Millersville explores outsourcing dining services

For many students and staff Millersville dining halls are more than a place to grab a bite to eat, but also a job opportunity with tuition benefits.

Lydia Ricks is a junior at Millersville University. She has worked in catering within Millersville’s Dining Services for 15 months. Ricks first heard about Millersville’s potential outsourcing through an email newsletter from the organization Dining Heroes. When she became aware of the University’s exploratory process into the option of outsourcing, she became concerned for the fate of her job, her colleagues’ livelihoods, and staff benefits such as free tuition for their children, should they choose to attend the University.

“I’m worried about not specifically me but my colleagues, they are losing their benefits, losing possible tuition reimbursement,” says Ricks. “I’m trying to do what I can as a student because I feel like hopefully the university will listen to me since I’m affected by this, but not directly and personally. I am more worried about my colleagues.”

Dining Heroes began sending out emails to Millersville students on October 6, 2020 making the Marauder community aware of the potential outsourcing option being introduced to Millersville Dining. “I had no idea that it was happening because I wasn’t in the building at all this semester. I followed up with some colleagues about it who were actually still working in dining and I started talking to them about it. I was hearing bits and pieces from everybody. Then I grew more aware of it because dining heroes kind of just kept sending any dining students these emails and what their plans were,” says Ricks. Dining Heroes launched a petition that received over 1,250 signatures, claiming that the companies Millersville was exploring as potential outsourcing options did not align with the school’s EP-FPIC values.

Comments on the petition included general statements such as “Keep it local” and included more personal statements from students and alumni who were advocating for in-house dining services to remain.

“I am a MU alum and a daughter of a current dining service worker. I know first hand how much quality and commitment the current dining services department gives to Millersville University, and it is unmatched to what any outside vendor can come bringing.” - Leah Ressel, Lancaster PA

“Laying off loyal and in-house workers is not worth the increased profit from outsourcing. We are a Millersville family – let’s keep it that way!” - Deanna Martin, Lebanon PA

“I don’t want to see people lose their jobs and their retirement, students to lose the quality food options available to them, and the university as a whole lose the sense of community that an independent dining services vendor adds to the campus.” - Fawn Davin, Elizabethtown PA

“I worked for the Anchor and in Catering. I also continued to work in dining services (Upper Deck) after I graduated. The people who I met working there made lasting impressions on me.” - Steven Neuvile, Millersville PA

“I am an MU alum and a former dining hall employee. It certainly wasn’t the easiest or always the most pleasant job, but it helped me keep my head above water, taught me useful skills, and was an opportunity to engage with students I never would have before. There are a lot of unknowns with outsourcing but we cannot risk taking away the biggest employer of students – and many community members – on campus.” - Sydney Wilcoxon, Ennys PA

As a former dining hero and in-house worker, Ricks is urging the University to consider other cost-cutting options that would leave Dining Services intact. She attended a town hall meeting that took place in November, organized by SGA President, John Smith. “I wanted to know if they were exploring other options besides just this one. It seems like they were putting a lot of emphasis on ‘yeah, this might be an option for us, we don’t know.’ But I haven’t heard of any other options,” says Ricks.

“I love the atmosphere, I like working in dining, I like working with the other chefs, I am worried about losing that,” says Ricks. “I don’t really think that a bigger company would respect how we do things and they don’t have to, they are coming in and starting a new thing, why should they?”

A primary student advocate for Millersville Dining Services to remain in-house, Ricks has felt respected and heard by Millersville executives. “I think they did a great job holding the town hall and they were very receptive to me talking about my worries,” says Ricks. “They didn’t have to be because I’m just a student, I don’t have that much credibility behind me.”

“Our community has long benefited from the hospitality and talent of these staff and we will continue to do what we can to keep their interest and the interest of all Marauders in mind as we navigate these uncertain times,” says Dr. Wubah.

The University continues to emphasize that outsourcing is only a possibility. Millersville University has not yet committed to continuing forward with the RFP as they continue gathering information through exploration of the available options.
GameStop shocks the stock market

GameStop was seen as a dying business at the start of this year, but the big investment firms saw this as an easy short selling opportunity. Short selling is profitable when a stock decreases in value after you make your purchase. The way short selling works is that an investor receives a stock from sellers on loan. Like a traditional loan, the seller intends to make money when the buyer gives it back later at a lower price. For example, let’s say you are loaned a stock that is selling at $10. After receiving the stock, you turn around and sell it for its current value of $10. Then, when it is time to repay the loan, you see the stock value has dropped to $5, so you buy the stock back at a lower price and make a $5 profit.

This is the scenario large investment firms were expecting to happen with GameStop stock. They took up a large amount of stock with the intention of having the price plummet so they could make easy money. Unfortunately for them, a Reddit forum called r/wallstreetbets saw GameStop stock being massively undervalued and took the opposite position, betting that the price would increase in price.

A man named Keith Gill, who is better known by his pseudonyms RoaringKitty and u/DeepFuckingValue, made a post to wallstreetbets back in July that contained an in-depth analysis of GameStop and why he believed it would increase in value. He noted that GameStop was put under new management and undergoing restructuring. In addition, he saw the release of the new PS5 and XBOX Series X at the end of 2020 to be good for GameStop. He continued to post updates to his YouTube channel detailing how his investments in GameStop were making money. As confidence in GameStop increased, more retail investors who subscribed to r/wallstreetbets jumped on the train and invested, which increased the stock price even more.

What caused the value to increase by several hundred percent in the past two weeks though? The answer lies in the previous week’s events. Large investment firms made when they thought the price of GameStop stock would drop. Regardless of how the price changes, they are obligated to pay back the loans they took. This can lead to a scenario called a short squeeze, as the price of a stock skyrockets, people who bet on the price dropping are forced to buy to prevent further losses. This increased volume of sales further drives the price up.

Free trade brokerage services like Robinhood are attempting to manipulate the market in favor of their larger investors like Citadel, that were losing billions and are looking into class action suits against them. The massive investment firms and financial media have come under fire for their response to the whole situation.

For many this is an empowering moment that shows an everyday person can influence the market and make money with smart investing. Robinhood, Fidelity, and many other brokerage firms are seeing an unprecedented increase in applications as this situation brought investing beyond the reach of the average person.

Step 1: Short selling

Lender
Share borrowing
Current market price
Share selling
lending fee
Market
Step 2: Repurchasing

Lender
Share return
Current market price
Share purchasing
Market

This diagram shows the basic principles behind how short selling a stock works.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS
Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene removed from house committees

On Thursday, February 4 Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene was stripped of her congressional committee assignments by a majority vote in the House. Rep. Greene drew the ire of her colleagues and the public when conspiratorial statements she made previously on social media surfaced. House Democrats instigated a hearing to have her removed from her position on two committees, an education, and a budget committee. With a vote of 230-199 where 11 republicans reached across the aisle to remove her, the resolution passed.

Her controversial statements were related to QAnon and claiming that school shootings like Sandy Hook and Parkland were hoaxes designed to strengthen gun control laws. In addition, further statements surfaced where Rep. Greene suggested that 9/11 was a conspiracy and that the 2018 California wildfires were orchestrated by the Rothschilds with a space laser. The Rothschilds have been a common target for anti-Semitic conspiracy theories since the 19th century.

Rep. Greene was allowed to defend herself during the hearing. Wearing a facemask that read “Free Speech” her testimony was broadcasted to the entire country. She apologized for her past statements and claimed that she distrusted the government when QAnon conspiracies drew her attention, but that she stepped away from Q when she found evidence of “misinformation, lies and things that weren’t true.” She said that “9/11 absolutely happened... I do not believe that it’s fake.” Similarly, she said that “School shootings are absolutely real,” and that “These are words of the past. These things do not represent me.”

Throughout the proceedings more inflammatory statements and footage surfaced and circulated on social media. A video of her harassing David Hogg, a survivor of the 2018 Parkland school shooting, in which she called him a coward and claimed she had her gun on her, in particular, drew a lot of criticism. She liked Facebook posts that called for Nancy Pelosi to get “a bullet to the head,” and another one calling for Barack Obama to be hanged. Despite claiming to leave QAnon in 2018 she circulated Qanons on social media as soon as 2019 when she spread the idea that Ruth Bater Ginsberg had died and was being played by a body double. In December 2020, she tweeted that QAnon was “exposing the truth.”

When pushed on these particular cases later in the week she said she was “sorry for saying all those things that are wrong and offensive.” She did, however, refuse to apologize for her statements made to David Hogg saying, “He was an adult when I spoke to him.”

Rep. Greene maintains her position as a representative of Georgia, but after the ruling she claims that Democrats “stripped [her] district of their voice.” In addition, she responded by tweeting, “I woke up early this morning literally laughing thinking about what a bunch of morons the Democrats (+11) are for giving some one like me free time.”

PHOTO COUTRESY OF C-SPAN

Rep. Greene defended herself before the House hearing wearing a mask that read “Free Speech,” suggesting that by removing her from the committees her First Amendment right was being infringed upon.
A monumental chapter spent online

Morgan Wallen’s loss of label is well-deserved

The Snapper Editor in Chief’s room gives her a space to complete school work while staying COVID safe.

Carly O’Neill
Editor in Chief

When I first stepped onto Millersville’s campus in 2017, I was that nervous freshman with big dreams who refused to let the grass grow underneath her. I refused to sit in my dorm and watch opportunities go by, so I got a job on campus at Saksibs and tried out for one of Millersville’s dance groups, Expressions. It felt amazing to be a part of this campus community I had heard so much about during Millersville’s campus tour, when I was scouting for my potential university.

Some of my favorite moments at Millersville consisted of living in the dorms on campus, meeting and rooming with new people, and going on late night runs for ice cream at The Anchor with friends. I genuinely miss eagerly waking up in my dorm and checking my phone on a snowy day to see if classes were canceled, so my roommate or my boyfriend and I could enjoy Millersville in the snow.

Walking to all my classes, interacting with my professors and classmates, and taking trips to the Starbucks in the McNairy Library seem like distant past times in this new virtual world. While I might have complained at the time about getting up early to go to class for an hour, now I’m excited about going out to the grocery store, since it gives me an excuse to dress up and look nice.

For the past year I have had to learn with every one else how to adapt to a completely virtual world. Now my daily routine consists of getting up early to leave my pajamas on and sit in front of a computer screen for over an hour, attempting to stay just as engaged as I would if it were face-to-face. Every other day I’m getting up early to fit in some note taking before I’m off to work at my part time customer service job at Wawa. In other words, my only change of scenery is from the four walls in my apartment.

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It’s very easy to fall into the routine of going through the same motions each day, thus I’m forcing myself to use this newfound time to do the things I normally wouldn’t in a non-socially distant world. One of these new hobbies I can proudly say is reading. While some of it isn’t completely voluntary since its for class, I have at least diversified my reading list in between Barnes and Noble’s runs.

I just recently finished reading “Feed” by Matthew T. Anderson, a book I would never have even picked up if it weren’t for my COMM 401 class. It’s a futuristic, dystopian novel that’s a taste to acquire at first, but by the end I found myself invested and close to tears. In other words, the old saying proves to be true, don’t judge a book by its cover.

Another hobby I’ve picked up during this pandemic is listening to podcasts in the career field I’m interested in. For me this is the “Reveal” podcast on investigative journalism. I’m currently listening to a six-part series on the American Rehah system. Again something I would’ve never typically researched until I was curious and sick of books one day.

Now I’m almost two weeks away from submitting my graduation application and starting the process of wrapping up my four-year career at Millersville. While it’s bittersweet, I’m excited for what the future holds and to pursue my dream career in journalism. I hope to move to Washington D.C. within the next year or so and challenge myself to live full time in a city, while pursuing this hopeful future career.

Carly O’Neill
Editor in Chief

Last week country singer Morgan Wallen was caught using the n-word after drinking with friends. TMZ received video footage of the incident which they posted online alongside an article they wrote about Wallen himself.

Wallen’s former record label, Big Loud, recognized the severity of the situation when they chose to drop him from the label. Despite the dose of accountability Wallen was served with by Big Loud, fans have taken to social media and those defending him are only revealing that they are okay with racism in certain instances. Fame should never be used as a free pass to do things widely known to be wrong. There is no way, especially living in the south where slavery was most prominent, that Wallen could have been ignorant of the weight of his actions. As a lyricist, Wallen should be well aware of the power of language.

A few months ago, Wallen was also seen via TikTok in a bar not wearing a mask and making out with multiple different women. According to TMZ, Wallen said he planned to “work on himself.” It is quite possible he does not care much for anyone except himself. I think it is likely that Wallen would have continued to use the n-word had he not been caught.

Since the incident, Wallen has apologized for his conduct and his sales have risen. Wallen’s apology is indicative that he knows his actions are unacceptable, however we should be cautious in how easily we forgive racism. While people can change and become more educated, I am skeptical of Wallen.

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Carly O’Neill
Editor in Chief
I noticed a disturbing trend in the comments sections and Twitter threads regarding Marilyn Manson. There is a large amount of victim blaming going on and I have had enough of it. Every time someone says that someone else is not familiar with aizons, there is a large amount of victim blaming going on and I have had enough of it. I refuse to listen to him anymore and I call on any- one reading this article to do the same. I have been in a bubble of ignorance when it comes to artistic expres- sion and I am striving to break free of that. This starts with shunning Marilyn Manson and all his products and supporting the women he abused.

Marilyn Manson's actions bring alarming reactions

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Artificial intelligence reaching science fiction

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the desserts on the menu are their Lancaster County. Just a few of Ingredients including butter, cream ensure that high quality, locally and have a positive impact on this world.”

In every cupcake, they know that high quality, locally sourced products are being used. Ingredients including butter, cream cheese, cocoa, and fresh fruits are used to create fresh from the farms throughout Lancaster County. Just a few of the desserts on the menu are their professional marketing team to promote her book. LeRay gives a summary of her book “Fanged: Blood and Water.” “My book is about this guy named Silas who has forsaken his family, which happen to be vampires. He hasn’t seen his family in ten years and one day he gets a phone call from his mother who says you need to come home. This is enough to shake him to his core. Then he gets sequentially taken home and to exchange his freedom, he has to bring this girl named Harper to his mother. What he doesn’t know is that she has a secret that could change the world and he starts to fall for her.”

LeRay describes some of the challenges she faced during the writing process. “The hardest part of writing a book for me is word count. I talked to my developmental editor the first day and she said, you know a 100,000 words!”

LeRay describes how New Degree Press related their work process. “It was definitely a struggle to edit your own work. They tell you what you’re doing wrong and how to fix it, but you have to put the creative motions behind it,” says LeRay. “I think the different thing with this program is they have a community behind it.”

LeRay describes how New Degree Press frequently used a program called Quip. With this program she could message people, tag people in her documents, and reach out to others in the program for an accountability buddy.” This basically meant agreeing to help each other reach their word counts.

Through working with New Degree Press, LeRay not only got to enjoy the perk of putting her name to her own published work, but also meeting stars like Tiffany Haddish, Jason Starr and Jim Kwik. LeRay describes what it was like to meet the famous comedic, “Tiffany Haddish came on to one of our Zoom calls, she was amazing! She was so friendly and bubbly and told everyone “You have to write this book!” After LeRay finished writing her book, she got the opportunity to send it to Haddish and the other stars she met through this program for them to look over.

“Fanged: Blood and Water” came out for preorder on November 20, 2020 on “Indiegogo,” and was originally set to be out for release in April of this year. Unfortunately the preorder didn’t raise enough funds for her book to be published on the originally set date, and LeRay has since announced that the publication date will be pushed back to this August.

“I do see myself being my own author and hopefully doing that full time, but I know that takes a couple years to get into, so one of the backup careers I have is I would love to be a game writer for PlaySta- tion,” says LeRay. Tianna Le’Ray is planning on having another preorder for her book in March. She has stated that if things don’t work out this time around, she plans on self publishing her book on Amazon.

“If people want to do this program, they can get in contact with me. The program is open to any col- lege student. You have to balance your school and your work life, but you definitely can write a book. It’s hard, but don’t get me wrong it’s very hard, but it’s definitely a fun process,” says LeRay.

How Lancaster Cupcake is adapting to the pandemic

CARLY O’NEILL
Editor in Chief

Former Millersville student publishes a book

HANNAH CARRICATO
Staff Writer

Knowing a professor or student who is doing something exceptional? Contact our Features Editor at features@thesnapper.com

Know a professor or student who is doing something exceptional? Contact our Features Editor at features@thesnapper.com How Lancaster Cupcake is adapting to the pandemic

HANNAH CARRICATO/SNAPPER

Lancaster Cupcake displays a variety of cupcake options for customers to choose from.
Best Buy aims to be more inclusive by 2025

HANNAH CARRICATO
Staff Writer

As a college student, who doesn’t enjoy having the newest technology, while also supporting companies that give back to others. According to America’s Most Responsible Companies 2021, Best Buy, the consumer electronics company, landed at number 22 for their commitment to sustainability, inclusive, and diverse work environment. This comes right after the company released a strategic five-year growth plan that highlights the importance of hiring BIPOC and women employees.

Along with this, they have developed ways to support the youth interested in technology-driven careers. This is all in hopes to improve the company and remove any possible underrepresentation.

Best Buy CEO Corie Barry stated “It’s incredibly important to our employees, customers, and communities to show that we are committed to doing all we can to further economic and social justice.” Included in the tech company’s five-year plan are numerous goals to achieve by 2025. Corie mentions being “bold” about their commitments and to hold them accountable for the work they have promised.

These goals include filling one out of three new corporate positions with BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and People of Color). In addition to this, one out of three field roles will be filled by women. Also a huge step for the company is providing $44 million to expand college preparation and career opportunities for BIPOC students. Along with this comes the introduction of 16 school partnerships for HBCU (Historically Black Colleges and Universities) students.

I spoke with the General Manager at Best Buy, Clayton Witter, about the plan Best Buy has implemented. He states that “the company has been and continues to develop ways to expand diversity and inclusion.” While talking to him about the company’s efforts, he mentions the amount of programs and initiatives that the public rarely hears about.

Clayton also mentioned the importance of support groups for Best Buy employees. From this, I researched into JEDC’s Inclusion and Diversity Steering Committees) and ERGs (Employee Resource Groups). In hopes, these groups will bring employees together that have similar experiences or characteristics.

A few ERGs include Black, disabilities, and Pride. Included in Best Buy's plan are also numerous initiatives to assist the youth in disinvested communities. The company's goal is to provide teens in these areas with technology and educational training. A few activities offered are programming, filmmaking, music production, and design. The centers are packed with technology including computers, DSLR cameras, 3-D printers, virtual reality headsets, and drawing tablets. This is in hopes of familiarizing the teens with technology they will use in their future careers.

At least 100 Teen Tech Centers will open, creating an opportunity for 30,000 teens. They are committed to host 400 interns and offer 540 jobs across the country to make this possible. By the end of 2025, Best Buy is set to achieve the goals set for Teen Tech Centers.

Best Buy hopes to serve our local communities and expand representation throughout the company. All while also promoting an inclusive workplace and support for future journeys. A saying from the CEO of Best Buy, Corie Barry, “We will do better.”

How social media impacts mental health

STEVEN CONRAD
Staff Writer

Social media is one of the most innovative things in the modern world. It certainly has changed the way humans live their lives. It brings a lot of positive and even some potential negative things along with it. The age demographic that is affected the most by social media would have to be college students. They are the ones who spend the most time using it. They are the ones who are growing up with it playing a significant rule in their everyday lives.

Today we will be talking about a college student whose life got flipped upside down due to it. This student will be anonymous for privacy reasons. This student, a 21-year-old male, who commutes to and from school, lets social media get the best of him. This student is definitely not the only student who reported social media leading to mental health issues. According to medium.com, “The most common issues associated with college students mental health and social media use is depression, anxiety, low self-esteem, body image, sleeping problems, social isolation, and emotional difficulties.

About 41.6% of college students have stated that anxiety is a top concern. In an article by The Conversation, 1 in 5 college students have anxiety or depression and excessive usage of social media may be a leading factor in symptoms.

My interviewee had this to say after I presented those facts, “I felt a little bit of everything. Major lack of confidence, depression, and the feeling of loneliness”. The anonymous student was generally a happy, go lucky boy growing up. But the transition to college wasn’t so smooth. The constant scrolling on social media was a bad habit he faced. Constantly comparing himself to other males who went to his school. Rather than being happy for someone else, he found himself being very jealous. Jealous of their looks, girlfriend, lifestyles, etc. According to Walton in 6 Ways Social Media Affects Our Mental Health, “One study looked at how we make comparisons to others; it can be ‘upward’ or ‘downward’ directions—that is, feeling that we’re either better or worse off than our friends. It turned out that both types of comparisons made people feel worse, which is surprising, since in real life, only upward comparisons (feeling another person has it better than you) makes people feel bad. But in the social network world, it seems that any kind of comparison is linked to depressive symptoms.

My interviewee can account for this. He explained how quickly his mind would drift off and consume social media whenever he had down time. Little did he realize he was only damaging his mental health even more. According to Walton, “The more we use social media, the less happy we seem to be. One study a few years ago found that Facebook use was linked to both less life satisfaction—the more people use Facebook the less moment-to-moment happiness and less life satisfaction—more the people used Facebook in a day, the more these two variables dropped off.”

Rather than enjoying the college life he found himself staying home. He lacked all confidence in himself. He wanted no parts of the social life once the weekends came around. This was all due to him being addicted to social media. Which is something a lot of people face. Now, social media does not have to be looked at as a completely negative thing. In fact, my interviewee could have a change of heart if he just changed his approach to social media. Which is something he has been doing as of late.

I have been trying to work with him to get him back on track. This isn’t a persuasive essay on why social media is a bad thing. This was me using a peer’s experience on social media as a teaching point. Social media can be an awesome tool or hobby. But if your not careful it can really harm your mental health.
Ugly love between “Malcolm & Marie”

“Malcolm & Marie” is rooted in a story of tension and toxicity. The late hours after Malcom’s movie premier, he and his girlfriend Marie spend the whole night fighting. And that’s honestly the whole story from a plot perspective. The whole movie is a snowball effect in the making. The fighting at the beginning starts small, then the next round of fighting gets bigger, more abusive, and more manipulative until it becomes a raging avalanche. Malcolm and Marie are two individuals who are incredibly abusive to each other and truly bring out the worst in each other. Yet, they claim they still “love” one another.

The Netflix Original aims to be exactly that. Original. After viewing I was appreciative of the originality of the whole spectacle of the movie. I had never seen anything like this one. The movie for better or worse throws out traditional storytelling in the medium. There is no plot, just a night with these two characters, who are both played by the phenomenal John David Washington and Zendaya. They both shared this innate ability to make two emotionally manipulative degenerates into charming characters. Most movies would have Malcolm and Marie share a common enemy with “the white-girler Karen critic of The LA Times.” At this point this is reality the only time the two together have fun during their whole movie.

Besides that I have some criticisms of “Malcolm & Marie”. First of all with the way the movie is done is black and white. I’m of the belief that making a movie in the 21st century in black and white does not actually enhance the art, but cheapens it. Maybe the film wanted it to be in black and white to show that the fighting going on between Malcom and Marie wasn’t all “black and white”. My bias here is that black and white films should stay back in their time. Col- or is great, please use color.

Watching “Malcolm & Marie” is the only movie I have ever watched, where I would describe it as mentally taxing. The movie runs for just over 100 minutes and I was uncomfortable for about 90 of those 100 minutes. The whole time the movie is playing a game of who can be the most emotionally abu-usive person between the two. It’s a game of tag. Back and forth they bring up each other’s trauma, put each other down, and manipulate each other. The entire time I was rooting for one of them to just pack up their things and leave because that would have been the happy ending for both of them.

Even though the talent in the film is brilliant, “Malcolm & Marie” encapsulates toxic behavior and emotional abuse. If you have ever been a bystander to a couple fighting each other; you know that feeling of being incredibly uncomfortable and anxious. That is what it feels like to watch this movie. At some points I would empathize with Malcom, then at some points of the film I’d empa- theze with Marie and finally, empathize with neither.

“Malcolm & Marie” is a 105 min- ute ride on an anxiety filled roller-coast- er. The film tries to show the complex- ities of an unhealthy relationship that is teetering on the edge of insanity between the two. If you want to watch a movie that shows no characters to root for, or a positive resolution that is des- perately needed between the two titular characters, then “Malcolm & Marie” is not for you. “Malcolm & Marie” is saved by the performances of Zendaya and John David Washington, otherwise I felt this movie was a car crash (or multiple crashes) that I could not turn away from.

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Malcolm and Marie share an intimate moment.
Marvel Studios makes its long awaited return with WandaVision on Disney+

DAVID MILAM  
Staff Writer

The Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU) was set to hit the ground running following the immense success of 2019’s “Avengers Endgame” with a slate of new movies and TV shows throughout 2020. Unfortunately all of Marvel's plans were blipped away and thus “WandaVision”, originally slated to be the fourth Marvel production releasing in 2020 is instead kicking off this new era of the MCU as its first production since 2019.

Premiering exclusively on Disney on January 15, 2021, “WandaVision” has already been deemed a hit with many praising its unique visual style of emulating different eras of television as well as the intriguing mystery befailing our heroes. The show was created and written by Jac Schaeffer and is directed by Matt Shakman.

Elizabeth Olsen and Paul Bettany return as the beloved heroes Wanda Maximoff and The Vision and are joined by newcomers to the MCU Kathryn Hahn as Agnes and Teyonah Parris as Monica Rambeau. Kat Dennings also returns to the role of Darcy Lewis after last appearing in 2013’s Thor: The Dark World and Randall Park returns as Jimmy Woo following his popular performance in 2018’s Ant-Man and The Wasp.

Set in the quaint little town of Westview, New Jersey, Wanda and Vision have moved to the suburbs to begin a new era of their life as newlyweds. The couple deals with the usual trials and tribulations of suburban life, annoying neighbors, a strict boss at work, and even raising some mischief- vious children. But wait, isn’t Vision dead? And why is everything stylized like a sitcom? The show takes viewers on a journey unraveling the mystery behind the couple’s perfect life and how not everything is as perfect as it seems.

The show takes inspiration from a variety of Marvel Comics such as Brian Michael Bendis’ “House of M” and Tom King’s “The Vision”. Comic book fans will have their hands full picking apart all the easter eggs present in the series referencing the show’s comic book origins. Easter eggs such as a wine bottle from a winery called Maison Du Mépris, a clear reference to “House of M” and the adoption of a dog named Sparky, the same name of the dog belonging to Vision's family in “The Vision”.

“WandaVision” is shaping up to be one of the MCU’s most creative endeavors. The uncanny sitcom world with its blend of magic and superhero shenanigans takes viewers on a journey into mystery. The weekly release schedule allows time to appreciate all the little details packed into each episode and gives fans plenty of time to break them down.

The constant introduction of new elements, exciting reveals and increasing unraveling of Wanda’s world has fans flocking to social media to share their latest theories. Marvel Studios first endeavour intro streaming continues the studios rich legacy of quality storytelling through a connected universe and WandaVision is sure to become a bonafide smash hit.

You can catch new episodes of “WandaVision” every Friday exclusively on Disney+. The show is a rollercoaster ride of emotions as episodes viewers have experienced since the first Iron Man movie was given to me for Christmas when I was 8 years old. Being able to grow up with these movies and now share them with friends is the coolest experience”

He had nothing but positive remarks about the show sharing that he was both “anxious and excited” to continue to watch the character growth between Wanda and Vision. He did share that not everyone in the group is as optimistic about where the series is headed. Hannah Brown, also a junior at Millersville University, is one of those people.

“I’m not a huge fan of the ‘salute to classic sitcoms’ concept that’s going on. Feels tacky and doesn’t relate to anything the MCU has ever created”

Whether you agree with her statement or not, one thing is true. This is definitely nothing that the Marvel Universe has ever done before. Even though Brown does not share as bright of a review as many fans and critics, that doesn’t take away from the growing community of Marvel enthusiasts here at Millersville University.

This past Friday, three more students, raising the group number to seven, gathered on Zoom to stream the fourth episode. In the midst of a global pandemic students are able to find comic relief through the twists and turns of this sitcom superhero story. The group hopes to find more students that share a similar passion for the Marvel Cinematic Universe and aim to spend those Friday nights on Zoom enjoying one thing a pandemic could not take from them; a Disney+ original.

WandaVision is bringing together the new Marvel era

KATHRYN BAKER  
Staff Writer

In a world that feels hopeless, suddenly Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU) fans of all ages have something to rejoice on. “WandaVision”, which first premiered on Disney+ on January 19, 2021, focuses on Avengers Wanda Maximoff and Vision through a blend of classic American TV and superhero culture. The show is set in a post “Avengers: Endgame” universe, and places viewers into the lives of these two underrated characters. The first episode is set to represent the 1950s time period, the second in the 1960s and so on.

Many are comparing the suburban lifestyle and relationship characteristics of the couple to classic vintage TV comedies such as “I Love Lucy,” and “The Brady Bunch.” Over the course of the 4 episodes viewers have experienced a rollercoaster ride of emotions as the story continues to unfold.

Critics from the New York Times are calling this show “A new TV era for Marvel’s roster of superheroes.” There are many Marvel fans that have been sharing nothing but positive reactions to the new series, including several Millersville University students. A group of students began bonding over “the situation comedy meets the science-fiction conspiracy thriller” show after Disney announced the production at the 2020 Investors Day event (Hall, 2021). While the four anxiously waited for the show to air, they decided to get the full experience of the show, every Friday night they would stream it together on Zoom, and now has become a highly anticipated weekly event for the friends.

Addison Styer, a junior at Millersville University, shared some of his thoughts on the series. “Honestly, I’ve been a Marvel fan since the first Iron Man movie was given to me for Christmas when I was 8 years old. Being able to grow up with these movies and now share them with friends is the coolest experience”

Whether you agree with her statement or not, one thing is true. This is definitely nothing that the Marvel Universe has ever done before. Even though Brown does not share as bright of a review as many fans and critics, that doesn’t take away from the growing community of Marvel enthusiasts here at Millersville University.
Super Bowl LV review

**Michael Zabowski**
Staff Writer

If you watched the Super Bowl this weekend, and have been following The Kansas City Chiefs all season long, the result of Sunday’s game may have been surprising. Rather than a Chiefs victory, the Tampa Bay Buccaneers easily won the Super Bowl 31-9. You may be asking yourself: “What happened? How could such an explosive team be beaten by a 43-year-old quarterback?” Though there is not one particular answer to those questions, there are few reasons that point to why the Chiefs looked like a flag falling together.

First off, Chiefs’ quarterback Patrick Mahomes was suffering from a concussion and turf toe injury. These injuries occurred in a game three weeks ago against Cleveland. A turf toe injury is like a yippy dog, it will keep bothering and nipping at you until something is done about it. Though Mahomes has been running all season, there was definitely something off in regard to his movement on Sunday. Given his credit, he was doing everything he could to keep each play alive. Nonetheless the ailing toe was one thing that slowed him down enough for the Buccaneers to feast upon.

On that note, another issue with the Chiefs going into the big game was their offensive line. In the AFC Championship game, they lost Eric Fisher to injury. Earlier in the season, Kansas City had lost Laurent Duvernay-Tardif (opted out), Kelechi Osemele (knee injury), and Mitchell Schwartz (back injury). However those three starting offensive linemen were lost in weeks five and six of the regular season, therefore they had played plenty of games with backup offensive lineman.

On top of that, the terrible incident with Chiefs’ assistant coach Britt Reid being in a horrific car accident only made things worse. That is one of those situations that a team will keep in house, but one can only imagine how the accident affected the team from both an emotional and strategic standpoint.

It should be mentioned that Kansas City had a somewhat easy schedule down the stretch of the season. It was only a matter of time until a team took advantage of the weak Kansas City offensive line, and the phenomenal Buccaneers defense did exactly that. With an awesome game plan from Defensive Coordinator Todd Bowles, the Buccaneers were able to do whatever they wanted. Their defense seemed unstoppable.

Though the Chiefs defense held strong during the majority of the season, there is only so much a defense can do when playing against Tom Brady (arguably the greatest quarterback of all time). Furthermore Brady’s offense already played the Chiefs earlier this season, which gave head coach Bruce Arians plenty of time to put together a relentless game plan.

Early in the first quarter it looked a little shaky for Tampa Bay, but Tom Brady would not be kept quite for an entire Super Bowl. The man should never be counted out of a game, especially when it is the biggest game of the year. This statement needs no further proof than the record breaking seven Super Bowl wins he now has under his belt.

Additionally Tom Brady is far from done, and Brady Arians is the next best thing to Bill Belichick. Tom Brady may be 43 years old, but he has a tank the size of a jaguar, and an engine efficient as a Prius. Though Brady is approaching his mid-40s, he showed the entire NFL that he is not quite ready to pass the torch. The reign of Brady is not yet over yet football fans.

Had the Chiefs won, it would have been a great story when taking into consideration all the things they had to overcome. However, it was the perfect storm for the Buccaneers to avenge their regular season loss to the Chiefs.

Baseball & softball season to start soon

**Caleb Wolfe**
Sports Editor

After nearly a year long hiatus, sports at Millersville University are returning. The first two team sports to resume will be the Men’s Baseball team and Women’s Softball team.

The baseball team specifically is coming off their best season in the last five years. They earned an impressive 14-4 record, looked on pace to make a deep playoff run, but sadly had their season cut short due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Continuing the momentum from last year is going to be crucial for the Marauders as a team moves into the 2021 season. There are still a handful of teams within the PSAC that placed better than them last season. Those teams being: Bloomsburg, East Stroudsburg, West Chester, Slippery Rock, and Seton Hill.

Thankfully the Marauders schedule is somewhat easier than most this season. Of those listed prior East Stroudsburg, Bloomsburg, and division rivals West Chester are the only teams that Millersville will have to face off against several times throughout the season.

Additionally, the majority of their 2021 schedule is made up of teams that look to be worse than Millersville. Some of those teams being: Clarion, Lock Haven, Shippensburg, Shepherd, Mansfield, and Kutztown.

The biggest concern for the men’s baseball team is their pitching potential. Though they have seen great success in playoff tournaments this decade, the last time the team reached the playoffs it resulted in a 1-4 record across both the PSAC Tournament and NCAA Atlantic Regional combined. Given they are almost destined to reach the playoffs again this season; it is likely the team seeks redemption and makes a deep playoff run.

Meanwhile the women’s softball team is in a completely opposite situation than that of the baseball team. Throughout the previous decade the team has been extremely inconsistent, and has not seen much playoff success. However the bright side to this gloomy situation is that the softball team seems to be making a change for the better. Though their 2020 season was cut short as well, they did have a winning record of 4-5 prior to the cancellation of the season.

Similar to the baseball team they look continue the momentum from last season, but opposite to the baseball team the schedule for the softball team is quite daunting. The bulk of their schedule consists of teams who placed better than them last season. Some of those teams being: Kutztown, Shippensburg, West Chester, Westburg, Bloomsburg, and Mansfield.

Thankfully the schedule starts off with a handful of easy games for the softball team. Therefore if they manage to win most of the games in the first half of their schedule, they might have the energy to continue that trend, and ultimately defeat the difficult teams slated in the second half of their schedule. Thus, hope is not lost for the softball team, far from such.

Both the baseball and softball team look optimistic heading into the 2021 season, and excited students and fans alike will be able to see the results soon. In fact the baseball team begins their season in under a week, as they will be playing a double-header against Jefferson University on February 20. The first of those two matches is scheduled to start at 12:00p.m. Similarly the baseball team starts their season with a double-header against Clarion University on March 3. The first of those two matches is also scheduled to start at 12:00p.m.

Last but not least, all home games played by the baseball and softball team can be watched live on the Millersville athletic website.
National signing day at the Ville’

National Signing Day was on February 3, 2021, and serves as the first day that High School football players can commit to the College of their choice. Although it is first day that individual players can sign, it is often the day that most, if not all, of the incoming class signs.

Head coach J.C. Morgan is very excited about the new group of players signed on February 3. In regards to the 2021 recruiting class he said, “We are very pleased with our recruiting class. They’re not only going to be a great fit on the field, but they are also going to be a great fit in the locker room and a great fit on campus.”

In the wild time that is the COVID-19 era, one might wonder how any coaching staff could feel so good about a new group of athletes given the various restrictions due to the pandemic. However, Morgan gave credit to the University, saying that Millersville did an amazing job at allowing himself and his staff to meet the players that they were recruiting in a safe manner.

Although Morgan and his staff were able to meet some players in person, he did add that the process this year did have some differences. Some players did not have the chance to have an overnight visit, let alone an official visit.

In the past, they were able to go to (Universities) and get the red carpet rolled out for them, and that wasn’t the case with this group,” Morgan said.

When asked if there were any players in particular that Morgan was excited to see out on the football field, he had some good things to say about the offensive linemen. “We are very thrilled specifically with the offensive line, With how the board shook up (for us).”

He went on to add similar thoughts about the wide field target, and just like Carter, has the ability to turn on the jets after the catch and fight for those extra yards. However, the one aspect that really set him apart was that Handy plays with this fiery attitude- this swagger- you can tell that he wants it more than everybody else.

Also, Handy seems like a good name to have for a wide receiver, where your main job is to catch the ball. With a sturdy frame, Handy can hold on to the ball through big hits.

Moving on, the Marauders did add a quarterback, Cole Klayman, who is a redshirt junior transfer from Abilene Christian. Morgan had this to say regarding Klayman: “Cole is someone that we are familiar with. We recruited him to Shippensburg five years ago. We know his skillset very well and he is very familiar with our offense.”

Morgan also talked about never burning a bridge with anyone, whether it pertains to sports or just in life generally. He said that you never know when something can help you in the long run. And, in this particular instance, Morgan was happy with how things came full circle between himself and Klayman.

On the other side of the ball, Morgan and his staff are excited about the new group of interior defensive linemen. He mentioned that his team had a good amount of third and fourth year players at the top of the depth chart, so his staff was able to focus more so on the future with the young men signed on February 3. “We had an eye on the future while also feeling the need to go get guys who can play sooner rather than later,” Morgan said.

In particular, Joe Harris, Cross Douglas, and Quadir Jacobs were three defensive linemen that Morgan seemed excited about. “Those were three guys that we had on the top of our board since day one,” Morgan added, and he could not have been more pleased with the fact that all three of them

“We had an eye on the future while also feeling the need to go get guys who can play sooner rather than later.”

-Head Coach J.C. Morgan

Morgan chose Millersville.

A couple of other signees that Morgan spoke about were linebacker Mitchell Curran and defensive back D’Andre Blue-Eli. It seems like Curran was a bonus for Millersville’s latest class of signees as Morgan noted that the linebacker position was not necessarily a priority. Morgan said, “He was somebody that showed up on film that plays with reckless abandon and flies around (the field).”

Morgan also mentioned that Curran played multiple positions in High School, including defensive end and fullback, and that his staff did not want to pass up on a player of his caliber. Regarding Blue-Eli, a transfer from Delaware State, Morgan seemed excited about what he can potentially bring to the Marauders defense. “D’Andre Blue-Eli is a guy that fits our system, and his length and skillset is going to be good for us,” he said.

With all the talent that was added on National Signing Day and combining that with the talented pieces already present in the program, it is only a matter of time until Millersville football is back on the map. Not to worry Marauders, Coach Morgan is building a good program, just you wait.