Millersville social work program fights opioid epidemic - pg. 3

A.S.I.A. strives to share the many cultures of Asia with MU - pg. 10

Murder on the Orient Express at Fulton Theatre - pg. 11

Marauders blast off in Houston invitational - pg. 16
On Jan. 16, 2020, Millersville University shared its $1 million grant to 36 colleges and universities to combat sexual assault, thanks to the “It’s On Us” initiative. Millersville’s portion of the grant is $29,995.

Millersville’s Title IX Coordinator, Eliza Beth Swantek is thrilled about the open opportunities the grant will put forth, “It’s very exciting for the university and for us because, over the last four years, we’ve been able to receive some form of funding through ‘It’s On Us’ campaign and the grant through Pennsylvania,” she said. She feels that it is important to get the message out in order to really diminish the stigma of speaking out, “It is very difficult to speak out about any kind of assault. Plus, they don’t know what the process is like. It’s because there’s a stigma around reporting. So anything that we can do in order to prevent that stigma, I think is helpful because I know that some individuals, they don’t know what goes on, so they don’t want to report it because they’re like, ‘Are people going to believe me? Is this actually going to help me or is it gonna make it worse?’” Swantek quotes.

As stated on the Millersville University website, Millersville is strongly committed to maintaining a positive learning, working, and living environment for all, and assuring its educational and employment environment is free from unlawful discrimination or harassment. Swantek goes around campus to educate students, faculty, and staff about the resources available. However, she explicitly mentions that she can’t persuade everyone to speak out and use those resources if they aren’t ready to.

“The grant gives us the opportunity to continue to implement strategies and take the pledge that it is on all of us to listen, support and report concerns of sexual misconduct in order to create an environment in which sexual misconduct is unacceptable.”

- Elizabeth Swantek

Swantek’s brief discloses these programs for the upcoming year, “We’re in the process of recreating and rebranding [the] ‘It’s On Us’ Group here on campus,” she explained. “One of the programs she described was a trauma-informed yoga session, which is “separate from that, and in addition to counseling that we offer, and then [enhances] the training materials for our Veterans Resource Center, our international students.”

Right now, the program is only in English. Swantek is therefore offering the support guides in different languages, and “then really working on it for next January.”

Swantek wants to push forward the issue on stalking since January was Stalking Awareness Month. Swantek wants more educational initiatives on stalking, such as raising the public’s understanding of stalking. According to the Stalking Resource Center, over 7.5 million people are stalked each year in the United States. Stalking is often committed by someone the victim knows, and stalking by an intimate partner is the most common and the most dangerous type of stalking, “it’s an area of education that we can work on.”

Swantek is also going to be launching a climate survey this year. The climate survey will dictate what the next steps will be and will focus on students to see the educational efforts and where Millersville can improve.

Millersville plans to create a large scale It’s On Us kick-off event for our community. It will also continue to offer enhanced training and materials. Millersville will be working with Veterans Resource Center, International Programs, and Student Access and Success. It will also collaborate with other PASSHE schools.

“The grant gives us the opportunity to continue to implement strategies and take the pledge that it is on all of us to listen, support, and report concerns of sexual misconduct in order to create an environment in which sexual misconduct is unacceptable,” Swantek expresses.
MU students combat opioid crisis

According to Millersville News, students within the Master of Social Work, or the Doctor of Nursing Practice will receive eighty-four, $10,000 scholarships to help with their schooling and combating the opioid crisis. These scholarships are thanks to a 1.35 million dollar three-year grant given by the Federal Health Resources and Services Administration. The grant, titled Opioid Workforce Expansion Program, is also paying for three training sessions per semester in relation to opioid addiction prevention, treatment, and recovery. The events are open to students receiving the scholarships, as well as other members of the community.

There are 16 students currently within the program, but another 10 students will be enrolled within the next two years.

According to Millersville News, Dr. Marc Felizzi, associate professor of social work, says, “Students are already benefiting by receiving training from experts in the field of addiction prevention, treatment and recovery.” Dr. Felizzi also noted, “Additionally, students are obtaining experiences within an approved agency as part of field placements so they are able to apply their new knowledge and skills.”

When asked about the grant, graduate student Channel Lowery said, “The grant will also give me the opportunity to tackle some of the educational expenses that come with being a graduate student. After I have completed the program, I will be receiving a $10,000 scholarship.” As college tuition is on the rise, the grant is helping students be able to fund their time here at Millersville.

Graduate student Kylie Bradley is currently participating in field work at Colonial House Inc, a ninety-day inpatient treatment facility. Bradley has big plans involving the grant, “Upon receiving the OWEP grant, I plan to open a non-profit drug and alcohol program that focuses on personal trauma and serves addicted individuals using evidence-based approaches. With my experience in policy creation and implementation, I intend on advocating to our local legislators for stricter guidelines and oversight in treatment programs.” Bradley also noted, “Far too often, individuals fall through the cracks because they are not receiving evidence-based treatment and because the Drug and Alcohol industry has minimal regulation and state oversight. Those who are facing substance use issues deserve the best treatment possible and I hope to dedicate my career to being their voice in various ways.”

According to Millersville News, Felizzi says, “This grant allows Millersville to increase collaboration with community members, professionals and with our colleagues at institutions of higher education across the country.” Felizzi continues, “It places us at the forefront of opioid and substance abuse prevention, treatment and recovery, and offers us an opportunity to increase the University’s level of recognition at a number of levels. Most important – participation in the grant gives our students opportunities to develop and display skills that are sought after in the workplace, and places them in a unique position to serve.”

Have an eye for news? Contact our News Editor at news@thesnapper.com
When people think of Lancaster County, a bucolic picture with ideals of clean living likely sweeps their mind. However, in actuality Lancaster has the lowest air quality in Pennsylvania. Particulate matter and smog exist in Lancaster’s atmosphere at levels that can be detrimental to the health of residents. Several factors, both under and out of the control of the county, are contributing to this problem. Agriculture, industry, and transportation – the pillars that give rise to modern civilization also give rise to harmful pollutants.

One of the great things about Lancaster is that residents can enjoy pastoral living while being relatively close to major population centers like Philly, Baltimore, New York, and Washington D.C. However, all of the traffic and all of the industry that comes with them contributes approximately one third of the airborne pollutants facing Lancaster, according Millersville to meteorology professor Dr. Richard Clark, the department chair of Earth Sciences.

Dr. Clark, who specializes in atmospheric science, explains that this pollution is in major part due to the principle of differential heating over sloping terrain. As the Earth heats up throughout the day, air higher in the atmosphere does so more quickly. Warmer air has lower air pressure than colder air, and the flow of air goes from high to low. The Appalachians are an example of “sloping terrain” and at their elevation the air has a higher pressure so air in the area tends to move towards them where it acts as a barrier trapping whatever that air was carrying.

If you can picture a map of the East Coast and make your way southeast, you would see the Atlantic Ocean, the northeast corridor that contains all of that industry and pollution, and eventually the Appalachians. The predominate wind direction during the day, especially in the summer is southeasterly, so all of those pollutants are being carried towards the mountains and getting trapped. What lies in between those pollutants and the mountains? Lancaster.

The types of pollutants talked about thus far are mostly VOCs, volatile organic compounds which react to heat from the sun to form ozone and other components of smog. Another major problem for air quality is particulate matter, or soot.

The agricultural industry in Lancaster is a major source for dust and other particles ejected into the air. Wood burning stoves, boilers, coal, and garbage burning are other sources of these potentially dangerous particles like carbon detritus and micro plastics. Breathing these particles in any way isn’t great for your health, but the most dangerous are those designated PM 2.5. These particles are less than 2.5 microns wide and can make their way into your lungs.

On campus, the Department of Sustainability is working to reduce carbon emissions and switch out our boiler-based heating for more environmentally friendly options. In greater Lancaster organizations like the Partnership for Public Health are actively monitoring and working on solutions for low air quality.

As EPA regulations clamp down on industrial emissions, we can hope that air quality will begin to improve. For now, keep a face mask around.

**Pennsylvania: Who has the worst air quality? (We Do)**

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<th>Days of elevated air pollution in 2018</th>
<th>Population</th>
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Lancaster has lowest air quality in PA

JAKE MARKOFF  
Staff Writer

PHOTO COURTESY OF PXFUEL

The agricultural industry in Lancaster is a major source for dust and other particles ejected into the air. Wood burning stoves, boilers, coal, and garbage burning are other sources of these potentially dangerous particles like carbon detritus and micro plastics.
Star Wars is in a weird place right now, but the good news is that there is some amazing video games that have come out lately. The fanbase. I love the original trilogy and the prequel trilogy, but I also love the sequel trilogy. I miss the time when we were all Star Wars fans. Love all Star Wars content and respect others to do so as well. There is plenty of Star Wars for us all.

JULIA WALTERS
Managing Editor

Despite this year’s Super Bowl halftime show being phenomenal and full of women displaying absolute power, there have been many contentious feelings surrounding its reception. In case you missed it, Shakira and Jennifer Lopez tag-teamed this year’s Super Bowl halftime show this past Sunday evening. Many were upset about provocative dances and scantily clad costumes but clearly failed to understand the true meaning of the performance. The fact that people are trying to tear down these women who put on an energetic and inclusive halftime show with more polarization is simply ridiculous to me. We need to stop complaining about women’s bodies and sexuality and start focusing on the things that truly matter – the culturally significant messages interlaced within their performance.

The nearly 15-minute performance started with Shakira performing a high energy medley of her (arguably) biggest hits, including “She Wolf,” “Whenever,” “Wherever,” and “Hips Don’t Lie.” Immediately I was taken aback by the energy and the ridiculously talented way in which her body moved through-out the entire performance. I’ve never seen anyone move like that and I likely never will again. Not only were her dance moves impeccable, but she highlighted her musical talents elsewhere during the show, with her playing the guitar and even at one point hopping on the drums during J. Lo’s portion of the show. Her talent wasn’t the only thing that was showcased during her performance, though. Not only was Shakira’s portion of the halftime show astounding, but it was also culturally significant in a multitude of ways that might have been confusing at first glance.

To start, most know Shakira to be very prominently Columbian. She was born and raised there and holds her heritage extremely close to her heart. However, not many know that she is also half Lebanese. To pay homage to her Lebanese descent, she trilled out a tongue vocalization, called a zaghoua, a practice common to many middle eastern cultures. It’s a way to express excitement and celebration. While it is something that I would love to watch in the halftime show for as long as the time for those who aren’t familiar with it, it was actually a hugely important representation for many people.

As well as this, during the final song of “Waka Waka (This Time for Africa),” Shakira and her dancers performed a traditional Columbian dance, champeña, that originates from the African descents of Colombia’s coastal regions and is an integral part of Colombian culture. This genre of dance is known for its rapid movements in order to keep time with the drum beats.

When Jennifer Lopez came onstage, this was when things got spicer. Lopez, a seasoned dancer, had to learn how to pole dance for her recent film, Hustlers. She used these skills to the max during the halftime show, where she did integrative moves on the pole in only away the most professional and athletic of dancers could emulate. This is just one of many issues people took issue with during the halftime show. Many were coining it the #StripperBowl on Twitter and complaining that the halftime show should be something for multiple generations to enjoy, including young children, and many felt that this, along with the scantily clad outfits and the provocative dance moves were simply too inappropriate for a Super Bowl.

But I have a completely different take. It was so empowering to watch these talented women perform the halftime show. Not only are they strong Latinas, but they are mothers, they are confident in themselves and their sexuality, and they are showing that women can be powerful and talented and embrace their sexuality no matter what their ages are. A particularly poignant moment was when Jennifer Lopez’s 11-year-old daughter, Emme, who came out to help sing “Born in the U.S.A.” by Bruce Springsteen and Let’s Get Loud by Jennifer Lopez, kicked behind them were young girls dancing in illuminated cages, meant to symbolize the children put in cages at the U.S. Mexican border as per President Trump’s immigration policy. During this part of the performance as well, Lopez came out donning a Puerto Rican flag on one side and the U.S. Stars and stripes on the other, meant to illustrate that Puerto Rico, a territory of the U.S., is part of the United States, despite how badly President Trump has treated the territory during his presidency.

Overall, the halftime show with Shakira and J. Lo was powerful, high energy, and showed women that their voice will be heard and that they are truly capable of greatness. Latinas and other cultures were represented with great honor and the entirety of the performance was only showcasing confidence and sexual identity but cultural significance in a time of horrible polarization.
Creating a resonating character is hard, as they must appeal to vast audiences while also being unique. In addition, the iconic characters will likely utilize a memorable catchphrase, especially when associated with the marketing of a product. In fact, I bet many of you have experienced “They’re Great” akin to Tony the Tiger or actually consumed frosted flakes.

Another factor of the coronavirus is racism remarks against individuals of Asian heritage. While memes coinciding with major news is now commonplace, many are posting jokes about Asian individuals potentially holding the virus. This feeling of resentment has also spread worldwide, with Japanese Twitter users spreading the phrase “ChineseDon’tComeToJapan.” Viruses don’t discriminate, so focusing on the alienation of one group is foolish.

So, what can be done to avoid infection? As aforementioned, no cure exists, with the probability it may only become treatable similar to the Ebola virus. Despite this, researchers innovate medical technology, with disease treatment advancing at a rapid rate. In the meantime, utilize basic health precautions, such as washing, washing your hands, and getting proper sleep. Society has experienced numerous outbreaks in human history, so I hold faith in innovators to conquer yet another epidemic.
Radio offers a great place to express myself

MARY MILLER
Staff Writer

Despite the fact that broadcasted radio is seen as somewhat of a dying art form, due to the rise in popular streaming services like Spotify and Apple Music, the importance of campus radio stations remains.

As a DJ for WIXQ, I may have a bit of a bias, but I believe that campus radio stations are one of the best ways for students to express themselves, no matter what major they belong to. Other radio stations tend to stick to one genre; there are plenty of classic rock stations, some stations that feature today’s hits, and through the Sirius XM service, there are even entire channels dedicated to single bands.

Campus stations on the other hand feature not only different types of music, but some students use the platform to talk about sports, their views on politics, or anything else they’re passionate about, all on one station.

Not only does it give students a great creative outlet, but campus radio stations also don’t just play what’s popular. Local bands can be featured on their respective nearby stations, giving them a platform to be heard. In fact, campus stations in the 80s supported bands like U2 and R.E.M. These groups are well-known names now, but maybe they wouldn’t have reached that success without the support of college kids.

Most importantly, it gives the students valuable experience. At Millersville specifically, each student is only required to take three credits of public speaking, but speaking on air knowing that others are listening gives DJs any extra practice they could use. The basic technological and time management skills that the radio provides don’t hurt a student’s resume either.

All in all, while streaming platforms are convenient, continued support of your local college campus is one of the greatest ways to listen to music.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WIXQ
WIXQ is a radio station based out of Millersville University.

Across:

2. Lost to Driving Miss Daisy in 1989
6. Lost to The Last Emperor in 1987
8. “Life is a____, ol’ chum, so come to the_____,” lost to The Godfather in 1972
9. A Racing Horse lost to Lord of the Rings; Return of the King in 2003
13. Tornado induced fever dream, lost to Gone with the Wind in 1939
15. The Mayor of Castro Street, lost to Slumdog Millionaire in 2008
16. Both the 1st and 4th episode, lost to Annie Hall in 1977
17. Possession by barfing demon, lost to The Sting in 1973
18. Angel got his wings, lost to The Best Years of Our Lives in 1946
20. Likes Reese’s Cups, lost to Gandhi in 1892
22. Marlon Brando’s first nominee for best actor, lost to American in Paris in 1951

Down:

1. Lost to terms of Endearment in 1983
3. Wladyslaw Szpilman, lost to Chicago in 2002
4. A western that Inspired Logan (2017), lost to From Here to Eternity in 1953
5. 9th highest grossing film of all time, lost to The Sound of Music in 1965
9. Lost to Forrest Gump in 1994
10. You have to fool them. They have to fool themselves,” lost to Gigi in 1958
11. Third film Kubrick was nominated for best director, lost to The French Connection in 1971
12. Without our traditions our lives would as shaky as,” lost to The French Connection in 1971
14. Scared people away from beaches, lost to One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest in 1975
19. Amish Harrison Ford, lost to Out of Africa in 1985

So close! The almost best picture reward winners crossword

An Alexander Bernshtein Crossword
On Friday January 10, 2020 an unlikely tourist attraction came to Lancaster: The Cartoon Network Hotel. This new family-friendly hotel features not only classic Cartoon Network shows like “Adventure Time,” “Ben 10,” and “The Powerpuff Girls,” but also newer shows like “Steven Universe,” and “We Bare Bears.”

Palace Entertainment owns and operates the hotel. They also oversee about 22 family entertainment centers, water parks and amusement parks around the country, including Dutch Wonderland in Lancaster. All of the branding work is done in conjunction with Cartoon Network. Members of the Cartoon Network team even came to view the location before the action was made to start the production of this one-of-a-kind hotel.

Many people not living in Lancaster county questioned why Lancaster was chosen for this hotel. “This county very much still has the perception of being only Amish attractions and cornfields, but those who live here, work here, know certainly that heritage is a big part of this place, but there’s so much more,” Jeffrey Eisenberg, Director of Marketing, explains why Lancaster is such a fit.

He continues, “Lancaster as a whole, is really a family-friendly destination. When we were talking with Cartoon Network we saw that, and I think that they saw that it was a great fit.” Especially in the summer, Lancaster is visited by so many families from New York City, Baltimore, and Philadelphia. These are huge markets that visit Lancaster in the summer.

For decades before the Cartoon Network Hotel was built, the structure of the building once held a Continental Inn. When Palace Entertainment purchased the property, they knew that they wanted this to be a themed, immersive experience, not just any old, regular hotel. When the parent company first approached Cartoon Network, they immediately were looking for a more location-based entertainment like what the hotel currently features.

Eisenberg explains that both teams liked the building structure. “Ultimately everybody decided that this building, the former Continental Inn, had good bones so to speak. If a hotel was built from the ground up, the lobby would not look like this. The architecture would so to speak. If a hotel was built from the ground up, the lobby would not look like this. The architecture would so to speak. If a hotel was built from the ground up, the lobby would not look like this. The architecture would so to speak. If a hotel was built from the ground up, the lobby would not look like this.

The renovation process began in late 2018 and took over a year to gut the building from top to bottom. The renovation process began in late 2018 and took over a year to gut the building from top to bottom.

The Cartoon Network Hotel may not have Dexter and Johnny Bravo in their room themes, but they can be seen on immersive screens around the hotel.

The original structure remains but everything else is new.

The Cartoon Network Hotel features the Cartoon Kitchen, the Cartoon Network Store, the Bearista Cafe, an outdoor and indoor pool, as well as multiple play areas that bring the cartoons to life.

The main restaurant, the Cartoon Kitchen, goes beyond a basic burger and fries meal. Eisenberg talks about the unique menu, “I think people are really going to be blown away by the food offerings, many of which are straight out of the Adventure Time Cookbook from Cartoon Network itself. We have Bacon Pancakes, we have the Together Breakfast, we have a lot of favorites that people will recognize from Cartoon Network shows.”

They created the kitchen in a way that guests can see animations on screens to “see into the kitchen” and watch the characters cooking your food, making a mess, and washing dishes. The tv shows inspired many of the dishes, either the entire plate itself or elements of it like Powerpuff Girl colored sprinkles on your pancakes or desserts.

A “We Bare Bears” themed spot for drinks: the Bearista Cafe can be located next to the kitchen. This coffee shop features classic drinks like coffees, frappes, smoothies, and homemade lemonade, as well as themed drinks such as the Ice Bear Vanilla Bean Frappe.

The cafe also doubles as a bar after 11 a.m. Bar-tenders create fun, inventive drinks like the Rock Pop Martini, which comes with an entire stick of rock candy in it. The hotel tries to have features that will be fun for adults and parents, not just the kids.

On the other side of the lobby are multiple gaming opportunities for fans of all Cartoon Network Shows. Kids can color and scan their own creations into a large screen on the wall. Guests also have the option to make yourself a powerpuff girl and the design can then be emailed to you.

The Director of Marketing talks about the original vision of the immersive designs of the hotel, “We knew from the get go that there had to be some kind of play area, and we wanted to make it as interactive and unique as possible. That was one of the big pieces when designing this hotel: we wanted it to be more than seeing characters on tv screen or on walls. You can do that at home. We wanted kids and families to have moments where they were actually interacting with the characters, seeing the characters coming to life, doing fun, whimsical things.”

Next to the “Ben 10” themed arcade, The Omnicon, there are two virtual reality games. In the “Ben 10” VR game, you become one of the aliens, fighting other aliens while meteors are being thrown at you. The “We Bare Bears” game is based off an episode where the characters start their own food truck. This is a continuation of that concept. “You become one of the bears, you are in the food truck driving around town, taking orders from people. When I played it, I set the grille on fire many times. They are very convincing experiences,” Eisenberg jokes.

The hotel rooms vary in size and theme, but all of them have characters from “Adventure Time,” “Ben 10,” “The Powerpuff Girls,” “The Amazing World of Gumball,” “Steven Universe,” and “We Bare Bears.”

The most popular rooms are the ones that have a bunk bed with a tv at the foot of each bed, featuring Cartoon Network shows. While the hotel can’t guarantee that you’ll get a certain room theme, if you give them an advanced heads up then they will try and accommodate your choice of room theme.

The indoor and outdoor pool can be found outside of the rooms. Disconnected from the main building, the heated indoor pool is open all year. The resort-style outdoor pool is zero depth, which means you can walk into it from all sides. The zero depth entry pool is nice from an enjoyment standpoint, but also for accessibility needs. The outdoor space also features a “PowerPuff Girls” splash pad and an “Adventure Time” cone slide.

Starting summer 2020, an outdoor movie screen shaped as Finn’s hat from “Adventure Time” will be up. Eisenberg tells the team that they had to figure out the right set of rights to the show, “but we’ll have a premier of a new episode of a show, or perhaps even a new show too, so we’ll see.”

The Cartoon Network Hotel features viewers’ favorite tv shows like “Adventure Time,” “Ben 10,” and “The Powerpuff Girls.”

The Cartoon Network Hotel may not have Dexter and Johnny Bravo in their room themes, but they can be seen on immersive screens around the hotel.
Marauder Graphics is a small group on Millersville University's campus that does screen printing and graphic design jobs for other clubs and organizations. The club is made up of graphic communication students, but anyone interested in graphic design is encouraged to join.

Macy Souders, president of MG, got involved from her teachers and peers pushing her towards the club, which has helped her in the end. “You get to meet a lot of the upperclassmen in the graphic communications department and get an idea of what the major entails in the future,” Souders explains.

Souders talks about the various accomplishments and opportunities through this club such as building resumes, creating connections, developing printing skills, and becoming closer to the department heads.

Alejandro Rosario, MG treasurer expands on this, “The experience and opportunities through this club are so undervalued. She continues, “The motivation and connections I have made has created so many opportunities.”

“The upperclassmen are the reason me and Megan (Vice President of MG) have our internships now. It was all about meeting them,” Souders explains.

Along with the accomplishments, MG helps and hosts several special events. The club takes a professional development trip once a semester to a print industry conference. This shows students how to network and understand what industry experience looks like. Marauder Graphics annually hosts open houses for the students, but anyone interested in graphic design is encouraged to join.

During our meeting on Jan. 28, he informed me that he is now the proud owner of a “swan fact book,” and that he wants to use this book to promote two of the most well-known inhabitants on campus.

He has been working on this plan by spending time at the pond in the middle of campus, where he records video of the swans, incorporates facts from his library, and shares it through Instagram.

He shared that even though it may seem like a silly thing to do as a university president, it “translates to something bigger by opening up conversations with students.”

He noted that being open and non-formal in communication helps keep him accessible to students whether it’s online or as he’s walking around campus.

But he also said that being up with the times keeps him in communication with alumni as well. He said that he was recently asked about the swans by a 78-year-old alumnus, and that they had a conversation about swans and how campus has changed over the years.

During ‘Monday’s with Miller,’ Dr. Wubah shares swan facts while hanging out at the pond.
In search of more cultural representation at Millersville University, students have formed a club that celebrates Asian culture and heritage. The Asian Student Inclusivity Association, or A.S.I.A., was established in Fall 2019 and is now beginning their soft launch in the Spring 2020 semester. Starting next semester, they will be a full organization under the Intercultural Center.

Lia Toigo, the current president of A.S.I.A., explains the basis of the club, “We’re called the Asian Student Inclusivity Association, because we invite Asian students, Pacific Islanders, and supporters of that community to come learn about the different cultures of Asia, celebrate the holidays, and just hang out and have fun.” A noticeable lack of representation for Asian American and Pacific Islander students on MU’s campus started the establishment of the club. “Last year with the multicultural organizations and some of the other cultural events, Asia was left out along with some of the other countries. We just wanted to see what people thought about that. Also, we noticed that there wasn’t an Asian organization, at least for the past three years, so we wanted to start a new one,” Toigo explains.

Mei Ka Reichard, founder of the club, sent out a Google forms survey in response to this, asking questions regarding what students thought. As a follow up, she started working with the Intercultural Center and SGA to form the club. Toigo then took over as president.

Although A.S.I.A is just taking off, they already have 50 to 60 group members, many of which came from the previous survey that circulated. They have also participated in multiple events like MU’s Multicultural Showcase and Org Outbreak. A.S.I.A. participates at the Multicultural Showcase. The Asian Student Inclusivity Association’s president touches on joining the college club, “We definitely want to get more people joining, because I think a lot of people think that we’re strictly an Asian organization, just for Asian students, but we’re open to everyone. We want more people to join, whether you’re Asian or just a supporter.”

The original name for the club was the Asian Students in America, but they decided to change the name and open the title up to make it more welcoming to non Asian students. Anyone is welcome to come and learn about different cultures. They want to bridge the gap between international students and people who think that they can’t join the club. Toigo believes this would open the door to more understanding between cultures. “Some of us in the A.S.I.A. club have experienced some form of microaggression, so in this way, we can educate people then also say what is appropriate and what’s not appropriate. Another event that we’re looking to have is a talk about microaggression.” Word of their club is being spread through Asian-themed fundraisers. On January 27, A.S.I.A. held a dumpling sale to help their savings. They made chicken and pork dumplings, along with chicken, pork, and vegetable momos. The sale was so popular that they sold out in less than an hour.

The recipes for the dumplings came from club members, some of who are part of the College Assistance Migrant Program. There are also some students who grew up in a bilingual household, so they had personal recipes from their families. The Asian Student Inclusivity Association plans on having another dumpling sale on Thursday, March 5. Another Asian-themed fundraiser will be taking place on campus in the Student Memorial Center on Wednesday, February 12 for Valentine’s Day. A.S.I.A. will be selling handmade origami bouquets of flowers along with origami boxes of Pocky. Coming up, there will also be a lantern festival social and they are looking to celebrate Holi, a spring Hindu holiday.

Lia Toigo is happy with where the club is right now. “I’m actually impressed by how far we’ve come, because considering we only had about 10 people that really started the organization in the fall, and now we have 50-60 people looking to come to events and help, it’s honestly amazing,” she illustrates.

Clubs like the Asian Student Inclusivity Association celebrates diversity and allows all students to feel represented on campus. Although, they are just setting off, A.S.I.A. continues to grow as more students see the importance of cultural representation.

The Asian Student Inclusivity Association was first established in Fall 2019. A.S.I.A. sold out of dumplings within the first hour of their fundraiser.
The Fulton's production of "Murder on the Orient Express" is a sprawling tale on this classic Agatha Christie murder mystery. The plot centers around Detective Hercule Poirot (Warren Kelley) who is aboard the famed and luxurious, Orient Express. After a sudden murder occurs on the train, Poirot is tasked into investigating the case. As he gets to know the eight suspects on the train deeper, a tale of great intrigue and allure is spun.

Kelley makes for an engaging and humorous guide into this world of mystery and intrigue as Poirot. The character of Poirot is eccentric yet also very methodical in his dealings. He comes onto the Orient Express not intending to go into his detective persona and instead for pleasure. Yet, when the murder occurs, Poirot is hot on the case. With a winking eye to the audience, Kelley is a constant delight with his outrageous accent for the character and deadpan delivery. Kelley's Poirot is certainly eccentric yet downright serious and sincere in his career of sniffing out crimes. Seeing the character piece together is delightful.

The ensemble is very strong in this show, yet it is the set design by William James Mohney that elicits a theatrical marvel as one scene to another is a theatrical marvel as they effortlessly glide along The Fulton’s added back-stage wing space. Mohney's earlier set pieces for a restaurant scene and even a moment outside the train where passengers board are particularly eye catching. Mohney's set is complimented perfectly by Paul Black's atmospheric lights that constantly excite with bright blues and at one point reds that suggest a sense of comfort and luxury to the train, always with a hint of darkness underneath. Also particularly noteworthy are the gorgeous costumes from Anthony Lascoskie Jr.'s transforming wardrobe and makeup design for the characters. The creative elements in this production are a grand marvel that are the perfect combination of fine design work and theatrical storytelling.

Marc Robin for this production assembles a top notch ensemble of Fulton Theatre veterans who are excellent character actors who imbue this piece with the sense of comedy and twisting melodrama that this story requires. Robin directs this play as a spectacle complete with grand set pieces and reveals. The director also isn’t afraid to embrace the comedic nature in the script by Ken Ludwig. Even during moments of extreme tension, Robin balances it with side splitting comedic moments from Leos. These moments of amusement ease the audience into the world of this play, slowly setting them up for the twists to come. Robin's commendable talent in managing the tonal shifts between comedy and drama is particularly impressive.

His direction is fast paced and keeps the play moving with surprises throughout. The Fulton Theatre's production of “Murder on the Orient Express” is a nonstop thrill ride with excellent performances from a strongly assembled ensemble of actors, a grand creative design that is worth the price of admission, and a story that leaves viewers on the edge of their seats. The Fulton's mainstage series is usually reserved for large scale musicals, yet this show is a reminder of the transporting force of a great play and its satisfaction that it can bring to its audience.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE FULTON THEATRE

The Fulton’s, ‘Murder on the Orient Express’ are a well-oiled machine.

...Josh Rittberg

The film revolves around Mickey Pearson (Matthew McConaughey), a ruthless gangster leading the underground distribution of marijuana in London, England.

When rivals and allies hear of Pearson’s desires to pull out of crime, deceit and sabotage arise, with Pearson left to prove why he is the “king of the jungle.”

I enjoyed the film often has moments where the audience must interpret how the scene really occurred. As the main “protagonist,” McConaughey performs well as a serious crime boss, especially in scenes where he’s displayed at his most fearsome; yet, Charlie Hunnan as Ray arguably carries the film, both in narrative and performance.

Other highlights include Coach (Colin Ferrel) and Fletcher (Hugh Grant), providing more eccentric performances, contrasting Hunnan and McConaughey’s stoic characterizations.

I enjoyed how Ritchie gradually built tension and tied in characters overtime. At first, I was nervous with the constant branching and jumping to different characters, believing the plot would become convoluted. As the film progressed, however, the relation between characters and events felt much more natural. This especially made the plot twists and climatic scenes towards the end feel more satisfying, providing a proper conclusion to an extensive tale. In other words, the movie definitely becomes more enthralling in the latter half of its runtime.

Despite being an action movie, I enjoyed the level of groundedness to the violence. While I may certainly indulge in immoderately violent cinema, lessened violence adds plausibility to the story.

In addition, when there was violence, the impact became much greater, along with being relevant to advancing the plot.

I felt myself more interested in Ray than Pearson, especially with Ray’s backstory being nearly nonexistent.

One particular event which stuck out in my mind is when crucial dialogue is found through lip reading technology, which also leads to some very humorous jokes.

Speaking of jokes, many of the humorous moments bit well. While some of the humor involved low brow swearing, other moments included highly entertaining improv-esque character interactions.

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Mac Miller lives through new album ‘Circles’

It has been a little over a year now since the passing of Pittsburgh artist and rapper Mac Miller, but his legacy continues to live on through his newly released posthumous album, ‘Circles.’

‘Circles’ is a continuation of Miller’s 2018 Grammy-nominated album ‘Swimming,’ the overarching concept connecting the two albums being ‘swimming in circles.’

Sonically, ‘Circles’ is relaxing. Miller’s voice is soothing over the strings and funky baselines that dominate the album, and it is a very peaceful yet funky listen. Miller is also singing more than he is rapping on ‘Circles,’ and he sounds great. Miller has sung before on songs, but not to this extent.

‘Circles’ further shows Miller as an artist rather than just a rapper. All artists undergo growth throughout their careers, but it is hard to point out another hip-hop artist who changed their sound so drastically throughout their life span as a creative.

It is apparent through ‘Circles’ that this new sound that Miller was making was the type of music that he desperately wanted to make.

Miller was always in his wheelhouse when rapping, but his vocal performance on ‘Circles’ is the best he has ever sounded singing.

The content on ‘Circles’ is similar to what was on ‘Swimming.’ Miller is reflecting on life and where he is now, both mentally and physically. There is a chilling aspect to the album, considering how uplifting and positive it sounds in contrast with his passing.

‘Circles’ lead single, ‘Good News,’ has Miller reflecting on how people only want to hear that he is doing well and that they want him to repress the negative emotions that he may be feeling.

Most of the content on ‘Circles’ follows this trend of trying to be more open and seeing life clearer, something Miller was not able to do earlier in his career with his drug addiction and the effect that had on his mental state.

On the song ‘Woods,’ the first line that is spoken is ‘things like this ain’t built to last, I might just fade like those before me.’ If you are a fan of Miller, you know that he has had numerous songs throughout his career where he foreshadows his own death.

Here, Miller’s prediction comes to fruition, as he reflects on how people only want to hear that he is doing well and that they want him to repress the negative emotions that he may be feeling.

If your heart strings were not already being pulled on, there are backing vocals from Ariana Grande, who Mac had a special relationship with, on the song ‘I Can See.’ Jon Brion, the man who was helping Mac create ‘Circles,’ claimed in an interview the vocals from Grande were already there when he was tasked with cleaning up the project for release.

Throughout his career, Miller struggled with drug use, and it ultimately was the cause of his death. However, like ‘Swimming,’ Miller sounds like he has turned a corner in life and is ready to start over again on ‘Circles.’

It feels and sounds like Miller was hitting the second prime in his career; this half being more positive than the first. As a longtime fan of Mac, it is hard to listen to ‘Circles.’ Following the ups and downs in his life and witnessing the growth and change in Mac as a man and artist makes this album much more special. ‘Circles’ hurts and heals.

It hurts to know he is gone when he was at a healthy point in his life, but it heals hearing hope from Mac and knowing that he will never truly be gone, but that he will continue to impact his fans and the world as a whole through his music.

‘Circles’ is an introduction to the next part of Mac Miller’s career; a part of his life and growth as an artist that the world will not be able to witness.

If this is the last Mac Miller album ever, it was a perfect farewell and it completes the growth that Miller wanted for himself as an artist. The kid from Pittsburgh developed into one of the most unique artists hip-hop has ever seen.

Rest easy, Mac.

Mary Miller
Staff Writer

The 62nd Annual Grammy Awards, held on January 26th, was a night full of ups and downs. There was a lot of cheer in the audience as the excitement of being nominated ran high for many artists, there was still an underlying layer of sadness over the audience.

Just hours prior to the ceremony, basketball superstar Kobe Bryant passed away and seeing as the Grammys were held in his Los Angeles Lakers’ home stadium, there were a lot of opportunities to remember Bryant and pay tribute to him.

Lizzo, who had received eight nominations including Album of the Year, was one of the most active performers. She won the award for Best Latin Rock, Urban or Alternative Album. Alicia Keys, who hosted the Grammys and was the first female host in 14 years, performed a rendition of “It’s So Hard to Say Goodbye to Yesterday” in honor of the late Kobe Bryant.

Joined by Boyz II Men, the song relayed an emotional yet important homage to the basketball legend.

Other performance highlights included Ariana Grande’s mashup of her songs ‘Imagine’, ‘7 rings,’ and ‘thank u, next.’ Tyler, the Creator performed his songs ‘EARFQUAKE’ and ‘NEW MAGIC WAND,’ also joined on stage by Boyz II Men.

Later in the evening, he took home the Grammy for Best Rap Album. Usher, with Sheila E. and FKA Twigs, gave a tribute to the late singer-songwriter Prince with a medley of his songs ‘Little Red Corvette,’ ‘When Doves Cry,’ and ‘Kiss.’

Demi Lovato gave her first public performance in 18 months, debuting a new song that was written shortly before her overdose and rehabilitation back in 2018. Rosalía performed two songs as well, showcasing her impressive live shows and continued to demonstrate her ability to bring her Spanish sound to global audiences.

She won the award for Best Latin Rock, Urban or Alternative Album. The biggest winner of the night was inarguably 18-year-old Billie Eilish, who won all four of the general field awards, Record of the Year, Album of the Year, Song of the Year, and Best New Artist, and also took home the award for Best Pop Vocal Album for ‘When We All Fall Asleep, Where Do We Go?’

Alessia Cara, H.E.R., and Lizzo took home an award for Best Pop Vocal Album for ‘When We All Fall Asleep, Where Do We Go?’

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See any good shows lately? Contact our Arts & Culture Editor at culture@thesnapper.com

Mary Miller staff writer

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Kobe Bryant is responsible for modernizing the game of basketball.

BRIAN MARKLEY
Associate Sports Editor

Kobe was many things. A perfectionist. An artist. A gladiator. A cold-blooded killer. A gladiator. An artist. A perfectionist. Kobe was a perfectionist. Everything he did was done with precision and focus. His work ethic was unparalleled.

Kobe was an artist. He painted the court as an empty canvas, and the canvas was the playing surface. Kobe was a perfectionist. Everything he did was done with precision and focus.

The Mamba Mentality was a way of life. The Mamba Mentality is, in the words of Bryant himself, “to be able to constantly try to be the best version of yourself.” Kobe was obsessed with getting better, both as a basketball player and as a person, father and husband.

This mentality is applied to many people’s everyday lives, even off the basketball court. It is something that I have instilled in my own life, whether it be grinding through a semester or racking up hours at work.

The Mamba Mentality is relentless, unforgiving and requires dedication to yourself and your goals. It requires going that one extra step and pushing yourself in order to become the best husband and father that you could possibly be for your wife and four daughters.

Kobe was a gladiator. He let it all out on the court every night, whether he was 100% healthy or playing through injuries. He was the fiercest competitor I have ever witnessed across any sport. He played with a fiery passion and was a cold-blooded killer on the court. He would never back down from a challenge, and no stage was too big for Kobe.

I remember as a young boy practicing Kobe’s signature fadeaway in my driveway, hoping to one day use it in a game. I remember watching him and the Los Angeles Lakers clash against the Boston Celtics in the 2010 NBA Finals, where Kobe was named the most valuable player of the series. I remember watching the game where he tore his Achilles tendon, and watching him make the free-throws right after and walk off the court under his own power. I remember watching him in his comeback game and watching him score 60 in the final NBA game of his career.

Farewell, Mamba.
Men’s basketball on a hot streak

CAPTAIN WOLFE
Associate Sports Editor

While The Snapper was on hiatus this winter break, the Men’s Basketball team played through almost two thirds of their regular season. The season began with a handful of losses on the road damming their record; however the Marauders have taken a turn for the better assembling a winning streak.

The season began with the common theme: the Marauders won all of their home games, but lost all of their road games.

This sentiment remained true for the first ten games. A devastating loss in double overtime to California University of Pennsylvania at home was the first to break this streak, and another loss at Shippensburg University lowered the Marauders’ record to a disappointing 5-7.

Despite the slow start, the Marauders have found a resurgence winning seven of their last nine games, and charging ahead with a current winning streak of four games. This has improved their record to 12-9, and moved them third in their PSAC East division. Some notable wins for the Marauders this season have been over Eastern Pennsylvania at home.

Two big moves the Sixers should make are acquiring Andre Drummond and Derrick Rose so far, which may be worth a first-round draft pick in return for Drummond. The Sixers need to win four of their last seven games to clinch the playoffs, but two or three wins could very likely lock them in. The Marauders host three more games this season. They face Shippensburg on February 12, Mansfield on February 15, and finally close out the regular season against Lock Haven on February 29.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MU ATHLETICS

PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA

Houston Rockets’ forward Clint Capela is one of the names that could be moved before the NBA trade deadline.

Scott Macenery
Staff Writer

The season of skyrocketing stress levels has reached NBA executives. With the NBA trade deadline here, teams hold the keys to the entire trade deadline. With Blake Griffin shelved for the remainder of the season after reaggragating his knee injury, Detroit seems willing to blow up their team and rebuild.

Center Andre Drummond and point guard Derrick Rose are two heavily sought-after players, while secondary players Reggie Jackson and Luke Kennard also have worthy trade value. The Pistons have been demanding first-round draft picks in return for Drummond. The Sixers need to make such a large-scale trade happen. Ideally, the Rockets would target John Collins, but the Hawks might be unwilling to part with such great young talent.

A trade that might be more suitable to acquire Clint Capela could include the Hawks’ two first-round picks from the 2019 draft, De’Andre Hunter and Cam Reddish.

Some other players to watch are Kevin Love and Marcus Morris. Kevin Love is a match made in hell with his current team, the rebuilding Cleveland Cavaliers. His sizable contract is proving to be an issue with teams looking to add a three all-star player.

The Miami Heat could be a landing spot for Love and form a dynamic big three with all-star Jimmy Butler and Bam Adenayo. The New York Knicks, yet again drowning in a miserable season, are poised to get something in return for Marcus Morris.

Morris, solid on both sides of the ball, would add a level of grit and toughness to the Dallas Mavericks. Thanks to emerging superstar Luka Doncic, the Mavericks are legitimate contenders and would have to give up little in order to acquire Morris.

The thinnest of lines separates a championship trophy at season’s end. For the front-office decision makers, the trade deadline can put them out of a job or put them in a position to trade for playoff berths. Robert Covington, who has played for Philly before, are logical pickup options. With the trade deadline approaching, the Sixers need to make moves to bolster their bench depth in a way that means higher scoring from their starters.

The thinnest of lines separates a successful trade from a disastrous one. For the front-office decision makers, the trade deadline can put them out of a job or have them raising the Larry O’Brien championship trophy at season’s end.

NBA trade deadline predictions

Caleb Wolfe
Associate Sports Editor

The Houston Rockets center Clint Capela is a perfect fit. The Celtics right trade package, Andre Drummond and JR Smith, sought-after players, while secondary guard Derrick Rose are two heavily playoff-ready rosters. Months away, the race to get there is surging, whereas the Sixers are freefalling down the East. Teams like the Heat, Mavericks, and Jazz are surprisingly competitive.

At this point, every team knows they need to upgrade their perimeter play. The Sixers brass will have to weigh losing a sizzling star player. Kevin Love is a match made in hell with his current team, the rebuilding Cleveland Cavaliers. His sizable contract is proving to be an issue with teams looking to add a three all-star player.

The Miami Heat could be a landing spot for Love and form a dynamic big three with all-star Jimmy Butler and Bam Adebayo. The New York Knicks, yet again drowning in a miserable season, are poised to get something in return for Marcus Morris.

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Having him on the mound, we know we’re going to come in for Miller and throw another three scoreless innings. Gavilan Fogarty-Harnish would hold the Wonder Boys at bay, tossing three scoreless innings. The Marauders had senior lefty Paul Wilson on the mound for their opening game, and he would allow two runs in the first inning.

However, the Marauder bats would get those two runs back and then some. Junior catcher Luke Trainer singled up the middle to drive in senior Eric Callahan, getting Millersville on the board. Senior Jimmy Cain drew a walk and then scored on a ball hit to right field by sophomore Jimmy Losh, tying the game at two.

The tie would then be broken by senior outfielder Manning Brookens, who would hit a three-run home run off the bat of senior outfielder Nick Mancuso, who pinch hit in the seventh inning before handing the ball over to junior pitcher Jeff Taylor, who made his debut for the Marauders after transferring from Penn State.

There was not much to be positive about for Millersville’s offense added to their lead in the second inning, adding on three more runs. Trainer tripled, driving in Losh and Friese, who reached on an error and a hit by pitch. The Marauders increased their lead to 7-0.

This gave sophomore pitcher Alex Mykut plenty of run support, and he tossed three scoreless frames. Millersville’s bullpen would yield three runs to Arkansas-Monticello, but any hope of a comeback faded when the Marauders tacked on another run in the eighth inning through a sacrifice fly ball hit by Friese to score Callahan.

“Situational hitting. We executed with the infield in, got a bunt down, hit with two strikes. We had four times tonight where we situationally hit and that was the story of the game offensively. We situationally hit, they didn’t. They left a bunch of runners on base, and we capitalized,” coach Shehan had to say about his team’s bounce-back offensive performance.

It was a successful start to the season for Millersville, who went 2-1 over the weekend. It was a unique experience for the Marauders to be part of the Houston Invitational.

“The second game of Millersville’s Houston trip had the Marauders facing off against No. 4 Central Missouri Mules, the host of the Houston Invitational. Millersville would feature junior pitcher Jeff Taylor, who made his debut for the Marauders after transferring from Penn State.

There was not much to be positive about for Millersville, but Taylor had a strong debut outing, only allowing two runs over the four innings that he pitched, recording five strikeouts and retiring eight Mules batters in a row.

Mules’ junior pitcher Jordan Fowler threw five scoreless frames, striking out eight Marauders and only allowing one hit, which came off the bat of Cain. The Marauders’ second hit of the game would come from junior Nick Mancuso, who pinch hit in the seventh inning.

Millersville committed seven errors in the game and did not look anything like the team that had just played the day before. It is the most errors the Marauders have committed since 2014.

“Baseball’s a funny game. We’re going to play fifty ballgames plus this year so it’s one of those things where we have a lot to work on. Was I disappointed in today’s game? Absolutely. We are a much better club than that, especially defensively. I think one of our strong points is our defense. We played poorly defensively and kicked it around today,” coach Shehan had to say about his team’s performance on Saturday.

The Marauders would drop game two of the Houston Invitational by a score of 10-0.

Millersville would look to bounce back in their third and final game of the Houston Invitational against No. 21 University of Arkansas-Monticello, who the Marauders faced for the first time.

The Marauders got on the board quickly thanks to a three-run home run off the bat of senior outfielder Cole Friese in the top of the first inning. Millersville would tack on an addition run through a Brookens groundout that would score Trainer, giving the Marauders an early 4-0 lead.

Millersville’s offense added to their lead in the second inning, adding on three more runs. Trainer tripled, driving in Losh and Friese, who reached on an error and a hit by pitch. The Marauders increased their lead to 7-0.

The game had the Marauders kicking off the 2020 baseball season over the past weekend at the Houston Winter Invitational, which was hosted in Minute Maid Park, home of the Houston Astros.

Millersville would play three games over the weekend, starting with a matchup against Arkansas State Wonder Boys. The Marauders had senior lefty Drew Miller on the mound for their opening game, and he would allow two runs in the first inning.

However, the Marauder bats would get those two runs back and then some. Junior catcher Luke Trainer singled up the middle to drive in senior Eric Callahan, getting Millersville on the board. Senior Jimmy Cain drew a walk and then scored on a ball hit to right field by sophomore Jimmy Losh, tying the game at two.

The tie would then be broken by senior outfielder Manning Brookens, who would hit a three-run home run off the bat of senior outfielder Nick Mancuso, who pinch hit in the seventh inning.

Millersville’s next game is scheduled for Friday, February 7 at Barton. They make their home debut February 26th at Cooper Park against Felician.

The Marauders take in the experience of playing in Minute Made Park, home of the Houston Astros.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MU ATHLETICS