they’ll put their perfect season and their number one ranking on the line against West Chester.

Make sure to get out and support this special run that the Marauders are on.