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Millersville Concerned Women help Lancaster's homeless - pg. 10



MU ranked greenest campus - pg. 2



Men's soccer takes PSAC title - pg. 16

President Wubah to speak in Barcelona for sustainability conference - pg. 2



Wubah to present in Barcelona on MU's sustainability efforts



PHOTO COURTESY OF GUNi

Attendees at the 2018 GUNi International Conference pose for a photo. Millersville President Dr. Daniel Wubah will be attending the 2020 conference in March.

JARED HAMELOTH
Editor In Chief

In March of 2020, Millersville President Daniel Wubah will travel to Barcelona, Spain to outline and share some of the work that the MU community has been doing during his tenure. He will specifically be speaking about the university's Positive Energy Fund (PEF), which is a generated endowment that helps fund "faculty-, staff- and student-led projects that will contribute positively to local and global communities," according to the university website.

The Lombardo Welcome Center on campus remains the major contributor to this fund; the money that the center saves by being a "zero energy building" (meaning it produces more power than it consumes) goes into the energy fund, fueling sustainability projects in the local area.

Wubah will be speaking at the "International Conference on Sustainable Development Goals and Higher Education" put on by the Global University Network for Innovation (GUNi). The goal of the conference is to "put the spotlight on how higher education institutions are embedding sustainable development in their core missions,

and will focus on showcasing, explaining and sharing scientific research," according to the GUNi event description.

Dr. Wubah explained his mindset regarding Millersville's commitment to a sustainable future: "It's more of a process, not a destination," he said. He talked about how the university has to have initiatives put in place that "promote an ongoing effort to sustainability."

The university had to submit a proposal to speak at the event since it will host many organizations and institutions from around the world. They were officially accepted to speak as of Nov. 6.

Chris Steuer, Millersville's

Sustainability Director, remains enthusiastic about travelling to Barcelona, and said that "it should be an exciting opportunity to share some of our sustainability work with an international audience and to continue to make connections to elevate MU's global profile." Dr. Wubah, Steuer, and Guilbert Brown, who is the Interim Vice President for Finance and Administration, will all be attending the conference next year.

Through the Positive Energy Fund, Millersville has financed projects such as "Project Green Lancaster," which was created by the media and broadcasting program on campus. The

money received from the first year of the PEF will help transition Project Green's focus more towards social media engagement to help raise awareness of the ways that Lancaster is creating a greener, more sustainable world.

Students are encouraged to submit proposals for the projects they would like funded through the university. This includes "submitting a project narrative that describes your project" as part of the application on the Millersville website. The 2020 cycle for applications will be available during fall 2019.

MU ranked greenest campus

SHAUN LUCAS
Associate News Editor

In the annual Princeton Review Guide, Millersville ranked within the top 50 most environmentally friendly campuses in the United States. Millersville gained the status through its initiation to support natural life, such as the maintaining of gardens and wildlife reserves.

The Princeton Review, founded in 1981, is an admissions service company which aids college and/or future university students with tutoring, academic advice books, online courses, practice tests for standardized examinations, and admissions resources. While not associated with Princeton University, the company is considered a reputable source, as cited in Millersville's blog and other college affiliated blogs.

The company's annual review, the Princeton Review's Guide to Green Colleges, describes how ecologically mindful and resourceful the university and its programs are. The company analyzes data from approximately 700 universities and colleges. Universities and col-

leges are monitored for their quality of withstanding life and health, along with how students are taught within the field of the clean-energy economy.

The company then provides a score for the level of ecological friendliness, ranging from 60 to 99 potential points. This year, Millersville scored an 87 and any score above 80 is categorized as a "green college."

According to Millersville's blog, one of the most noteworthy aspects of Millersville's green reputation is the Lombardo Welcome Center, as it's the first building within Pennsylvania certified as a zero energy building.

Producing its own energy through renewable resources, the LWC is one of around 100 buildings in the United States to be certified by the International Living Future Institute.

Another eco-friendly aspect of the campus mentioned by the campus blog is the staple pond. Besides being a popular place for students to stroll, study, or take pictures, the pond is also a Certified Wildlife Habitat. The pond hosts numerous animals, such as swans, Miller and S'ville.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MILLERSVILLE UNIVERSITY

Dr. Nadine Garner pictured at the Center for Sustainability's organic garden located behind Huntingdon House.

School shooting startles CA



KAT VIRULA
News Editor

PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVID CRANE, LOS ANGELES TIMES
Students are escorted off campus at Saugus High.

On the early morning of Nov. 14, a student opened fire at a high school in Santa Clarita, Calif., killing two people and wounding three others, and the suspect has died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head, authorities said in a press release from the Washington Post. The shooter is now identified as Nathaniel Tennosuke Berhow and he shot himself on his 16th birthday after pulling a gun from his backpack at Saugus High School. Berhow received treatment, but died

Friday at about 3:30 p.m. local time with his mother present, according to the Washington Post. Stated on the Post, Berhow’s attack his motive remains unclear. In an interview with ABC7, County Sheriff Alex Villanueva said that the gunman shot seemingly at random but appeared “very familiar with firing the weapon” and did not commit a “spur-of-the-moment act.” It was at least the seventh shooting of the school year, according to a Washington Post analysis.

What’s tragic with this analysis is that the data shows more than 230,000 children have experienced gun violence at their schools since 1999’s massacre at Columbine High. According to ABC7, Deputies were on the scene two minutes after a 911 call reported the Saugus High shooting at 7:38 a.m. They found the shooter, dressed in black, among six students with gunshot wounds in the school’s outdoor quad area.

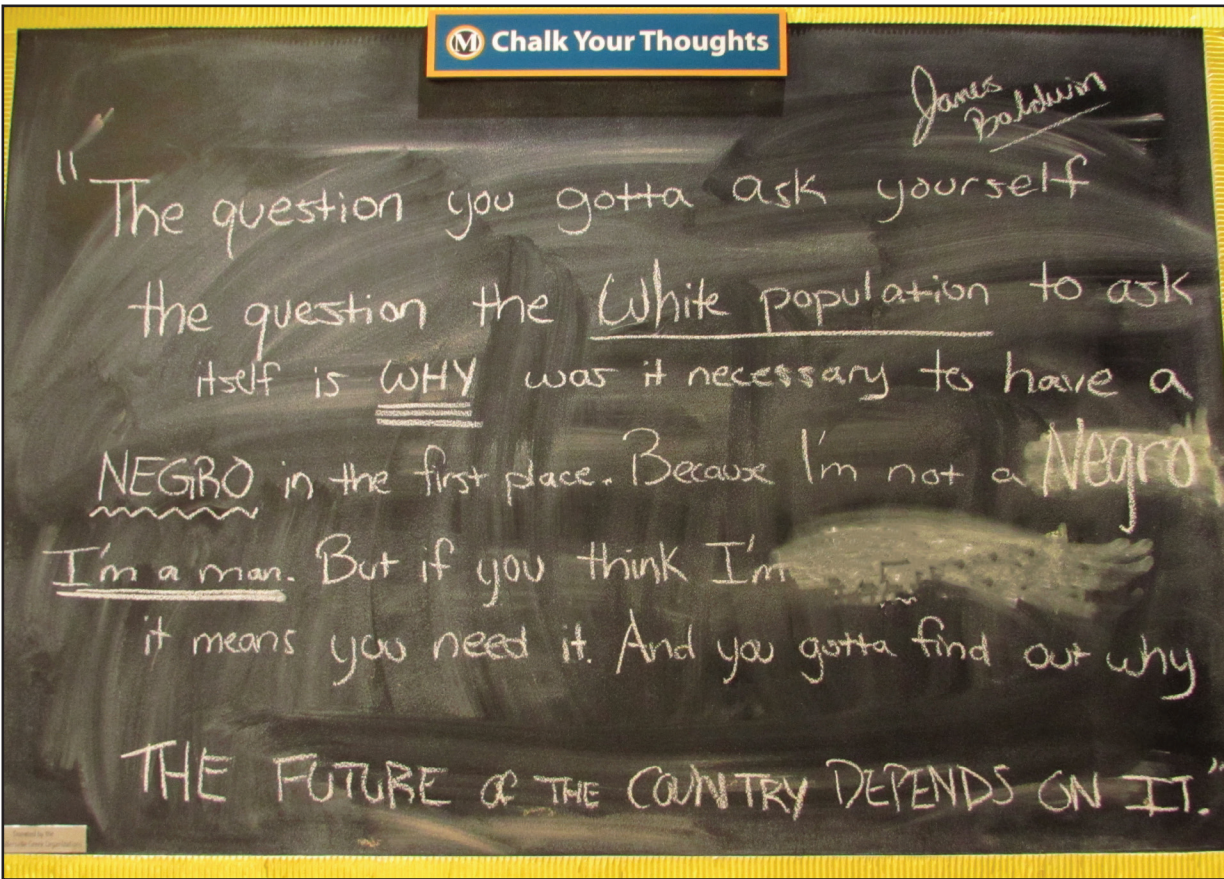
A seventh person received treatment for noncritical injuries, according to officials. ABC7. They stated that authorities found a .45-caliber semiautomatic handgun on the scene. As the investigations continues, campuses across the William S. Hart Union High School District were closed on Friday in a show of respect to victims, according to their Facebook page.

Hate speech divides MU

CHLOE BARRETT
Associate News Editor

On Sunday, November 3, an incident of hate speech happened at Millersville around 3 p.m. at the Look-out within Gordinier. The incident involved the “n” word displayed in salt on the table. As noted by Dr. Wubah, the incident appears to be isolated and there have been no other reports made. The hate speech has also been removed from the dining location. In an email sent to the campus community President, Dr. Wubah said, “I’m appalled that this happened on our campus and I’m so sorry that others in the dining facility were subjected to hate speech.” On the topic of the incident, Millersville student, Mikayla said, “I thought we would be past that” Another Millersville student had said, “I’m a senior so I’ve been here the last four years, and my impression of it was not really the incident itself. [That] was not my issue. It was more

this kind of thing happens every year for the last four years that I’ve been here, and it just seems like not much is being done about it. Not much is being done to prevent like hate speech and things like that from happening on campus, so that was my disappointment with it.” Moving forward since the incident Dr. Wubah is working closely with students impacted by the hate speech to develop a plan to move forward. Millersville is committed to their EPPI-IC values which include Exploration, Professionalism, Public Mission, Inclusion, Integrity, and Compassion. Within these values no hate speech nor crime is acceptable. If you have any information regarding the incident on campus please contact University Police at 717-871-4357 or email Chief Anders at Peter.anders@millersville.edu.



Students protest hate crime through historical quoting.

PHOTO COURTESY OF KAT DELANEY

Dr. Carrie Smith wins borough council seat

KAT VIRULA
News Editor

Dr. Carrie Smith won her seat on Millersville Borough Council on Nov. 5th. Smith explains how she felt once she found out she won,

“It’s very surreal ...It was very surreal because the very next day I went out to get lunch and people stopped me and congratulated me. It’s an interesting shift and people have warned that this will happen, sort of you are now a public figure.

But it didn’t really occur to me what that meant. It didn’t really hit me and it still kind of hasn’t.

I think it will once I get sworn down to actually doing the work. But it is a little surreal.”

Her campaign promises to explore ways of establishing new and efficient ways of communication and find the better collaboration between borough residents and students/faculty at Millersville University.

Smith will not be sworn in until Jan. 6th, after she is officially sworn in, she will work on relieving the inefficient communications borough residents and students at MU alike,

“After I’m sworn in there will be a re-organization meeting. People will sit on different committees and decide who serves on what committees and elect officers. I’m bouncing around some ideas and I had, I would like to start looking for people to collaborate with and one of the things I believe we can do better is to make use of short videos to connect with people.”

On the topic of Frederick and Duke Street Smith explains, “A few things that I’m thinking, in particular, is explaining what is going on in a section of Frederick and Duke Street, which a lot of people are very upset about.

Nobody seems to have a clear understanding of what’s happening. The Borough I think owns a piece of property, but it’s also complicated by the fact that half of the Borough is also Penn Manor Township. So what are we, right?

We don’t promise to fix things but we promise to get accurate information out.”Smith also stated that she wants to work on making the Millersville Borough website more user-friendly and plans to make an app to give updates on the Borough,

“Somebody actually suggested to me a possibility of some kind of app where you can tap into and figure out what’s going on with the borough.”

Smith adds, “And this is somebody who lives in the borough who proposed this idea. I think that’s something really interesting to look at.”

Along with this, Smith is also willing to look for ways to better communicate with residents and students by the use of short videos that are shareable.

Smith especially wants to create some sort of short informal video addressing the 2020 budget:

“The law requires us to advertise the budget, but I think we can be more proactive and say in addition to advertising it, let us explain to you, what’s actually happening here.

Because I find that once people get an explanation, they go, ‘Oh, now you can make the decision about do I want my taxes to increase?

What what are the outcomes? If we

don’t? What do we have to cut back on?’ Those are the kinds of decisions you have to make.

The other possibility in terms of communication, and I’m going to, I’m going to officially propose this to you all so you guys can think about it. I think it might be interesting.”

Smith closes with an idea to make the borough more exciting and beautiful,

“I would love to see public art, more public art here. Yeah. And we can involve students, we can involve residents, we can involve the elementary school and high school.

I just think that will be something that would also help beautify the borough people will be invested,” Smith continues, “...I love going to the George Street cafe, primarily because there’s art by local artists; I find that really welcoming really nice. It’s vibrant, different styles of art. But that might be something to do.

I know that many borough residents are invested in beautifying the borough making it look prettier, making it look nicer.”



PHOTO COURTESY OF CARRIE SMITH’S FACEBOOK
Smith is ecstatic to represent MU Borough Council.

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My time at illersville

A reflection on my time at the University

JESSIE GARRISON
Associate Opinion Editor

Millersville University has been my home for the last 3.5 years and it is quickly ending. Throughout my time at Millersville, I have had countless roommates, changed my major, had two internships, wrote a thesis, joined The Snapper, made friends, and learned a lot about myself. And as the last article, I will ever write for The Snapper will be a reflection on all of these things.

Countless Roommates

When I say this I mean it, do not move in with people you don't know. Nor should you move in with people who you ignore red flags for. While not all of my roommate's situations were bad, one of my best friends is my first-year suitemate, most of them were awful. And by awful I am not referring to them being mean or rude, although some were, they just never cleaned and then were angry because I somehow cleaned too much. In my opinion, I don't think cleaning the kitchen after I cook every time or cleaning the bathrooms once a week is a big deal, but that is not what this is about.

Having roommates is exciting and challenging and sometimes different personalities don't mesh, especially if you are entering into an already established friend group. But through those experiences, I learned a lot about the kind of relationships I want, which is one of the most valuable lessons I learned.

Changing my Major

When I first came to Millersville, I was an early childhood and special education major. I spent my first year at Delaware Community College and came

in with a semester's worth of credits. When I came to Millersville in the fall of 2016, I had dreams of teaching kindergarten. I started teaching preschool when I was 14, thanks to a vocational high school program, and it was my dream. However, that all changed in the spring of 2017.

When I went to meet with my advisor in the spring she asked me what I planned on taking in the fall of 2017 and told me my choices were fine. I then received an email two weeks before I was supposed to register that I had to take a standardized test, which I failed.

My advisor at the time told me that since I did not pass I had to take a semester off to stay in my major because I didn't choose the correct classes. At that point, I learned that the classes for dual majors are laid out on a convenient handout, one that I never received.

So I changed my major to writing studies and a minor in journalism. Although it is not anything I ever imagined about studying, I now can't imagine studying anything else. And thankfully through my education at Millersville, I will be graduating and starting a full-time job, with benefits, the day after graduation.

I am forever grateful for everything my professors have done for me and the education I have received here.

Internships

I have had three internships while at my time at Millersville; the first was awful and the last two were great.

My first internship was so bad, that they forgot I was coming because the lady that hired me quit unexpectedly. The first red flag. Then when I got there they informed me that I had to commit 30 hours a week for no pay. The second red flag. After that, my boss gave me a project to basically start a whole new department for no pay. Additionally, they did not give me a task list on what they needed from me, forcing me to try and figure it out on my own. Those were the major

red flags and needless to say, I quit halfway through the summer. Remember, just because you are working for free does not mean you should be the advantage of, even more than what you already are.

After applying to over 40 internships, my second and third internships happened simultaneously. I worked for a nonprofit through Millersville's traineeship program and worked under Dr. Pfannenstiel on One Book One Campus. Both of these experiences gave me the skills I needed to be employable after college.

Thesis

I chose to write a senior thesis in order to graduate with departmental honors. And let me tell you, don't write a thesis if you are a procrastinator. Because dear lord is this hard.

Friends

As many say friends come and go in the blink of the eye. Friends I thought I would have forever turned out to be different. It is easy to make friends freshman year, but as I grew and moved more into my major I realized some friends aren't forever friends.

That being said, the college has been a great experience to find people who wholeheartedly accept me for who I am. It also has taught me what I deserve in relationships and to learn the signs of toxic and unhealthy ones.

Conclusion

Overall, the college has been hard and extremely stressful but I am thankful for everything I have received at Millersville.

Here's to the last graduation for the class of 2019, may we forever be able to pay off our loans and bills while working our dream jobs.

Sensory overload: The death metal edition



NICK HUGHES/SNAPPER

Death metal concerts can be a grueling experience, but there is a lot of fun to be had when the mosh pit awaits.

NICK HUGHES
Opinion Editor

The metal show I went to this past weekend was awesome in every sense of the word. I loved every second that I was able to attend, but there was a catch to that. I could not attend the whole concert due to a sensory overload that I experienced halfway into the concert and I had to leave.

The concert in question was the Judiciary, Necrot, Gatecreeper and Exhumed show at the Chameleon Club on Friday night this past weekend. I love all four of these bands but after the Necrot set, I had to leave for my own sanity. I was in the mosh pit for part of the Necrot set. For those who do not know, a mosh pit is an area in the crowd that will pop up where fans 'dance' to the music. This dance usually involves punching and kicking and flailing around to the music. Most of the time it is a lot of shoving and pushing that is never mean in nature.

I reviewed the concert

for the features section and like I said in that section review, I loved the entirety of the set I was able to attend. A good, foot-sized bruise later and I left the pit and continued to watch the show. I started to feel a strong pressure in my chest and I knew that I was going to have a panic attack. I proceeded to power through the panic attack and watched the rest of the Necrot set. I was able to buy a t-shirt as well. I shook the lead singer's hand and congratulated him on a great set.

My friend that was with me during the concert left with a slight black eye and noticed that I was uncomfortable after the Necrot set. I told him that I had to get outside and we left the concert. My senses were overloaded at this point and I needed to lower the stimulation that I was feeling. It has happened before at different concerts that I have been to and I am not surprised that it happened but I am saddened that it did. If my readers are unaware, I am autistic and I am a mental health advo-

cate for that condition.

What I am most proud of is that I am able to go to concerts now. Five years ago this would not have even been a possibility. I had multiple fears of people and crowds all tied to my autism. My sensory overload was a daily issue and, while I loved metal back then as well, I never had a sense of wanting to go to a concert. I am really impressed with my growth over the past five years and I have increased my social threshold so much. Autism is hard to deal with and it is a daily struggle that I feel confident with my ability to deal with autism and all of my issues now.

The main facet of my own mind that I need to stay mindful of is that I have limits and to stay aware of those limits. That is true of everyone and I find that this experience is and will continue to be a great learning experience for me. I am constantly striving to better my mental well-being and I hope that this concert was a way for me to continue that trend.

The Machine preventing Taylor Swift from using her own material

KAT VIRULA
News Editor

Just to be clear, I would never write an article related to Taylor Swift. I have nothing against her. Hell, I used to listen to her first hit “Teardrops on My Guitar” on repeat in middle school. I’ve listened to almost all of her albums from 2006 first debut album to her 2017 Reputation album. I haven’t heard her recent album “Lover” that came out on Aug. 23 and I don’t plan on doing so. Her music today is just not my taste. Sorry but not sorry. I’m not really that much of a fan, but I also don’t really particularly like her either. I don’t know how I feel about her.

So why am I talking about Swift? So according to her recent tweet on Nov. 14th, she has been announced by the American Music Awards that they will be honoring Swift with the Artist of the Decade Award for this year’s ceremony. She is planning to perform a medley of her hits throughout the decade.

I personally think that she does deserve the award because she had made herself an iconic influencer for the last ten years. She has made hit after hit, sold out many concerts, and is a unique performer.

But there was a catch. She is not allowed to perform her old hits.

CEO of Big Machine Records, Scott Borchetta and American business person and record executive, Scooter Braun have restricted her to perform any of her old songs on television because ‘they claim that it would be re-recording her music before she’s allowed to next year.

Now to limit an artist’s performance



PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Taylor Swift not being able to use her own songs for the concert is outrageous to say the least.

of their own songs that they wrote is just fully disgusting. These two men have the audacity to restrict the one and only Taylor Swift, to perform the first hits that transformed her to the artist that she is today. Like how dare you.

Last year, Netflix created a documentary about her Reputation tour and about her life. There hasn’t been any mention of both Borchetta and Braun or anything related to Big Machine Records that Swift is signed with, according to Twitter.

But it doesn’t end there.

According to The Cut, Taylor Swift tweeted that Borchetta has reached out to her team and stated that they’ll allow her to use her music only if she agrees to not re-record copycat versions of my

songs next year and also to keep quiet about the situation.

These two boneheads had the audacity to tell her to shut up and wipe it under the rug or face the consequences.

I’m just overall baffled at the fact that Borchetta and Braun act like they helped create and write her songs. Taylor Swift wrote those songs herself, she even stated that herself in her tweet. Most of her earlier songs were written by HER. Borchetta and Braun had nothing to do with that or help create the relationship she

has with her fans.

Her fans would be devastated that they won’t get a chance to see her perform her past smash hits. Swift’s fan base was quick to defend her on social media. On Friday morning, the hashtag #IStand-WithTaylor was trending.

According to a press release from The Cut, On November 15, Big Machine issued a lengthy statement denying Swift’s accusations. The statement insisted that Big Machines “[does] not have the right to keep her from performing live anywhere,” and in turn accuses her of owing the company “millions of dollars and multiple assets.” Big Machine also claims that the label and Swift were starting to get close to finding a “private and mutually satisfactory solution,” but that Taylor negated their progress by making the “unilateral decision last night to enlist her fanbase in a calculated manner that greatly affects the safety of our employees and their families.”

And you are probably wondering what Scott Borchetta and Scooter Braun have said about these claims and allegations.

Well so far since Swift’s lengthy twitter posts on Nov. 14, neither she nor Braun has publicly commented on the feud — explicitly, that is. On Nov. 19, Braun tweeted a photo of the phrase, “Kindness is the only response,” with the message, “Words to live by.”

I am at a loss of words.

The digital empire is here; hold onto that new book smell

JESSIE GARRISON
Associate Opinion Editor

With the increase in technology, there is a constant debate on online books versus traditional paper copies. While there are many benefits to having an online book—reduce environmental footprint, lighter to carry, thousands of books at my fingertips—I just don’t prefer online texts. I have the same opinion of this on textbooks versus literature, but for very different reasons.

There are many reasons why I do not prefer online texts. First, when I read for fun just really wholeheartedly love the feeling of holding a book in my hands. There is something nostalgic about curling up under a blanket and holding a brand new book, cue a cozy fireplace and fresh snow for added effect. As I look back and conduct a quick Freudian analysis on myself, a lot of this stems back from my childhood.

When I was a child, I was bullied quite often and would find solace in dystopian literature. I

was always the kid who would get in trouble for reading in class or staying up way past my bedtime, just to finish one more chapter. It was never and still is never one more chapter.

Additionally, bookstores are my favorite place to go. When I go to bookstores, I can spend hours upon hours reading the first ten pages of a book. If you find me in my favorite book chances are I am sitting on the floor in the poetry section reading every book I can get through. While contrary to popular opinion, I do not do this to prevent spending money. I do this because I want to know if I will love the book before I buy it. Through the years it has prevented me from wasting hundreds of dollars on books I am not in love with.

Print versus online textbooks seems to be a no brainer for most college students—online is normally cheaper, textbooks are as heavy as an elephant, most used textbooks are in garbage condition, and we don’t have to worry about sending them back. However, I hate online textbooks.

As opposed to the print books above, I have to spend the extra money on print textbooks. When I tell people, print textbooks are easier for me, they seem to not understand. When reading an online textbook, I get lost and have to reread the same section way too many times. I have learned that in order to give myself the best education I can.

To further elaborate, I have learned that with my Attention Deficit Disorder, ADD, using an online textbook has many opportunities for distraction. If I am not rereading the paragraph many times, I am on social media, playing a game, watching animal videos, or reading articles. Online textbooks just don’t work for me.

Overall I think having access to online literature is beneficial for people of all ages, however, for me, it is not the most ideal. For living a minimalist lifestyle, having a small apartment, or not wanting to carry around a book having books on devices is perfect, and maybe one day I will make the switch.



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Letters should be exclusive to The Snapper. We do not publish open letters or third-party letters.

Letters should preferably be 150 to 175 words, should refer to an article that has appeared in the Snapper, and must include the writer’s address and phone numbers.

The Snapper reserves the right to approve, edit or reject any submissions.



PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Sonic the Hedehog looked horrible, but Paramount pictures heard the fans outcry and redesigned the classic Sega character.

KAT VIRULA
News Editor

After extensive backlash over the atrocity of the initial Sonic design in the upcoming live-action Sonic the Hedgehog movie [Which was scheduled to release on Nov. 8th but was delayed to February 14, 2020, in order to redesign Sonic]. Paramount Pictures unveiled its revamped version of the blue hedgehog on Tuesday to far more positive reviews.

If you have no idea what I'm talking about don't worry I'll recap. If you have no idea who Sonic is or what SEGA is or anything, why are you even reading this? Also, how dare you not know who Sonic the Hedgehog is. Anyways, when the first Sonic the Hedgehog trailer

made its debut on April 30th, there was a huge wave of backlash against the character's eyes, legs, and impossibly human-like teeth. Overall, the look of the iconic character was horrifying and cringy. The criticism was so intense that just weeks later, Paramount announced that they would take the unusual step of delaying the release of the film in order to redesign the character for fans. The new trailer released on Nov. 12 and fans alike gave a breath of relief at Sonic's new appearance. His half-moon eyes, thin, long legs, and a perfect set of teeth are now erased. The new Sonic has bigger eyes, shorter legs, less discernible teeth. He is, in short, much less human-like than the first design. He actually looks like the classic Sonic, that I grew up with. And other Fans on Twitter have said the same.

According to a press release from the Guardian, director Jeff Fowler tweeted, "The message is loud and clear... you aren't happy with the design & you want changes. It's going to happen." The movie is slated for release on Feb. 14, 2020. So I feel that we all have to go see The Sonic movie when it releases because Paramount Pictures, Jeff Fowler, and everyone in the design team, worked their butts off to help fix the issues that fans, plus a multi-billionaire company actually listened to fans and took the time to fix those issues. That is just an outstanding marketing move by Paramount. So I applaud you Paramount, Fowler, and everyone in the design team. Thank you Paramount for listening to your fans. It means a lot to the Sonic fans all over the world.

Pokémon Starter Choices! Which should I choose!?

All About

SWORD & SHIELD

Who's the best starter?



Grookey



Scorbunny



Sobble



Grass-Type

Grookey

- At level 16, turns to Thwackey
- Evolves to Rillaboom at level 35



Fire-Type

Scorbunny

- At level 16, turns to Raboot
- Evolves to Cinderace at level 35



Water-Type

Sobble

- At level 16, turns to Drizzile
- Evolves to Inteleon at level 35



Sobble

25.3%



Scorbunny

31.1%



Grookey

43.7% ★



Wooloo's are a common Pokemon

JULIA MEASSICK/SNAPPER

The dreaded editorial: The scariest type of writing in newspaper

NICK HUGHES
Opinion Editor

Editorial writing, at least at the Snapper, is the hardest style of writing that the paper does. I am sure our readers notice that there is not a lot of variety in the writing staff for the Opinion section. I have become great at letting my readers know my opinion, I would like to extend that skill to other writers at Millersville. I am not going to be here forever at Snapper and editorial writing is a key skill that writers need to have. It is a harder way to write because of the writer putting themselves and their opinions out there. I know it can be scary and I know that various writers have never attempted the craft of editorial writing. The biggest advice I have for potential writers is to not be afraid of writing your opinion. It is likely that another person has the same opinion as you and your writing could influence them to voice their opin-

ions. Writing opinions is a great way to engage in civil debate as well. I have voiced my viewpoints a lot through the Snapper and I feel that it has made me better at debating and asserting myself. Being assertive is a trait that I believe all editorial writers should have. Being strong in your convictions is a great way to inspire confidence in your writing. Writing an opinion on a topic that you are not invested in will lead to a bad article that does not contain any conviction. It is important to find your wheelhouse. A subject that you are well versed in and have a lot of knowledge about. That topic, or topics I should say, are autism, Star Wars, and liberally slanted political pieces. The autism piece is because I am autistic myself and I can give a good perspective in the journalism world on autism. Star Wars is because I love Star Wars and it is a topic that I enjoy greatly. A lot of my articles are about Star Wars and some of my Star Wars articles, in my opinion, are my best articles. Political opinions are inevitable and I had reservations about writing them for a long time. It took about a year for me to get over that hurdle that I had. With Donald Trump being in the white house, I had to start writing political opinions. Being a journalist means that you have to be a guardian of the truth and I felt compelled by the Trump administration to start writing opinions and editorials about the trump white house. This would have been regardless of my political affiliation. I am a democratic socialist and that political leaning makes my opinions pretty obvious. That being said, I believe that political opinions are necessary for any newspaper. Editorial writing is hard and it is not for everyone, but I hope that this article has convinced some of my readers to write for the Opinion section for The Snapper. Opinion articles have been making impacts in the world as of late and I love that I am able to make my voice heard.

Passionate about something and want to write? Contact our Opinion Editor at opinion@thesnapper.com

THE INTERNATIONAL FACES OF MILLERSVILLE PT.1

CARLY O'NEILL
Features Editor

Brazilian international student Thomás Claro, currently studying communication and theatre at Millersville, gives his insight on the educational benefits of studying abroad. Claro is a transfer student and this is his first semester studying at Millersville as a sophomore, but he knew he always wanted to go to college in the United States.

Claro moved to Lititz, PA with his mother and brother after his mother got a job here with Johnson and Johnson. During this time, Claro started looking for a nearby university where he could finish up his studies.

Once he discovered Millersville and its humanities area of study, he booked a campus tour with his family. He knew then he could see himself taking classes through the university and started exchanging information with the international admissions office. Shortly after going back to Brazil to retrieve all the necessary documentation he would need to attend, Claro was accepted.

Claro loves that he is able to study theatre and arts here at Millersville, since he would not have the same opportunities back home. Due to Brazil's poor economy, it's even harder for an artist to get their feet off the ground and find a job than it is in the US. Claro confirmed that if he was still living in his hometown of São José dos Campos, he would most likely still be studying journalism.

"I feel that I can have the chance here. Here I believe I can do this and I'm really excited. This is one of the reasons I wanted to come back as well, not just because I like the country but because of the opportunities," says Claro.

In Brazil most students jump at the chance to study abroad in countries such as the US or Europe, due to the lack of "university for everyone." Students must pass difficult tests to be accepted into the limited spacing at these universities. To help students prepare for these tests, they are taught chemistry, physics and math from a young age.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ROMAN PARHAM

Thomás Claro is an international student studying theatre here at Millersville. He suggests students visit the famous city of São Paulo, Brazil if ever visiting his home country.

While Claro does love his country, he felt he needed to get out of his comfort zone and travel to the US where he knew he would have a better chance at pursuing a career.

"I love it here, being able to choose all the classes I want to take. There we cannot choose anything, like never. Even in high school it's all prescheduled for you," says Claro. Since, Millersville has more of a trial and error process, he hopes to eventually take on a piano minor due to his love for the arts.

"There are many places where music lives here. They say there is a lot of music and art here. I've seen

many art studios, paintings, there is a lot around here. It's cool," says Claro.

Claro would definitely recommend this study abroad experience to other students for opportunities such as, "Learning, experiences, new languages, new people, new things to do," he says. "Just go ahead and have at least a semester abroad and you're going to have fun."

Mai Yamada, an international student from Japan is also studying here at Millersville. One of the first culture distinctions Yamada had to pick up on right away was the difference in greetings between the two countries. For example, in Japan it is a sign of respect to greet everyone you meet with a bow, while in the US people simply just shake hands.

Compared to the educational quality of her university back home, Yamada favors Millersville and its diverse classrooms. At her university, students can only take a foreign language major with several sub courses within it.

"General education classes have students of various majors so that we have many different views for each discussion," says Yamada.

One of Yamada's biggest fears about studying abroad in the U.S. was the language barrier. "I sometimes struggle expressing myself and understanding slangs in English. I'm afraid of miscommunication so language is really important to me," says Yamada.

One of the highlights for Yamada while abroad was the opportunity to learn in all English in the classroom, and study linguistics here at Millersville.

She highly recommends a study abroad experience in Japan to other students if the opportunity should arise. She believes immersing oneself in another culture is the best way to experience the country and all its unique characteristics.

"It's completely different to feel, experience, and be exposed by the culture in the country. If you really want to know what the real Japanese culture is, I highly recommend to stay in Japan at least a semester long," says Yamada.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MAI YAMADA

Yamada is an international student from Japan who loves studying linguistics and communication.

Lancaster Stands Up makes positive change through grassroots campaigns

NICK HUGHES
Opinion Editor

In November 2016 there was an emergency meeting in Lancaster. The emergency meeting was held in response to Donald Trump getting elected in 2016.

This meeting eventually led to the establishment of Lancaster Stands Up (LSU), an independent grassroots organization in Lancaster county. Zak Gress, a member of LSU, says the organization is all about bringing disenfranchised citizens of Lancaster county into the political process.

“The biggest way that we do this is to speak to the heart of why the system is broken,” Eliza Booth, another member of LSU, says.

Booth says LSU is not aligned to any one political party in America. They prefer to stay independent and if they find a candidate that upholds their values they will do extensive work to help them.

One example of this was the work they did with the Jess King campaign in 2018. LSU made it clear that they worked toward the same goal King and her campaign. However, they did so independently and without coordination.

While LSU is non-partisan, they acknowledge that the Democratic Party is the best option for them to back at this time. At the same time, they believe that the two-party system is broken and they want to see it change.

LSU engages with the community by talking about the issues and not really taking into account what political party the people they talk to are in. Gress worked in New Holland and was a working citizen that had issues with the system, but did not really know what to do about his concerns. LSU held a town hall and Gress attended. The meeting influenced him to join the group and he

has become more actively involved with them.

Stories like these are incredibly common. Jess King was originally a part of LSU as was current Manheim Township commissioner, Allison Troy. King went door to door while she was in LSU and during her campaign against Lloyd Smucker to talk to people about their concerns and to actively engage with them about the issues.

This ethos guides how LSU conducts itself as an organization.

One of the campaigns that LSU was actively a part of was preventing GeoGroup from being involved in a prison building initiative in Lancaster county. LSU was successful in preventing the for-profit prison group from setting up in Lancaster and they consider that a monumental victory for the community.

GeoGroup, according to LSU, is the same prison company that has internment camps on the southern border. Booth was adamant that LSU had to stop GeoGroup from getting in Lancaster county.

This would be a good spot for a quote from Booth reiterating that idea.

The campaign was done by having members of LSU sit-in on commissioner meetings concerning the GeoGroup issue. During some of the meetings,



PHOTO COURTESY OF LANCASTER STANDS UP/MADELEINE MURPHY
Lancaster Stands Up volunteers pose for a photo while campaigning with their organization.

LSU reports there were an estimated 200 residents in attendance. LSU also reported that the commissioners eventually rejected the GeoGroup proposal for prison privatization.

LSU considers this victor to be one of the group’s crowning achievements, but they also consider it a victory for Lancaster county as a whole.

As for the national news of the impeachment inquiry, LSU does not really look at it that much, stating that it is far away and not an immediate concern. This is not to say they do not care, but they cannot do much about it so they are focusing more on issues they can impact in Lancaster.

Some of these issues include the Muslim ban, which they adamantly opposed and the aforementioned Geo-

Group. They were involved with the March for our Lives protest that had around 5,000 people in attendance.

As for some current issues, LSU states that they stand with Franklin and Marshall students and all that they are trying to accomplish to get rid of racism in their college.

One last issue that LSU wanted to make clear is that they have a set way that they go about endorsing presidential candidates. They have not made an endorsement as of yet, but they are in the process of debate and will be voting on that.

LSU is based in downtown Lancaster and is willing to take in volunteers. Readers can find them online at their website, lancasterstandsup.org/.



Lancaster Stands Up has done some great work for Lancaster County.

PHOTO COURTESY OF LANCASTER STANDS UP

WOMEN EMPOWERING WOMEN: MCW donates to local homeless women



KAT DELANEY/SNAPPER

Students and mentors from MCW gather around a table of donated items for women.

SIMREN SHAH
Associate Features Editor

This past Friday, Millersville Concerned Women (MCW) gathered in the McNairy library to organize donations collected during their “MCW Cares for You” initiative. During the initiative, students and faculty members donated feminine hygiene products and winter attire to be given to homeless women in Downtown Lancaster.

Students and mentors laid out the donations onto a long table and began to organize them into bags. Jordan Fessler, executive, said the club plans to distribute the items to local homeless women.

“We did get a lot of stuff to prepare homeless women for the winter,” said Fessler.

“Today we are going to package all these things up, and then tomorrow we are going into Lancaster city... we are going to be distributing this out to homeless women across the city,” said Fessler.

Barsha Thapa, social media/marketing, joined MCW last year when the initiative took place for the first time. She talked about how she had been positively impacted by participating in collecting and distributing donations last year.

“After packaging last year when we went to distribute [the donations], we see smiles on peoples’ faces. That was like ‘wow,’” said Thapa.

Thapa said that homeless women tend to be receptive when approached by her club.

“We go to a location, we scatter ourselves, we talk to people, and they are like ‘yes we are interested,’” said Thapa.

Deltilyn Bonal, club member, said that participating in the club and in this event took her “out of her shell.”

Bonal spoke about the sense of community she feels within the group.

“You never want to leave, you just want to keep talking to the ladies...It’s like a family,” said Bonal.

This year was Bonal’s first year distributing items to the homeless female population. The students and mentors planned to take a bus to Downtown Lancaster on Saturday to distribute items. They said they would be going to locations including Binns park and surrounding areas.

“I am so excited to do this... I love helping people, so it will be so amazing just to do this for other people,” said Bonal.

Hannah Sullivan, club member, says she shares similar sentiments as Bonal. She said she was excited to head to the city with her fellow club members for a good cause.

“[MCW] is a great group of people,” said Sullivan.

This was Sullivan’s first year travelling with the club to Downtown Lancaster.

MCW has three mentors who lead the group: Gladys Laporte Rodriguez, Marilyn Retamar, and Casandra Miller.

“...I love helping people, so it will be amazing just to do this for other people.”

- Deltilyn Bonal

Gladys LaPorte Rodriguez began her journey with MCW alongside Marilyn Retamar in Fall 2017. While the group existed previously, it has since expanded and the women involved are challenging themselves to make a larger impact on the community.

“We wanted to do something for the Lancaster community and this came up. We requested some suggestions from the students, and this was one of the things we wanted to do for women,” said Rodriguez.

Rodriguez said the outreach has grown in success since last year.

“The box at McComsey... was filled with hats and gloves. We were overwhelmed. That was really, really nice... It’s really cold downtown at this time,” said Rodriguez.

MCW is a group that meets on campus to empower female students by supporting academics, social skills

and leadership skills. The club offers community and friendship to the university’s female population.

MCW also partners with the President’s Commission on the Status of Women by distributing pads and tampons to campus bathrooms through the “Code Red” initiative. Student volunteers gather donations of feminine hygiene products and distribute them in campus bathrooms in a basic labeled “Code Red.”

MCW meets every Friday at 3 p.m. in McNairy Library room 100. The group discusses womens’ issues, current and campus events, and they listen to featured guest speakers. The club also creates a sense of friendship and community by going on outings such as movies and hiking together.

“Our mission is three things, social, leadership and academics,” said Retamar.

The organization is also developing a womens’ empowerment conference called “Fearless Women” scheduled for March 28, 2020. The mentors said the purpose of the conference is to empower Millersville’s female student population. Guest speakers are currently being selected for the event.

The mentors and students involved with MCW challenged themselves to not only encourage each other, but to reach out to women in the surrounding community as well through “MCW Cares for You.”



KAT DELANEY/SNAPPER

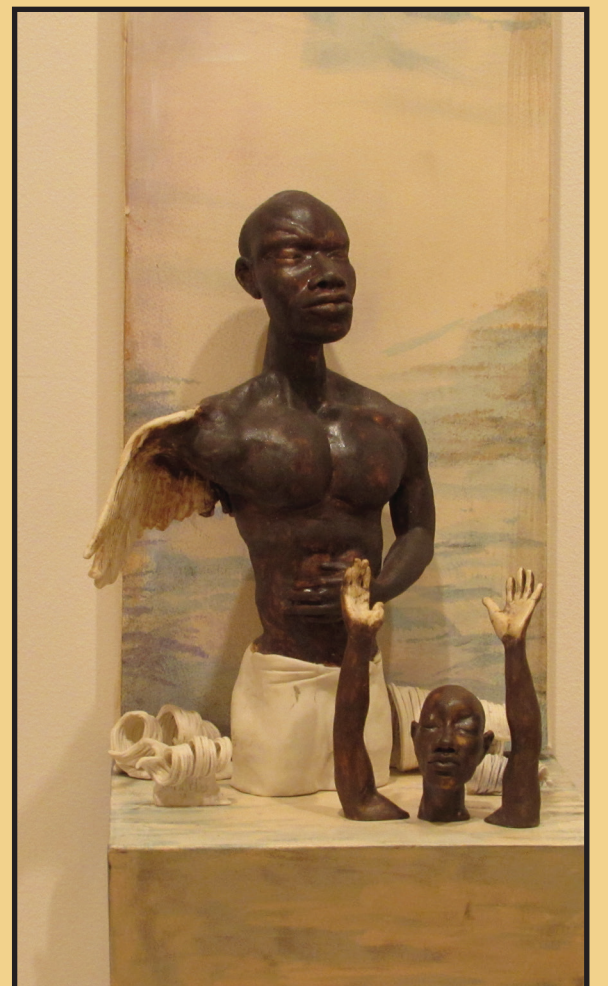
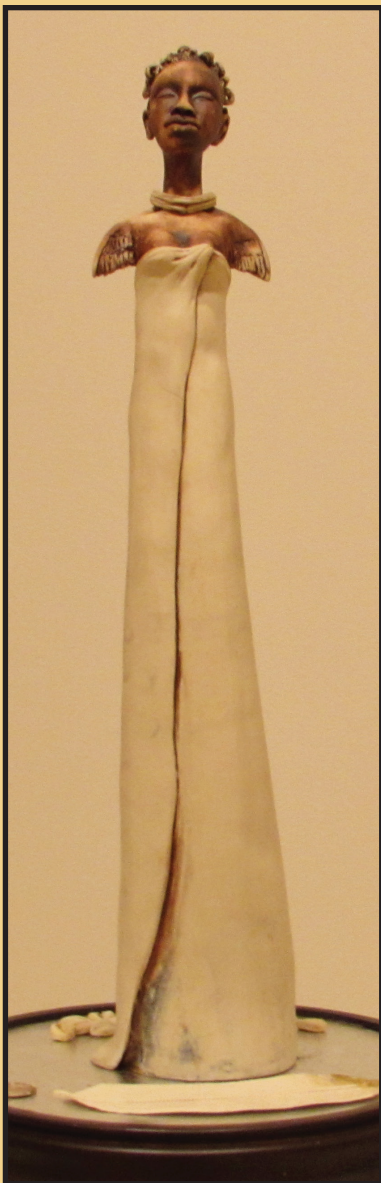
Students organize feminine hygiene products donated by MU students and faculty.

ARTS & CULTURE

PAGE 11 | ARTS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2019.

DIASPORIC MUSINGS: AFRICAN AMERICAN CERAMIC ARTWORKS



Photos Courtesy of Kat Delaney/Snapper

Mixed media diverse gallery is worth taking a look as a celebration of African art. Displayed in the Eckert Art Gallery until December 9th.



‘Cheap Queen’ is a magical dream



PHOTO COURTESY OF YOUTUBE.COM

King Princess establishes themselves as a mainstream LGBTQ+ pop artist with “Cheap Queen.”

JOSH RITTBERG
Arts & Culture Editor

KAT DELANEY
Associate Photography Editor

King Princess in their debut full length pop album, “Cheap Queen” is a queer trifecta that chronicles the pulsing highs of being gay and in love in the breakout hit, “Hit the Back” along with the exploitations of fame as in the album’s title song. King Princess at age 20, is an emerging young pop artist who has reached stardom and appeared on one of television’s biggest shows, Saturday Night Live. Yet in their blissful 30 minute set of songs, they display the wisdom of someone way beyond their years. They have given those in the LGBTQ+ community a symbol of strength with their early songs such as the heart-tugging anthem, “1950.” In times like these where the world for young people who are LG-BTQ+ can seem scarier than ever, young people need a role model and a light. King Princess has slowly emerged as a beacon of hope for those in the LGBTQ+ community and even beyond.

The album opens with King Princess’ smokey and smooth song “Tough on Myself.” They sing about their struggles with putting pressure on themselves and worrying that their significant other could do better than them, and being afraid they’ll move on. With lyrics like “My good intentions go bad when hold me” They talk about struggling with insecurities in relationships.

The second song on the album is only one minute and 17 seconds with only a repeating chorus it has a vintage feel, like it should be played in the background of an old coming of age movie. Despite being short, Princess’s melodic voice makes you feel like you’re going back in time. They prove that a little thing can pack a punch.

Luckily in the title song “Cheap Queen,” they pick up right where they left off the first verse coming right from “Useless Phrases,” however “Cheap Queen” has a very different vibe with a slightly sad feeling to the song: like when love goes still, it’s still love but it’s not the exciting passion it was at the beginning. In the lyrics, “I’m a cheap queen I can be what you like,” you can hear the defeat and loss of interest in what’s going on. Despite being somber, halfway through you’ll be bopping along softly singing the lyrics.

“Ain’t Together,” the fourth song of the album talks about the struggles of labels in relationships. And even though they do all the things you do in a relationship there is no official title holding them together. Princess’s sums it up all in one line “ We say I love you, but we ain’t together.” Despite this, they still want their

partner and want to be the only one for their partner. The longing is evident throughout the song.

Another shorter song, “Do you wanna see me crying,” coming in at one minute and 48 seconds, it’s the second shortest song. The first minute is spent setting up for the vocals giving off a smoky and flowy vibe that makes you want to be in a smoky club in the city with multi-colored lights bathing you in reds and purples. Even though they only sing a few lines of dialogue its enough to finish off the mood of the song. It’s heartbreak out, but one your slowly moving on from. “Do you wanna see me crying” shows a vulnerable side that I know I’d love to see more of.

“King Princess has slowly emerged as a beacon of hope for those in the LG-BTQ+ community and beyond.”
- Josh Rittberg

“Homegirl” is love that you can’t show off, they sing of how they stare across the room and have to wait till their alone to touch and be with each other. Even though there’s danger in what they are doing it’s too powerful and magnetic to ignore so they find a safe space at home to show each other their affections. The soft background vocals give the song a mystical and enchanted vibe like you’re in a forest waiting to meet up with your secret lover to run away and live in a small cottage and forget the world. Definitely, a favorite of mine. I would highly recommend listening to at midnight in the grass with your lover in your arms.

The song “Prophet” is about obsession and how it fuels our loves and relationships. With lyrics like the chorus, “I can only think about you. And what it’s like to walk around you.” The singer seems to be saying how obsession fuels our romantic feelings when we want

to surround ourselves with someone special. The song could also be referring to the artist themselves who at the age of 20 is a bit of a prodigy quickly launching to stardom and having a profitable career. The song also hints to the exploitation with talents or “prodigies” in the music industry with the line “You know what you want. It’s only ‘bout the money and control. Can’t step off it, someone else will cop it like it’s gold, you’re a prophet Someone’s gonna profit.” This line explains how music producers and executives exploit artists for profit these days and are not full of the heart and soul as singers deserve. This track is a powerful statement on obsession in love and exploitation in the music world that is powerfully relevant yet universal to our world.

One of the most poignant songs on the album is “Isabel’s Moment” where King Princess collaborates with canadian singer, Tobias Jesso Jr. to sing a haunting track of the complications between what is a friend and what is a lover. When King Princess sings “You can’t choose your love like a phone number. And I’m still trying to draw all the lines through my friends and my lovers.” They are looking back at their life and analyzing who really cared for them. They are wise beyond their years; quality adds greatly to their appeal as an artist. This is also true in the song, “Watch My Phone” as she thinks and reflects on her past relationship with actress, Amanda Stenberg. King Princess proves themselves in these two tracks as an artist who is stunningly poetic.

One of King Princesses breakout singles is “Hit the Back” with an infectious pulsing base melody and an instantly danceable chorus, this song about embracing your body is an absolute delights and is easily one of the breakout songs on the album. “Cheap Queen” ends with the quieter yet introspective, “If you think it’s love.” This song is about a love that had gone wrong and is now tired. In the line, “If this is love I want my money back. ‘Cause I could use the check to spend it on a better heart.” the singer is looking for a relationship more meaningful in fulfilling. This song ends the album on a note that is serious as the listener sees the artist looking for a more fulfilling relationship, but also hopeful as the artist is looking for love and ultimately fulfillment in love. King Princess with this album establishes themselves as the new queer queen of music. With instantly danceable tracks such as “Hit the Back” and introspective thought provoking pieces such as “Isabel’s Moment,” “Cheap Queen” is a work for an emerging artist who establishes themselves as a new treasure in the LGBTQ+ music world and by being proudly themselves gives visibility for queer people to be normalized in pop culture.

Snapper Staff Podcast Picks

Julia Walters:

My favorite podcast right now is “Office Ladies” by Jenna Fischer and Angela Kinsey, who play Pam Beesly and Angela Martin on “The Office.” The pair go through each episode in chronological order while talking about behind the scenes facts and their fun, personal experiences filming the episode. Jenna and Angela got extremely close while filming the show and remain best friends in real life, which makes the podcast feel more like you’re listening in on a conversation rather than hearing a slew of random facts. They also have had some guest stars on the show, including Rainn Wilson, who plays Dwight Schrute on the show, and Phil Shea, who handled all the props. It’s been so fun rewatching the episodes with all the new information I now know from Jenna and Angela. Any fans of “The Office” would love this podcast!

Nick Hughes:

My favorite podcast is “You Died of Dysentery,” which is referenced to the Oregon trail video game. The cast includes Jon, Roman, Josh, and I. Being in a podcast is a great experience. The issues we talk about rotate around that of video games and video game controversy. One of the coolest issues that we have talked about was the Blizzard controversy involving Hearthstone player Blitzchung. The podcast is satirical most of the time, but sometimes we talk about serious issues. The biggest one was the autism and gaming episode that we had. “You Died of Dysentery” also has many ways to get ahold of the cast. Using the discord and other social media platforms is a great way to interact with us as well. You died to dysentery is live every Friday at eight pm. While the other podcast we do, Nerd Speak is on around seven every Friday.

Josh Rittberg:

My favorite podcast is “Getting Curious with Jonathan Van Ness”. This podcast is hosted by “Queer Eye’s” Van Ness as he interviews those who he finds interesting or intriguing. Van Ness interviews everyone from LG-BTQ+ pop icon, Kim Petras to the actress, Jameela Jamil from the hit tv show, “The Good Place.” The infectious energy and care that Van Ness brings to these interviews makes this podcast memorable, entertaining and informative and truly something special.

Podcast Playlist

“Office Ladies”

“You Died of Dysentery”

“Getting Curious with Jonathan Van Ness”

“The Message”

“Trump, Inc.”

“On the Media”

“Radiolab”

“Let’s Not Meet”

Rachel Laughlin:

If you like science fiction and a hint of suspense, “The Message” by GE Podcast Theater and Panoply will prove to be an engaging and enrapturing experience. The podcast follows the story of Nicky Tomalin, a linguistics student who covers her internship with Cipher Centers for Communication through the podcast “Cypher Cast”. It is up to Nicky and her team to unravel the meaning behind “the message”, an audio clip believed to be from alien life forms. However, the mission takes a deadly turn as scientists who listen to the message begin suffering drastic health conditions. Shrouded in mystery and suspense, “The Message” hosts an excellent story, elements of science fiction, and a surprising plot twist that will keep listeners on the edge of their seats. While I haven’t yet heard it, its sequel “Life After” (sometimes written as “Lif-e.af/ter”), was completed in 2016 and sounds just as intriguing and promising. Both podcasts can be found on Spotify!

Jared Hameloth:

I have a lot of favorite podcasts at the moment, but I’ll focus on the producer that makes most of them. WNYC creates many great news podcasts on a weekly and daily basis. Their content keeps listeners up to date on the latest Trump news, provides meta-analyses of other forms of media, and even tells real stories of real people in interesting ways. I recommend three of their flagship productions: “Trump, Inc.,” “On the Media” and “Radiolab.”

Carly O’Neill:

My favorite podcast to listen to while on a long drive is “Let’s Not Meet.” This podcast is a collection of real life scary, creepy or unusual stories that people have encountered across the United States. From instances where a group of friends were walking home one night and then turned around to see a man following them while muttering to himself, to a family noticing a man looking in their window from a tree in their backyard in the pouring rain. This podcast will definitely leave you thinking “What the heck would I do in that situation?!”

Holidays bring delightful films

COLIN VANDEN BERG
Associate Copy Editor

For the last several years, holiday season has been the only season of movies to rival the genre-diversity and spectacle of the summer. From streaming-only dramas and family films to prime Oscar-contenders to franchise blockbusters, the remainder of the 2019 film calendar features something for just about everyone.

This categorized preview will break down the stand-out films yet to be released with what’s currently known about these highly-anticipated features.

In Theaters Now:

Warner Brother’s “Joker” is a gritty, stylized take on the origin of the classic Batman villain that, due to its low budget and billion-dollar worldwide gross, is the most profitable film based on a comic book to date. It’s therefore likely to stay in theaters for most of awards-season and potentially make a splash in categories like Best Actor, Best Adapted Screenplay, and maybe Best Picture. However, “Joker” may have to compete with the acclaimed Christian Bale/Matt Damon car-centered drama “Ford V Ferrari.” Other notable recently-released films include the Elizabeth Banks-directed reboot of “Charlies Angels” which bombed opening weekend despite a strong audience-rating, the “The Shining” sequel “Doctor Sleep,” and the World-War II film “Midway.”

Also, the Christmas rom-com and Emelia Clarke vehicle “Last Christmas” is wooing audiences but frustrating critics, which is to a lesser degree also the case for the Ana Kendrick Christmas comedy “Noelle,” which debuted on the new streaming service Disney+.

Finally, “Marriage Story” debuted on Netflix Nov 6 and stars Adam Driver and Scarlet Johansson as married couple struggling through a divorce.

Opening Soon:

The weeks leading up to Thanksgiving weekend offer several high-profile films. Opening this weekend at Penn Cinema, “Jojo Rabbit” is a historical dramedy directed by “Thor: Ragnarock” and “Hunt for the Wilderpeople’s” Taika Waititi. It follows a WWII-era Hitler youth whose mother is hiding a Jewish Girl in

his attic. The boy also happens to have an imaginary friend version of Adolph Hitler (played by Waititi). This weekend features several heavy-hitters. “Frozen 2” explores ice-queen Elsa’s origins in the sequel to the 2013 animated phenomenon “Frozen.” Tom Hanks stars as Fred Rogers in the bio-pic “A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood.”

On Netflix, acclaimed director Martin Scorsese brings to life a tale of the famed union leader Jimmy Hoffa’s 1971 disappearance. It stars a digitally de-aged Robert DeNiro alongside Al Pacino and Joe Pesci. Thanksgiving weekend sees the release of “Knives Out” from Rhian Johnson, the director of “Looper” and “Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker.” This star-studded whodunit has already impressed critics and will surely make a splash come awards season and possibly at the box office.

The Holiday Film of the Year:

Speaking of “Star Wars” and box office numbers, the final big movie of the year is also the end of a 42-year cinematic journey in “Star Wars Episode IX: The Rise of Skywalker.” To wrap up the stories of three separate film trilogies, Director J.J. Abrams is resurrecting Emperor Palpatine in some unknown fashion. Most pundits had this film only behind “Avengers: Endgame” as the can’t-miss movie of the year, and for good reason.

Hopefully this break-down will provide some insight into where to spend your movie-watching dollar as the calendar winds down on the year and the decade.



PHOTO COURTESY OF YOUTUBE.COM

Taika Waititi’s “Jojo Rabbbit” is one of the most anticipated films of the year.

ALL EYES ON RYAN PACE DURING BEARS' FALL FROM GRACE

MATT HORNER
Staff Writer

To live or to die in L.A.? That was the question we all had for the Bears going into Sunday's pivotal night contest against the struggling Rams. Alas, we should all be so gullible as to believe that this football team, in its current pragmatic state, would have any shot at a playoff berth.

The Bears slow death sentence was mired in more communication failures and horrid play calling, but this game was more than the usual suspects. Every aspect of the team failed to deliver in what was the most important game of the year for Matt Nagy's team.

Nobody seems to have any essence of an idea what is going on with the Bears, and the worst part of it is that they don't seem to have any idea either.

General Manager Ryan Pace continues to hide behind closed doors, not speaking with the media or giving the fan base any sort of explanation on why his team has spiraled so far downward since last year.

With the Bears' crushing 17-7 defeat at the hands of Sean McVay's much maligned Los Angeles Rams, came the end of their certifiably depressing 2019 season.

The loss wiped any hope that fans had in their hearts for a playoff birth into the storm basin, and adds even more questions to a season that is full of them.

We do not know how they got here or what their plan is to fix it, but the benching of Mitchell Trubisky with only three minutes left in the fourth quarter tells us that this chapter in Bears history is coming to a resounding close.

After the game, the Bears PR department released a statement saying Trubisky had a hip injury that they thought warranted the benching in favor of a mediocre Chase Daniel. Despite this, everyone saw Nagy was visibly upset about his offense's last three-and-out and the clear heart-to-heart conversation he had with his quarterback in which he used his play card to hide their talk.

Now we are to believe that this was all just part of the injury process and that he was in too much pain to resume playing, despite not receiving sideline treatment or going into the medical tent one time throughout the night.

It's painfully obvious to all that the Bears are making every excuse in the book to mask the deficiency they have at quarterback. There is more to this whole fiasco than what they are leading on, much more.

Nagy has always been the guy at the podium that has had to address all the

problems on his football team, from the regression of his once promising quarterback to the absolutely indefensible kicking crisis that seems to resolve and mediate, carving a nice and neat way for him to escape the media asking questions about his bizarre play-calling. In some ways, one could feel bad for Nagy.

The media shouldn't have to be asking him questions about his awful quarterback or wildly inconsistent kicker. Both should be directed at the man who traded up to draft Trubisky and screwed up the kicking situation from the get-go.

Not a single reporter has been able to talk to general manager Ryan Pace during an NFL season. He fills the role of being a representative for the angry fan that holds his or her team to the highest expectation, and who at one point thought that this season would finally be the one they'd been dreaming about for years.

When the going gets tough, Pace hides from any sort of scrutiny from the fans, media and pretty much anyone outside of the Bears organization. In the extremely rare occasions he does speak, the team masks his obvious media relations weaknesses.

Where other general managers make themselves publicly available during disappointing seasons and hard times, being honest and open with fans and media and speaking with a purpose for as much time as needed to get a point across, Pace hides like a dog scared of the ensuing thunderstorm approaching his crumbling house.

The more he continues to be afraid, the more questions begin filling the minds of angry fans. Why do they keep getting the kicker position so wrong? Why is Khalil Mack now such a non-factor in games? There are so many more questions that fans can come up with, one being just as valid as the next.

Putting aside the weird prerogative to bench him on Sunday, we have to ask *the* question as to whether the Trubisky era is still salvageable. Will the Bears pick up his fifth-year option? All signs point to no at this juncture. The Bears will most likely bring in quarterback competition next season, or possibly sooner after Colin Kaepernick's workout.

The Bears lost in a game that the Rams were trying to give them. If they had won, they would have fooled all of us into thinking that they were team capable of resurrecting their season and making them feel vindicated.

Now it is clear and obvious that they are just a shell of their former selves, and we deserve to hear from the person in charge on what he plans to do about it.

Verstappen takes gold in Brazil

DAVID MILAM
Staff Writer

Red Bull's Max Verstappen wins amidst the chaos of the Brazilian Grand Prix ahead of incredible first time podium finishes for Pierre Gasly and Carlos Sainz.

Max Verstappen started on pole after a fantastic Saturday qualifying run, followed by Ferrari's Sebastian Vettel and Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton. Verstappen had a fantastic start to the race, comfortably holding onto first with Lewis Hamilton jumping Vettel and sliding into P2.

What followed was a constant back and forth battle between Hamilton and Verstappen. Hamilton in second, attempted the undercut by pitting first allowing him to take the lead. Red Bull responded by pitting Verstappen immediately after and fought back with a world-record setting pit stop of 1.82 second. Despite being held up in the pitlane by William's Robert Kubica, Verstappen entered the track and quickly overtook Hamilton and regained the lead.

As the titanic battle between the Red Bull and Mercedes unfolded, Lap 52 saw Hamilton's teammate Valtteri Bottas suffer an engine failure and retire from the race, prompting a full safety car.

Behind the safety car, Verstappen went back to the pits for a fresh set of soft tires, relinquishing the lead back to Hamilton. This was short lived as the safety car restart began on Lap 60 and Verstappen flew right past Hamilton into turn 1 to take back the lead.

The now closely packed grid had all drivers battling for position with the two Ferraris of Vettel and Leclerc in a close battle for P4. This battle was cut short as the Ferraris collided into each other on Lap 66 prompting a second safety car

and sending the race in chaos.

With the grid packed behind the safety car Hamilton dipped into the pits for fresh tires putting himself into P4 behind Verstappen, Albon and Gasly with only three laps to go.

As the grid was released it was a mad dash to the finish and unfortunately Red Bull's Alex Albon was caught in the middle of it as Hamilton tagged him on Lap 70 spinning the Thai driver off the track and down to P14.

As the race came to a close Verstappen sailed smoothly past the checkered flag securing his third win of the season. Behind him, Toro Rosso driver Pierre Gasly was fighting for his life as he drag raced Lewis Hamilton down the start/finish straight and crossed the line milliseconds before him to secure P2, the French driver's first podium finish of his career.

In the midfield battle saw an absolutely incredible performance from McLaren's Carlos Sainz. The Spanish driver started from the back of the grid in P20 and battled his way through the pack for an incredible P4. The results only got better as Hamilton was handed a 5 second time penalty for his collision with Albon, promoting Sainz to P3 giving his first podium finish of his career and McLaren's first podium finish since 2014.

Alfa Romeo had another excellent performance with Raikkonen and Giovinazzi finishing in P4 and P5, the best result of the season for the team.

Formula 1 heads to Abu Dhabi for the last race of the season from Nov. 29th to Dec. 1st. Although it will be hard to live up to the absolute thriller of a race this weekend, the final race of the season is sure to see some intense action as drivers battle for their last chance to score points and secure their standings this season.

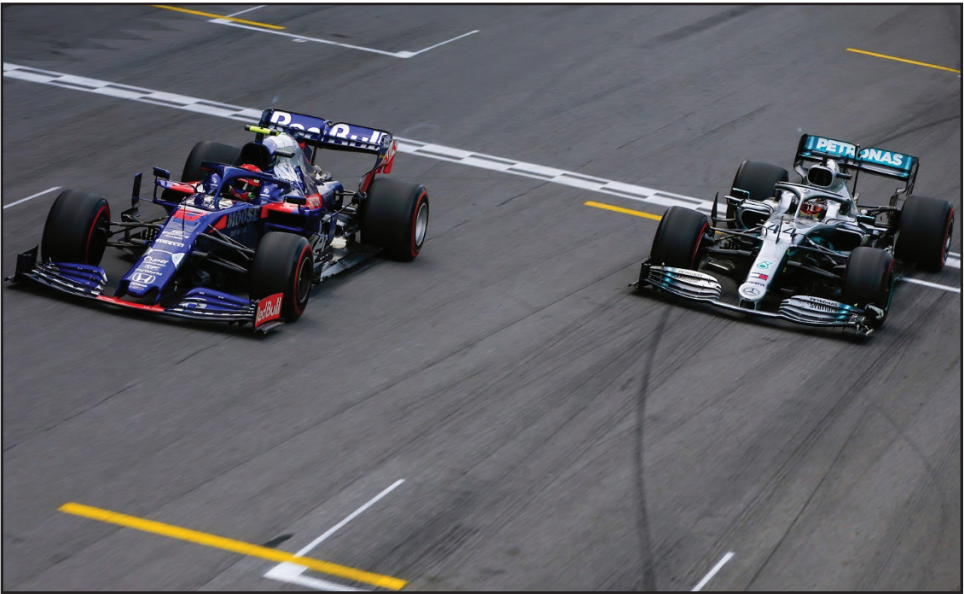


PHOTO COURTESY OF REDDIT

Pierre Gasly crosses the line milliseconds before Lewis Hamilton.

MU CONTINUES HOT START AGAINST CHEYNEY

JARED KISH
Sports Editor

The Millersville men's basketball team took on Cheyney Monday night in what was an absolute dominating win for the Marauders. With a 35-point differential, the Marauders easily cruised to an 85-50 victory.

Millersville outplayed Cheyney in all facets of the game. The Marauders shot at a .452 clip compared to Cheyney's 3.13 percentage. Millersville made almost 80% of their free throws while Cheyney was much less successful hitting just 30% from the charity stripe.

Right from the start Millersville was taking care of business. They installed their dominance early but putting up 48 points alone in the first half. Adding 37 more points in the second half they rolled right over Cheyney.

Four Marauders managed to score double-digit points which led to the overall dominance of the Millersville offense. Jaden Faulkner scored the most points for Millersville dropping 18 points. He also added six made free throws and shot 60% from the field while giving his team 26 minutes of solid play on the court.

James Sullivan dropped 11 points on two threes and three field goals made. Too had to Faulkner's 26 minutes, Sullivan added 28 minutes of his own making the duo a dangerous combination.

Millersville broke away from Cheyney in the final six minutes of the first half. The Marauders were up 30-20

when they took completely control going on a 18-2 run sinking six shots on three steals. It was all over from there as Millersville was in the driver's seat with their foot to the floor and never let up on the gas.

In fact, after suffering a small hiccup in their first game against Fairmont State on Nov. 8th, the Marauders have had their foot to the floor.

Since the loss to Fairmont State, the Marauders have won three consecutive games and have scored at least 80 points in those three games.

Millersville has been effective on the glass through this stretch.

They have totaled 40 plus rebounds in all of their four games this season. A feat that has not been done in the "Stat-crew Era" which began in the 2002-03 season.

The Marauders have played great basketball to start the season on both offense and defense. While on defense the Marauders were able to cause 14 turnovers and 12 steals which then leads to smoother offensive play.

It's clear that Millersville is meshing as a team and head coach Casey Stitzel is doing a great job to make sure his team is prepared every time they take the court.

The Marauders will look to continue their hot start as they will head across the state to take on Mercyhurst and Gannon in Erie, PA. on Saturday Nov. 23rd and Sunday Nov. 24th. The season is still young, but the Marauders are set up to do extraordinary things this year on the court.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MU ATHLETICS
Forward Ryan Davis goes up for a one-handed dunk against Cheyney.

Disappointing season ends in another loss



PHOTO COURTESY OF MU ATHLETICS
Tyler Bishop tries to generate some offense for the Marauders in their final game of the season.

CALEB WOLFE
Staff Writer

Millersville Football wrapped up their 2019 season at home this past Saturday. The Marauders took on the Mercyhurst Lakers, a team who struggled throughout the season but was on a two-game winning streak going into the match-up. This momentum would prove to be too much for the Marauders, as they had been on a four-game losing streak before this showcase.

It should be noted that both Marauder quarterbacks were injured prior to this game, and wide receiver Evan Morrill was tasked with the job of starting quarterback. While he had played the position several times before, it his first time doing so for an entire 60 minutes of play.

The Lakers set the pace of the game within the first possession of play. Two long runs, the latter of which would score a touchdown, put them on the board first. Meanwhile the Marauders threw an interception on their first play, which was thankfully negated due

to a penalty. After a punt from each team the Marauders threw another interception, which would be confirmed by the referee.

From the start of the second quarter the Lakers slowly drove down the field, marched into Marauder territory, but lost the ball on a failed fourth down attempt. After an insufficient three-and-out drive from the Marauders offense, the Marauders defense played amazing as they successfully stopped three goal line attempts, and forced the Lakers to kick a field goal. On their next drive the Marauders offense converted multiple third downs, and were able to score a touchdown pass from Morrill to Newerls. This tightened the score to 10-7 at halftime.

The third quarter featured utterly terrible offense from both teams. The Marauders started the second half with a fumble, the Lakers failed a fourth down conversion, the Marauders then missed a field goal attempt, both teams proceed to go three-and-out, the Lakers fail a second fourth down conversion, and finally the Marauders end the quarter with yet another fumble.

Thankfully the mediocrity was corrected in the fourth quarter;

however it was the Lakers who found success. A touchdown pass put the visiting team up 17-7. The Marauders would be forced to punt shortly after their first possession of the quarter started, and gave the Lakers the ball with over five minutes to play. However a handful of first downs aided the Lakers in drained out the clock and winning the game.

Coach J.C. Morgan was disappointed about the loss, but had positive remarks about the 2019 season, "They have learned a lot. Above all things, they have learned what it takes to be successful at the college level, and that will continue as we go into the spring. Our goal is that in the future these late-season games are meaningful and that we build ourselves toward being a championship program."

The Marauders final record for the season sits at 2-9 (the same record they obtained just last year), and serves as a disappointment for the fans, coaches, and players. However the team is still young, and the future looks bright.



SPORTS

T H E B A C K P A G E

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2019.

MEN'S SOCCER ARE BACK-TO-BACK PSAC CHAMPIONS

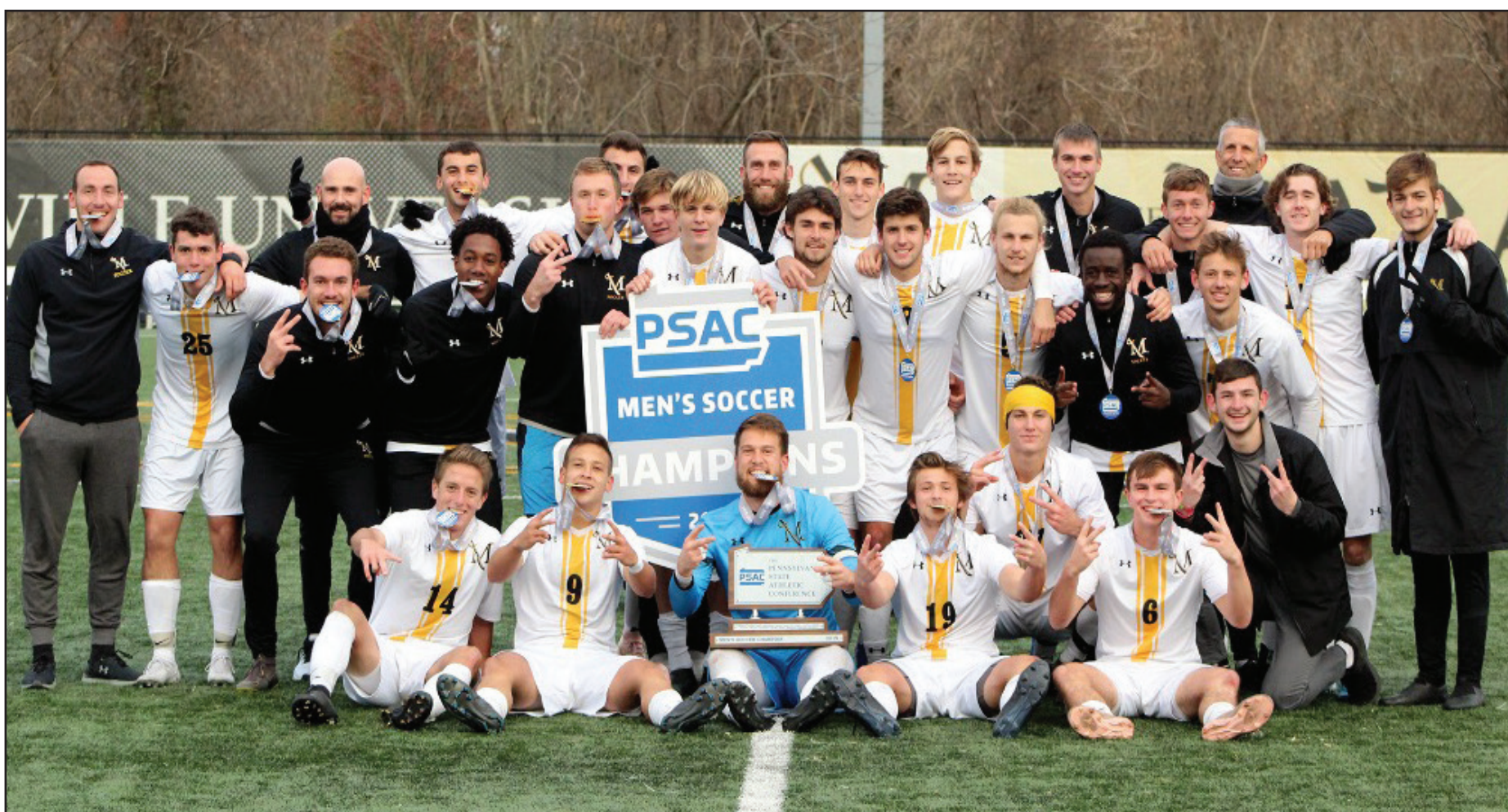


PHOTO COURTESY OF MU ATHLETICS

The Millersville men's soccer team celebrates their second consecutive PSAC championship with a 1-0 victory over Gannon on Sunday.

BRIAN MARKLEY

Associate Sports Editor

The Marauders accomplished something that only two teams have done in the last 50 years; claim back-to-back PSAC champions.

Millersville cemented their spot in the PSAC finals after their 2-1 win over Mercyhurst this past Friday, and they would then face No. 5 Gannon this past Sunday.

Both teams played conservatively as it was a battle for possession. Neither team wanted to play too aggressive, and both sides were trying to feel their opponent out.

The Marauders had an opportunity in the 19th minute through sophomore forward Spencer Shortt who crossed the ball into the box for freshman forward Frank Astarita whose half-volley was pushed away by the Gannon keeper.

The first half would end scoreless, and there would be everything to play for in the second half.

The Marauders had a perfect start to the second half when freshman mid-fielder Bob Hennessey put a shot in past the Gannon keeper a mere 30 seconds into the second half.

The goal was assisted by junior forward/mid-fielder Matteo Adiletta who placed the ball into the penalty box where Hennessey could put the goal away just inside the left post.

It was all Marauders in the second half. Another opportunity presented itself in the 52nd minute as senior forward

Jacob Gosselin broke through the Gannon defense off of a counterattack and only had the keeper to beat. Gosselin's shot was deflected, landing at the feet of Shortt who's attempt was cleared off the line by a fleeing Gannon defense.

Another chance came for Millersville in the 65th minute as the Marauders once again looked to strike off the counterattack. This time, sophomore forward Nathan Erb and Gosselin had a two-on-one against the Gannon keeper.

Gosselin laced the shot himself, but the Gannon keeper made a nice kick save to keep his team in it.

Gannon was unable to find the back of the net, even though they out-shot the Marauders throughout the game 9-8. Millersville's keeper, senior Darian McCauley, was voted MVP of the entire tournament. McCauley kept Gannon off the board, along with making eight critical saves in the semi-final match against Mercyhurst. While Gannon held the advantage in shots, Millersville had the advantage in corner-kicks 6-4.

Coach Steve Widdowson was proud of his team and how they refused to give up even after a slow start to the season.

"To go back-to-back is unbelievable. People don't do it. When we walked off the field after the 5-1 battering by Wilmington in the first game of the season I don't think anyone would have given us a chance at making the final but we were fantastic today. My

guys were absolutely superb. This is what we've built up to. It's a marathon not a sprint and we've timed it right again."

Widdowson was also pleased with how his team responded to his message at half-time, "We came out in the second half doing exactly what we said to do at halftime. We got a little too reliant on going big and we needed to put the ball down, find feet, pass and move, and break them down that way. It was exactly what we needed to do and it led to the goal and gave everyone a lift."

Millersville's next step will be to take part in the NCAA tournament, where they will face some of the top teams in the nation. However, coach Widdowson is confident in his team going into the tournament.

"I'm looking forward to going up against these teams again because I know we can do well against them. We played four of the top five teams. I'm not sure how far they've developed but we've certainly developed a long way. I think we have the belief that if we get one of those teams again we can handle them and we can actually beat them. I'm excited to just enjoy the NCAA

tournament and see how far we can go. At the end of the day, we've got our insurance card, we've got a championship and that can't be taken away from us. We're a very dangerous team because we're relaxed and on our day we can compete with anybody."

Millersville will head to the campus

of Adelphi University as the eighth seed to take on ninth seeded Post University on Thursday Nov. 21st.

Until then, the Marauders are PSAC champions for the second consecutive year, and it will be something that the program will remember for a long, long time.

