

The McDaniel Free Press

Welcome Issue | August 30, 2017

A WELCOME FROM THE FREE PRESS



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McDaniel Dictionary

Photo by Kyle Parks.

The Free Press is happy to say “welcome!” to all new and returning students here at McDaniel.

As everyone gets settled in and begins to get to know and reunite with fellow members of the McDaniel community, we hope to continue being an integral part of the college, and welcome any interested students to become a part of our paper.

College is a time of discovery and excitement – these four years can be some of the most enjoyable of one’s life. While transitioning to life in the “real” world, we will grow even more as people and continue to pursue (and figure out) our life goals. Our editorial staff sincerely hopes that the Free Press,

by providing a variety of skills, opportunities, and enjoyment, can be a part of this path.

The Free Press, the college’s student-led paper, has been known by a variety of names, most notably the Gold Bug and the Phoenix. We have informed, excited, and (sometimes) angered since 1924. The paper’s staff has produced hundreds of issues and countless articles (over 300 in the last year alone). However, we cannot maintain this flow without the effort of the student body.

We provide a platform for any students interested in blogging, writing, investigation, photography, videography, graphic design,

and simply getting a perspective out into the eyes of the college community. Our content ranges from our journalistically objective news section, to our commentary section where writers can openly express their opinions. We publish various forms of content, including not only written pieces, but also a variety of photo essays and videos, and we’re always open to new ideas for those with further interests.

The Free Press always welcomes new staff reporters. We allow any students—regardless of major, writing experience, academic year, and interests—to join our staff, attend meetings, and to contribute to our paper, so long as they adhere

to our criteria for publication. For those with particular interest and commitment to the Free Press, we are also open to new members in our editorial staff.

Feel free to contact freepress@mcdaniel.edu for more information and to be added to our email list for updates on meeting times, article ideas, and other news regarding our publication.

Our next print issue is currently scheduled for Sept. 28, and we’d be thrilled to include your content in it!

**Kyle Parks,
Editor in Chief
Multimedia Editor**

www.mcdanielfreepress.com

McDaniel Receives a Network Overhaul

**Kyle Parks
Editor-in-Chief
Multimedia Editor**

McDaniel’s campus network has been undergoing a variety of updates throughout the summer.

The college has invested over \$1 million in hopes of addressing long-standing concerns among the campus community, most notably speeding up and simplifying wireless internet access.

According to Bill Ouchark, the director of infrastructure, the investment involves work that will take place over the next few years, but primarily in approximately the next 18 months, and will span around three fiscal years.

Much of McDaniel’s technology is in great need of refreshing and “some of the gear and equipment out there is upwards of 10 years old,” says Ouchark. “In the student buildings, everything needs to be replaced... the wireless access points, cabling issues, the network swatches, etc.”

Campus residence halls became the first priority over the summer. Academic buildings



Photo by Kyle Parks.

have followed throughout August, and administrative buildings and additional locations will be tended to during the beginning of the fall semester. Ouchark says that administrative buildings have received more recent work in terms of switching, but still await wireless upgrades.

In order to assist with this

daunting process, made perhaps more ambiguous by increased rates of dismissals and new staff in IT, the college has been working with Campus Works, Inc. Ouchark states that this helps “...to provide a lot of leadership and technical direction in terms of not only this project, but steering IT, the department itself.”

The updates also pertains to

the cable available on campus. The college uses Comcast, and has been transitioning to digital cable within the same timeframe, allowing students to use XFINITY. The digital channels will allow students “...to stream HD content of all the channels... able to [be used] over... cable hook up,” says Ouchark. This includes tablets, laptops, and many other devices. Students should also no longer need to register gaming systems, as the new network can accommodate higher usage and makes it easier to keep track of devices.

In total, about 400 access points needed to be installed on campus. According to IT, this represents a more than 65 percent increase in access points. After this initial replacement, says Ouchark, IT will “...be reevaluating signal coverage and strength, then [they’re] going to be pulling in additional wiring and

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access points....”

The new network is set to double available bandwidth on campus to two gigabytes. Ouchark emphasizes the importance of reliability for this new network, prompting a simplification of security procedures, among others. “I think a lot of the frustrations that have been expressed up to this point have been frustrations with getting on the wireless network and saying on.... So the security procedure and the ease at which students, faculty, and staff can get on the network will be changing,” he states.

He continues, “You’ll still be required to authenticate, using your username and password to get one the network, but you’re not going to have a lot of the antivirus checks... I think the expectation is that people want to see a lot more of the Starbucks, or airport, or hotel experience – easy to get on and easy to stay on, so that’s the objective.”



About 400 access points had to be installed. Photo by Kyle Parks.
www.mcdanielfreepress.com

Stefan Specian
Managing Editor
Commentary Editor

McDaniel College has begun renovations on Old and New Gill, with the goal of updating the kinesiology department, as well as making improvements to the various gym facilities.

The changes include building a connection underneath Old and New Gill, complete renovation of the kinesiology department, and building three new classrooms above the south gym of New Gill.

In the kinesiology department, major updates are planned for the anatomy and physiology, neuromuscular, and exercise science labs, all of which have as of recently been out of date and/or difficult to use. One major change that has been noted will be moving from the use of water displacement immersion tanks to more modern air displacement tanks.

Simultaneously, the offices and seminar room of Old Gill will be renovated, as to service the entire kinesiology department.

Vice President of Finance Tom Phizacklea stated that the goal of these renovations would be “giving this department, especially their faculty, the chance to all be under one roof in a central place.”

Meanwhile, the gym of Old

Renovations Planned for Gill Center



Gill Center. Photo by Kyle Parks.

Gill will have renovations done to add air conditioning and make the floor more suitable for a multi-use environment.

In New Gill, the changes are no less substantial. The school plans to build three classrooms above the bleachers in the south main gym, that can be also be utilized as sky boxes during games, or quiet spaces during graduations and other events in Gill. There will also be a soundproof dividing wall put in between the north and south gyms of Gill, which can be rolled out when needed.

Plans also call for the addition of a plaza on the North Village side of the Gill center, that connects to both the north gym and the Klitzeberg Pavilion. The plaza will allow entry to the north gym directly.

The planned changes, which are estimated to cost \$6.6 million, will be partially funded by a \$3 million dollar grant from the Maryland Independent College and University Association (MICUA). The other \$3.6 million will be raised via fundraising.

Work began on the project in July of 2017, and is slated to be finished by the Fall of 2018.



The back of Gill Center. Photo by Kyle Parks.

Free Press 2016-2017: Year in Review



Kyle Parks
Editor-in-Chief
Multimedia Editor

Here at the Free Press, we’re proud to have had such a successful year. As we reflect on the year behind us and look forward to the coming semester, we would like to showcase some of the proudest accomplishments we have made as a paper throughout the Fall 2016 and Spring 2017 semesters: We have published content from more than 60 different members of the McDaniel community.

315 posts have been made public on our website. 162 in the fall and 153 in the spring. This is the highest number in an academic year since the creation of our website in 2007.

These include:

- 27 articles in our news section.
- 60 articles in our features section.
- 22 articles in our lifestyle section.
- 38 articles in our commentary section.
- 65 articles in our arts & culture section.
- 39 articles in our sports section.
- 31 articles for our annual satirical issue, the *Funion*.
- 32 senior profiles for our senior issue.

The Free Press printed seven print issues, in addition to an involvement fair pamphlet and one-sheet in

November.

These contain a total of 218 different articles on a total of 96 pages amongst all printed materials.

Among these, we printed the 20-page senior issue, the largest single issue since 2011.

Certain editors have made major contributions beyond just editing their section(s) and helping run the paper:

Atticus Rice (Sports Editor) has written 38 articles.

Kyle Parks (editor-in-chief, multimedia editor) has published 36 pieces of content.

Stefan Specian (web editor) has published 23.

Jimmy Calderon (arts & culture editor, commentary editor) has published 20.

Colin Lyon (assistant editor) has published 17.

Mario Fernandez (assistant editor) has published 14.

It has truly been a strong year for the paper. We thank everyone who has helped us along, be it by directing us to potential sources or even simply reading what we’ve been sharing. With the tremendous efforts of our staff and the support of our audience, we hope to make the 2017-2018 academic year even better.



Fall 2017 Editorial Staff

- | | |
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| Kyle Parks
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Copy Editor |

McDaniel Hall Undergoes Renovations

Kyle Parks
Editor-in-Chief
Multimedia Editor

In recent years, McDaniel Hall, a 95-year-old structure, has accumulated a reputation for being a bit dated in comparison to other dormitories, but renovations undertaken over the summer seek to improve this.

The updates include new carpeting in rooms and hallways, a fresh coat of paint, and new furniture to more closely match that present in other dorm buildings. The color scheme of the building’s interior has been made brighter to promote a nicer atmosphere. The main lobby of McDaniel will also receive new carpeting and furniture. The building was also given new lighting, which will now have motion sensors as in other dorms, and sections of the building’s façade have been power washed.

Michael Robbins, the director of Residence Life, feels that these charges fall in line with updates in other campus buildings, saying, “They’re very comparable. Whiteford, Rouzer, ANW, and DMC all got new paint, new carpeting, new



McDaniel’s façade has also been cleaned as part of the renovations.
Photo by Kyle Parks.

furniture, and then different lounge furniture.” Blanche Ward Hall received a more complex renovation, whereas North Village, particularly Phase Two, is still a relatively new construction.

McDaniel is the latest dormitory to have received such a treatment, with many campus residences having been renovated over the past 10 years. The college created a plan to gradually update dormitories, most

recently in ANW, which was given a similar “facelift” in 2014; however, McDaniel had its bathrooms redone a few years back whereas ANW still has yet to have all of its bathrooms updated.

Robbins asserts that this step is “kind of the end,” with only houses on Pennsylvania Avenue awaiting major work. While these houses have received some newer furniture in recent years, the college remains

reluctant to invest heavily in them due to the proposed development of North Village phase three, which would involve razing many PA Ave houses.

Overall, the cost of the McDaniel Hall project sits at approximately \$350,000, with the largest expense being the purchase of new furniture for about 120 residents that the building can accommodate.

Robbins hopes that these renovations will again give ANW and McDaniel equal demand among rising sophomores for housing. Historically, says Robbins, “...the selections were largely based on where [students] are on campus.” Those studying the sciences, theater, or art would generally opt for McDaniel while those with many classes in Merritt Hall and athletes would prefer ANW. “But once ANW got its renovations ahead of McDaniel,” says Robbins. “Things shifted and ANW became much more popular over McDaniel, and I’m hoping... if McDaniel gets the renovations, then things might swing back to being even.”



Rooms have been given new paint, carpeting, and furniture.
Photo by Kyle Parks.



The lobby of McDaniel has also received new paint, furniture, and carpeting.
Photo by Kyle Parks.

Emma Carter
Features Editor

You’ve done it: moved in, tackled your first classes. Though most of the heavy lifting is over, it can still be a challenge to navigate the first few weeks of the semester at a new school—and that’s okay. You’re walking through unfamiliar buildings, trying to keep track of classmates’ names, and learning... vocabulary?

Exactly. There is a lingo exclusive to McDaniel students: a collection of nicknames and slang that has its roots right here on the Hill. A touch quirky, and at times altogether confusing, McDaniel’s language comes naturally to returning students, and being familiar with it will help your start here run smoothly.

ANW—short for Albert Norman Ward Hall. This residence hall for upperclassmen is next to Gill Gymnasium.

Blanche—short for Blanche Ward Hall. This residence hall, down the brick walkway from Whiteford Hall (the two buildings’ L shapes mirror each other), houses upperclassmen, but no elevators—students can get quite a workout climbing to the top floors.

BMC—short for Baker Memorial Chapel, also known as Big Baker.

McDaniel Dictionary

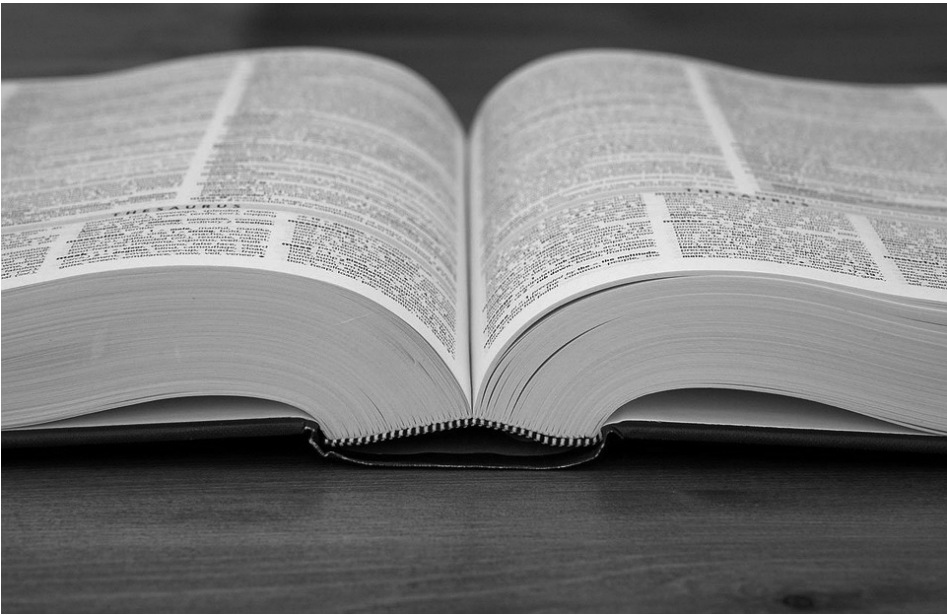


Image via Pixabay.

This building is between Lewis Hall and Hoover Library. The basement is home to the world language, philosophy, and religious studies departments; upstairs are pews and a stage for concerts and ceremonies (including orientation).

Campo—slang for the campus police. Their office is located on Pennsylvania Avenue.

Decker—could mean one of two locations. The Decker Auditorium is in Lewis Hall; the Decker College

Center is on the opposite end of campus next to Rouzer Hall (in here students find the Ensor Lounge, post office, bookstore, and dining hall).

DMC—short for Daniel MacLea Hall. Located across from ANW, it houses primarily Honors and transfer students.

Gardens—the Gardens Apartments, located behind Rouzer Hall. Half have kitchens; half do not.

Glar—short for Englar Dining Hall,

which is located on the first floor of the Decker Student Center. The food is (sometimes) better than the questionable nickname.

Little Baker—a small chapel adjacent to Peterson Hall (McDaniel’s art building). Inside are colorful stained-glass windows; Little Baker also hosts a number of student performances each year, such as flute choir and the Madrigal Singers.

PA Ave—Pennsylvania Avenue. This road borders the east side of campus and most on-campus houses are located along the route.

Red Square—the brick plaza between Hoover Library and Hill Hall that is—literally—a red square. Its proper name is Memorial Plaza. Students ring the bell here during orientation ceremonies and again on their graduation day.

The Portal—the McDaniel Portal. A website where students use their McDaniel login credentials to access email, Blackboard (the widely-used site for grades and assignments), financial aid, and more.

It doesn’t take long for all these to start rolling off the tongue. Like every unfamiliar building and each one of your classmates’ names, McDaniel’s key words will stick easily in your memory as you steer through the semester.

Cheers to Fall 2017.

Kyle Parks
Editor-in-Chief
Multimedia Editor

New Student Move-in Photos



The move-in crew collected in Ensor Lounge shortly after 7 a.m. to prepare for the day. Here, they get hyped up before starting the day.



Cars arrive at the loading dock outside of Whiteford shortly after 8 a.m.



New students, their families, and the move-in crew worked together to help simplify and speed up the move-in process.



Move-in crew members move items into Rouzer Hall.



A new student checks in with RAs.



The Hoover library staff hosted “Hoover Library Jubilee” from 11:00 to 1:30 on first-year move-in day.

FROM OUR INSTAGRAM



Cars beginning to arrive on Aug. 23.
Photo by Kyle Parks.



Move-in crew unloading a car outside of Rouzer.
Photo by Kyle Parks.



The Free Press opened its office while covering move-in.
Photo by Kyle Parks.

New Student Move-in Photos



Peer mentor Alyssa Swartz and her mentees meet each other and wait for more to arrive in Red Square.



New students stand as faculty members enter for the Introduction Convocation.



Students participate in the Candlewalk Ceremony.



Students enter Big Baker as part of the Candlewalk.



Students ringing in after exiting Big Baker.



After ringing in, new students were hyped up by a path of cheering peers.

FROM OUR INSTAGRAM



The class of 2021 assembling in Red Square to meet their FYS class and peer mentors.
Photo by Stefan Specian.



New students were treated to Late Night Karaoke & Wings on Aug. 24. *Photo by Kyle Parks.*



A large group of new students participating in an ice breaker activity in Red Square. *Photo by Kyle Parks.*

From the Archives: Late Nineties Commentary

Kyle Parks Editor-in-Chief Multimedia Editor

While our paper’s commentary section has a faint tendency to prompt anger and concern to this day, many particularly sassy, aggressive, and humorous commentary articles appeared in the Phoenix (the name of the paper at the time) in the fall 1999 semester. Read a few excerpts:

Carl’s column of complaints

Anyone watch the World Series this year? Me neither. And why was nobody watching?

Because it sucked - people are tired of soft sons like Steinbrenner and Turner buying championships. The playoffs are so boring to watch now. Everyone knows it’s going to be Yankees and Braves. The best part of the series this year was Pete Rose.

Next year, I hope both teams miss the playoffs, especially the Yankees, and they make room for teams like the Phillies.

You know what else I’m tired of? Reading about squirrels in the Phoenix.

Why are there no parking spaces on this campus? I come back from an off-campus lab at 11:30, and there is absolutely nowhere to park.

After I drive around for 15 minutes...

Carl Kruger launches a new column outlining a variety of complaints.

For a minute at the beginning of the year, I thought that Glar was significantly improved from last year. Then, I saw that there were no napkins on any of the tables.

The French. ‘Nuff said.

For a minute at the beginning of the year, I thought that Glar was significantly improved from last year. Then, I saw that there were no napkins on any of the tables.

What’s the deal with that? I don’t know about you, but I don’t enjoy using a roll of toilet paper for lunch napkins.

I must resort to using this rendition of a “napkin.” I have to stand there, wait in line while others are walking by trying to put their trays on the conveyor belt (which is broken half of the time).

Then, I have ten people bump into me, and I have to either balance my tray on one hand, while grabbing a “napkin,” or sit my tray in another area code while I go to get a “napkin.”

Glar says it costs more, but I think that since we pay so much for a meal anyway, they can afford to give us real napkins with real napkin holders.

Got a complaint? E-mail Carl at crk001@wmdc.edu.

November 18, 1999, “Carl’s Column of Complaints.”

Carl, a Western Maryland student, was possessed to begin a column within the commentary section consisting entirely of lists of complaints. In this edition, Carl notes that no one watched the World Series “because it sucked,” insults The Phoenix’s tendency to write about squirrels, and includes the lack of parking spots on campus, “The French,” and finally the absence of napkins at tables in Glar.

Dec. 8, 1999, “Top ten signs that new millennium harbors end of world.”

In this humorous article, the writer enumerates just why Y2K could truly be the end of the world. In descending order, he credits Hillary Clinton’s impending election as a New York senator, country music’s continued popularity, inadequate athletes making millions, his concerns of scientists

Sept. 30, 1999, “Glar Penitentiary.”

Using a comical, descriptive prose, this writer likens Englar Dining Hall to a prison. He describes what he believes is an uncomfortable ambiance, typical of a high school. He adds, “Western Maryland was intelligent enough in forming what is now the most massive conspiracy on campus: Glar.” The writer expresses frustration at the mandatory purchase of a meal plan that worked only in Glar at the time. “Glar Penitentiary” ends with suggestions, such as adding booths, improving lighting, and even “soft jazz.” Interestingly, many of this student’s concerns have been addressed.

Glar Penitentiary

Devon Reeser takes a look at the dismal atmosphere of WMC dining.

I proceeded through the line. I followed the others with my cold, black tray. They sloshed food on my plate, and I moved on.

I sat at a table, which only succeeded in recalling my memories of my high school cafeteria and its disregard for student comfort. Harsh lights, barren walls, and murmurs of chatter deluded my senses.

Where was I? Prison? A Russian work camp? War barracks? Hell?

What had I done to deserve this?

I suddenly remembered. This place was not a punishment; this place was not the afterlife. This place was Glar.

Most students pay hundreds of dollars a semester to eat in this place called Glar. Most students rarely realize the true state of its ambiance. The few who do deal with it as a necessary evil to sustaining their health, for they know that they must eat.

Western Maryland was intelligent enough in forming what is now the most massive conspiracy on campus: Glar.

Where else can we go? The Pub? Ah, yes, we can eat at The Pub, but only if we want to spend our nonexistent money. Students are coerced into buying a meal plan that works only in Glar.

They have no other choice of dining facilities; so, they must cope with the aforementioned dining hall. Since they have no true comparison, most do not even notice the starkness of its condition.

What would improve Glar? Glar would benefit from eliminating its prison-like qualities.

For instance, it could get rid of some of its bleak, impersonal tables in favor of some booths. It could hold some more pictures or paintings on its made walls. It could even opt for softer lights in place of its present eye-tearing fluorescent bulbs. Some soft jazz would even be nice to calm the ever-present chatter.

Do I ask too much? I do not believe so; asking for a bit of homely humanity in a place where we abide could never be too much.

being able to clone Pauly Shore, the movie Titanic making more money than the first Star Wars prequel, Late Night With Conan O’Brien airing at a bad time, “the perennial powerhouse teams of the NFL” all having subpar seasons, the strange rise of the Reform Party in the presidential election, The Simpsons, The X-Files, and That 70’s Show all being on the same network, and the fact that the flex class was still at WMC.

Orientation disappoints

Kevin Lockett critiques the new student program.

On Thursday, August 26, at approximately 7:30 am, I arrived at my new home. Soon thereafter, my parents and I were arranging the pile of furniture placed haphazardly in the center of my dorm room.

I was anxious to begin my new life as a college “man,” a man on his own schedule, freedoms, and conveniences. As the day went on, I found that my orientation color card left little time for any freedom.

I had little time to get to know my new roommate and even less time to arrange my new living quarters. After the first day, my hopes for an independent, unstructured environment were far out of sight.

A meeting with my “Peer Mentor” was first. I met the other members of my freshman seminar class and spoke with some of them briefly.

After this meeting, we slept through a number of boring, pointless speeches and ring a bell in our school’s courtyard so “officially” induct us into WMC.

After this convocation, we returned to the classroom and met our professor. She went over some information she thought was important. We were told the rules of the purpose, and goals of the class. At least this time it was told by someone new.

Later that night, we were headed to our dorm’s basement to discuss a few rules with our Resident Assistant. We were informed of some policies that were probably new to most people: “Don’t destroy property that isn’t yours. Don’t drink alcohol if you’re under 21. Don’t do drugs.”

We may or may not have heard this in kindergarten. These few simple rules took only about one hour. I was forced to ask myself, “Why not just give us a handbook?”

This was just the tip of the iceberg. For three days, I was thrown into a restrictive, inhibited world where I participated in activities meant to help me gain new friends and contacts for my college career.

It is almost impossible to be “stressed” to make friends. I certainly saw no sign of the freedom that is arguably the most appealing college characteristic for young adults.

If these four days were meant to acquaint me with the inner workings and routines of college life, then freshman orientation is in need of vast improvement.

Now, days after I arrived, I am still unacquainted with the knowledge needed to function in my new home.

My computer is still not connected to the Internet, my phone messages are answered only because of hours of toiling, and my trays were piled high until just a few hours ago when I discovered the trash room.

WMC needs to stop wearing us out with boring schedules dedicated to common sense issues and give us the information needed for our personal lives in college.

Sept. 16, 1999, “Orientation Disappoints.”

Having just progressed through new student orientation, this writer decided to voice his criticisms quite directly. He specifically disapproves of the lack of time to get to know his roommate and being moved around to a variety of events and meetings. He states, “...we slept through a number of boring, pointless speeches and rang a bell in our school’s courtyard to ‘officially’ induct us into WMC.” Later, he describes being “herded” to a meeting with his RA to review college policies, noting, “we may or may not have heard this in kindergarten.” Overall, he resents the lack of free time, being unable to set up his computer, having no freedom he had yearned for, and being in situations in which he felt “forced” to make friends.

Oct. 21, 1999, “The Pub’s Four-star dining experience: Journey to the dark side.”

This article describes in detail what its writer felt was wrong with the Pub. She first criticizes the workers, stating that they yelled people’s names unintelligibly, “leaving everyone wondering why Charlie Brown’s teacher showed up to work a shift at our humble institution.” The writer then moves onto wait time, describing “Bob’s” hypothetical visit to the pub; first waiting 45 minutes to order, not getting precisely what he wanted, then sitting at a sticky, unclean table. “Bob,” depressed by lack of décor, then couldn’t get ice from the soda machine, and ended up with “watery coke.” Bob then “braves the line AGAIN and peacefully requests ketchup.” After his experience, he reflects on how the Pub has no competition and no incentive to improve.

The Pub’s four-star dining experience: Journey to the dark side

Kristen G. Fraser describes the lackluster operation and appearance of the school Pub.

The intention of the WMC Pub or Gella, if you’ve had the privilege of having heard that it is supposed to be the most popular place to go for a meal, is to provide a social environment for students. They accomplish this goal only minimally.

We need to improve the Pub for the list of problems is long while the list of benefits is short.

The staff and management of the Pub are a source of much discussion. When we began this subject itself could be the source of a very long article. The staff of the Pub exhibits many qualities of incompetence.

It is the tendency of the Pub staff to go intelligently about the name of the food. If they possible to know. The staff has been known, we never then our occasion, to yell the same quite short-sensitively, in a tone of voice leaving everyone wondering why Charlie Brown’s teacher showed up to work a shift at our humble institution.

Often, the line to place an order is incredibly long, held up by an obviously unskilled host of workers.

This is usually followed by the wait of as long as an hour for food. The average wait seems to be about 45 minutes. If there is any one in line ahead of your order.

There are so many qualities of incompetence and so little time.

Let’s imagine a typical scenario for a WMC student visiting to use a fourth meal. We’ll call him “Bob.” He enters the Pub. He sits at a table after deciding that there’s really aren’t any decent food choices on the list. Unattended, he decides upon the “burgers” and some french fries.

After waiting eight minutes to simply hand in his order, Bob walks away from the counter, stocked with his third choice of choice.

As he waits for his food, Bob goes out in search of a table. He finally encounters a sticky table, covered with ketchup and remnants of trash. Lonely, he sits.

He looks around the Pub, noticing its sparse conditions and lively decorations. Bob looks back to the monotony of other college where he was filled with a sense of pride.

His roommates old plans, memorabilia and pictures of the mascot appeared prominently. Nothing like that can be found here, only green walls.

Starting to feel depressed, Bob is driven to the soda machine to fill his drink. Out of habit, he presses the ice dispenser.

Naturally, it is empty. Why should there be ice there?

Yes, Bob moves on to the big for container. The unassuming condition of food, collective ice weight on his mind, but he is supposed to be relaxing in the Pub, so he puts thought of games out of his head.

The loud pumping music rings in Bob’s ears as the soda machine indicates that it needs to be refilled. Undeterred, weary Coke fills his cup.

Bob sits down, contemplating what to better his typical hot cold or his watery soda. Of course, Bob knows better than to try the other side. That soda machine is perpetually smudged and broken.

A second attempt to avoid depression is made as Bob hears something that almost sounds like his name being called over the loudspeaker. After responding in a mumbled and a half second, his name is called again, this time impatiently.

Obviously, wait speed is required for picking up food in the Pub.

After receiving a dirty look for the crime of picking up food, Bob returns to his seat. As he is about to start his French fries, he notices that there is no ketchup to be found short of taking it off the table.

So, Bob braves the line AGAIN, and peacefully requests ketchup. Apparently, the ketchup is being hidden behind the counter. Bob finally receives his ketchup and moves on to eat.

It was good thing he found a table when he did, for now the Pub is completely full. There is little room anywhere in the crowded environment for any more people.

Bob looks forward to refilling his drink. He fills it and gulps down the flat soda.

His wonders why he wastes his time; this would be the tenth time that he could potentially complain about the banquets with little effort.

Finally, Bob experiences an eerily unusual request for philosophy class. The Pub staff has no reason to improve. There is no competition. Students are too broke to go off campus for food. What will happen if he unites with other students to complain about poor selection, poor quality, soda, or long wait times?

Suddenly, his wings don’t look so appealing. And, by the way, they’re cold.

Top ten signs that new millennium harbors end of world

With the millennium fast approaching, Y2K fever catching on, and concerns over the predictions of Nostradamus, there are many signs that point to the destruction of the world.

These are just a few of the most noticeable:

1. First Lady Hillary Clinton may soon be referred to as New York Senator Hillary Clinton. Perhaps she’ll have an affair with one of her interns.
2. In a related story, Congress may repeal the two-term limit on the office of president. William Jefferson Clinton is expected to soon announce his candidacy.
3. The Reform Party. The state of Minnesota already has a Reform Party member and former professional wrestler as its governor in Jesse Ventura, but the party’s presidential hopes are two millionaires (Donald Trump and Steve Forbes) and Pat Buchanan. This has prompted some members of the Reform Party to long for the days of Ross Perot. Enough said.
4. Arguably, the three best shows on television may all be on the FOX network - The Simpsons, The X-Files, and That 70’s Show.
5. The flex class has still not been eliminated at WMC. Kill it!!!
6. The movie Titanic actually made more money at the box office than the first Star Wars prequel.
7. The only remotely funny talk-show on television is Late Night with Conan O’Brien which doesn’t exactly have the greatest of time slots. It’s on after The Tonight Show, weeknights at 12:30 am.
8. The perennial powerhouse teams of the NFL - the San Francisco 49ers, Dallas Cowboys, and Pittsburgh Steelers, are all having miserable seasons.
9. Country music is still popular. George W. Bush and Al Gore even plan to use country music songs as their presidential campaign anthems.
10. Below average professional athletes are making well over a million dollars a year. The better ones earn salaries of over \$14 million a year.
11. Scientists can now clone sheep - it’s only a matter of time until they figure out how to clone Pauly Shore.
12. Ryan Seavolt looks at the top ten signs that point to the destruction of the world.

www.mcdanielfreepress.com

McDaniel Greek Life: Overview

Erin Pogue Assistant Editor

Getting involved in Greek Life is a great way to meet friends and get involved on campus. There are several different social and service fraternities and sororities, so if you are interested in joining, there is sure to be one that fits you.

Sororities

- Alpha Kappa Alpha* (AKA)
Nicknames: AKA
Symbols: Ivy Leaf
Colors: Pink and Green
On Campus Since: 2016
Fun Fact: The newest Greek organization on campus.
- Alpha Sigma Tau* (ΑΣΤ)
Nicknames: AST
Symbol: Anchor
Colors: Green and Gold
On Campus Since: 2012
Fun Fact: Recently brought Love Your Melon to campus.
- Phi Alpha Mu* (ΦΑΜ)
Nicknames: Phi Alph
Symbol: Cow
Colors: Purple and White
On Campus Since: 1926
Fun Fact: It is the only local sorority on campus.
- Phi Mu* (ΦΜ)
Nicknames: None
Symbol: Lion
Colors: Pink

- On Campus Since: 1989
Fun Fact: Founded in 1852, it is McDaniel’s oldest sorority (it is so long-established, in fact, that it predates the classification “sorority” and is technically called a fraternity).
- Phi Sigma Sigma* (ΦΣΣ)
Nicknames: Phi Sig
Symbol: Sphinx and Rose
Colors: Blue and Yellow
On Campus Since: 1981
Fun Fact: The writing on their crest ΔΙΩΚΕΤΕ ΥΨΗΛΑ means Aim High.
- Zeta Phi Beta* (ΖΦΒ)
Nicknames: Zetas
Symbol: Dove
Colors: Blue and White
On Campus Since: 2013
Fun Fact: They have been the Maryland Undergraduate Chapter of the Year for the past 2 years
- Fraternities**
- Alpha Gamma Tau* (ΑΓΤ)
Nicknames: The Bachelors
On Campus Since: 1924
Fun Fact: The only local fraternity on campus
- Alpha Sigma Phi* (ΑΣΦ)
Nicknames: Alpha Sig
Symbols: Phoenix
Colors: Red and White
On Campus Since: 2003
Fun Fact: It was founded nationally in 1845, making it the oldest social

- fraternity on campus.
- Lambda Chi Alpha* (ΛΧΑ)
Nicknames: Lambda Chi
Symbols: Cross and Crescent
Colors: Purple, Green, and Gold
On Campus Since: 2016
Fun Fact: Won the Most Spirited award at the 2017 Greek Games.
- Omega Psi Phi* (ΩΨΦ)
Nicknames: None
Symbols: Lamp
Colors: Purple and Gold
On Campus Since: 2016
Fun Fact: It is the first Divine Nine fraternity to come on to campus, having been founded at Howard University, a Historically Black University.
- Phi Delta Theta* (ΦΔΘ)
Nicknames: Phi Delt
Symbols: Sword
Colors: Blue and White
On Campus Since: 1971
Fun Fact: Won the Superhero Video contest of Greek Week 2017
- Phi Kappa Sigma* (ΦΚΣ)
Nicknames: Phi Kap
Symbols: Skull and Crossbones
Colors: Brown, Black, and Blue
On Campus Since: 1998
Fun Fact: Their motto Stellas Aequus Durando means Equal to the Stars in Endurance.
- Sigma Alpha Epsilon* (ΣΑΕ)

- Nicknames: SAE
Symbols: Lion
Colors: Purple and Gold
On Campus Since: 2014
Fun Fact: Won the gold chapter award at last year’s Greek Awards.
- Co-Ed Service Fraternities**
- Alpha Phi Omega* (ΑΦΩ)
Nicknames: APO
Symbols: Torch
Colors: Blue and Yellow
On Campus Since: 2001
Fun Fact: The largest fraternity on campus

Academic departments also maintain honor societies which also bear Greek letters, with varying level of activity.



McDaniel College Greek organizations pose for a photo outside Hoover Library during Greek Week 2016. Photo courtesy McDaniel College Office of Student Engagement.

Where in Westminster: Westminster Branch Library

JT Lockman
Staff Reporter

The Westminster Branch Library, located at 50 East Main Street, is one of six Carroll County Public Libraries. Reverend J. A. Monroe and Dr. Charles Billingslea founded this library in 1863.

Membership dues and fines supported the library for a long time, with the facility to the public only on Friday afternoons. It has relocated several times, first from the Odd Fellows Hall to the new Times Building, then to the Wantz building. Despite these relocations, the library was still housed in cramped rooms until the 1940s. In 1980, after a county-wide library system was created, The Westminster Branch opened Carroll County's first modern library facility on East Main Street.

In 2008 the library underwent major interior and exterior renovations. This included a complete redesign of the interior and the installation of a train-themed children's area.



Photo by Stefan Specian.

Mary Lou Dewey Park, located in front of the library was completely redesigned as well. The park gained new walkways, landscaping, and a performance platform for concerts and educational programming called the Booth Memorial Stage. Thanks to private funding, a library-inspired sculpture, labeled Wild Imaginings, by artist Bart Walter was also installed.

The library gives back to the community and strives to be accessible to all. Free Wi-Fi, public computers, copy/fax machines, and even children's learning games are offered. Events, such as story time and playgroup are held, which are designed to help children of all ages socialize and practice basic skills. The library also holds "Sensory Storytime," an event for children

with special needs or disabilities to enjoy a judgement-free story time.

Along with children's events, the library offers book clubs for adults and informational sessions for seniors. These sessions seek to educate seniors about things like Medicare eligibility.

The library also has events catering to community members in middle and high school, such as video game and recording software lessons that allow kids to socialize and have fun. Guest lecturers often hold lecture series at the library, talking about anything from music to history.

The Westminster Branch Library makes an impression on kids and adults alike with its fun and modern design. It provides a quite space for studying or reading, as well as spaces to socialize. With a wide range of events, the library can appeal to anyone. As the summer approaches, the library is a great place to consider visiting to learn something new or just socialize with others.

Revisiting the Bunker

Mario Fernandez
Lifestyle Editor

McDaniel College turns 150 this year. This campus has a long history; a lot can happen in 150 years. But some parts of McDaniel's history are seldom spoken of—such as the now-infamous bunker in the basement of Lewis Hall of Science.

Dr. James Lightner, McDaniel's resident historian, wrote a book in 2007 called Fearless and Bold, in which he discusses the college's history from 1866 to 2002. In this book, a group known as the Wartime Information Security Program—WISP—was referenced. WISP was a collective of eight men, "some on the [McDaniel] staff, who would, in a war emergency, gather in their headquarters at the college... to set up the machinery to censor American media."

The bunker was overseen by the Office of Defense Mobilization (now named the Office of Emergency Preparedness). Initially called the United States Office of Censorship, it was renamed the Wartime Information Security Program under Nixon. According to a 2014 Free Press article, Lightner claimed that the 6,000-square-foot chamber,

accessed by elevator and equipped with a broadcast facility connected to FEMA's communications infrastructure, "was the worst kept secret on campus; everyone knew it was there, but no one had ever seen it."

The Cold War was a time full of panic, but for some it struck closer to home. McDaniel's campus is moderately close to Washington, D.C., feeling a lot of the anxiety that the capital felt during the time. Being so close to D.C., McDaniel definitely would have felt the impacts of a nuclear weapon hitting the country's capital. In fact, depending on the wind's direction, we would have been one of the first areas to feel the radiation.

McDaniel was close to absolute destruction—so was most of the country—but it is still an eerie thought. The idea that the Pub would not exist, and neither would any of our dorms, or any other building for that matter, is scary; however, it really helps put the world into perspective. The world itself was close to destruction—the Lewis Bunker is a relic of that time. The bunker has been renovated and is now being put to better use; likewise, the world needs better.

The bunker is a reminder of a doomsday future narrowly avoided.

Our generation is the first of many having no memory of the anxiety that prevailed during the Cold War. McDaniel has multiple fallout shelters signs on campus; on ANW, DMC, and other buildings. What's good is that some of our students could survive a theoretical nuclear strike. However, not every bunker has been renovated in the way that the Lewis Bunker has. It now

houses the TV Station, a computer lab, and some offices; instead of being prepared to censor the media, the area is now used to create content, a much better use in today's time.

The past has a way of rearing its head in when we do not want it to. This bunker is a reminder of a past we want learn from, and a future we want to avoid.

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Photo by Kyle Parks.



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Student Action Prompts Reversal of Library Decision

Stefan Specian
Managing Editor
Commentary Editor

Upon returning to campus for the Fall 2017 semester, many students were concerned to find that Overnight Study Hall had been cancelled, and that the library would be closing at midnight during the semester.

When looking at the reasoning behind the cancellation, Director of Campus Safety James Hamrick stated that it was a result of budget reevaluation at the beginning of the 2017-2018 school year.

"As you know, there's been budget constraints, and there's been an endeavor to try to trim the budget and try to keep tuition costs down, and so one of the things that was asked of the divisions and the departments within those divisions is to look at our budget, to look at those areas in which we could create efficiencies," said Hamrick.

When looking at how this affected the library, Hamrick noted that a large part of the decision was based on the low usage numbers during the later hours of the night and earlier hours of the morning.

"The security for the library was one of the things that was examined, and so there was a collective decision that was made based upon data which we actually got from the library, and looking at the data over the past two years," he continued "and there was a consistent pattern that after 2 a.m. it was down to single digit numbers, and the cost associated with that didn't seem to support that investment."



Photo by Kyle Parks.

Many students expressed concern that the cancellation of these hours would be to the detriment of the student body, and would especially hurt students who, due to personal preference or time commitments, were only able to study during the later hours of the night.

A petition was quickly launched on Change.org by student Ash Kwiatkowski, which was spread across social media by a wide range of students, and alumni, who argued that the changes needed to be reversed. The petition reached a total of 693 signatures by the time it was closed.

"This thing that I'd been using for years now, not just during finals week, but really throughout the year for multiple years, is going away," said Ash, "and the people I see there,

they aren't just fellow night owls like me, it's people like athletes that are doing night practices and can only use that space after hours, or people who are working during normal hours and therefore have to come here after hours. It affects so many different people."

Many also noted that, according to the annual report issued by the Hoover Library, between 2016 and 2017 the number of overnight entrances had increased by 1,469, showing that students were using these hours more often than they had in the past.

Continued petitioning and student action eventually prompted the school to begin reevaluating its position. Library Director Jessame Ferguson told the Free Press that

"we are trying to figure out how to have some hours past midnight that are staffed by student employees, and we are currently looking into which of our student employees are willing to work past midnight, how much, and how often."

She also noted that the library would be committed, as always, to maintaining finals week hours, and would be looking to possibly hire new student employees to work night hours (though these students would still be required to work during the day as well).

On Sept. 10, the student action had an effect, as Provost Julia Jasken emailed the Free Press a planned release, stating the following:

Dear Students,

Thank you for your feedback on the decision to cut back on the overnight study hours in the library. We are always looking for ways to keep our costs down to ensure your college experience is as affordable as possible. An assessment of overnight hours from last year showed relatively low usage between the hours of midnight – 4 a.m. with virtually no usage between 4 a.m. and 7 a.m.

Despite these low numbers, we do understand the importance of having this space available, should you need it, particularly during mid-term and finals week.

To that end, we are in the process of hiring a staff member who can keep the library open until 4 a.m., which should meet the vast

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Largest Class in School History**

Weekend Shuttle Service Restored in Limited Capacity

Atticus Rice
Sports Editor

McDaniel's weekend shuttle service is back in a new, limited form as of last Friday.

The first come, first served weekend service was restored by the Department of Campus Safety, according to an all-school announcement made last week.

"The Division of Student Affairs is pleased to announce that shuttle service will begin next weekend, Friday, September 15th," the Sept. 10 statement read.

The college had originally planned to no longer offer the weekend service, which makes trips to nearby metro stations on Fridays and Sundays with Westminster-local trips all weekend. The decision was reversed not even three weeks into the academic year after student demand for the service.

The cuts to the service came with a wave of campus-wide budget cuts.

"Campus Safety was forced to consider the elimination of certain services," said James Hamrick, director of Campus Safety, in an email.

The decision came as ridership on the weekend shuttle has declined on average of over 41 percent in the past three years.

"[The] cost of operation was not an efficient use of funds for so few riders," said Hamrick.

The college was able to secure additional funding for the limited service weekend shuttle after the start of the year.



Photo by Melanie Ojwang.

The new weekend shuttle service will be offered roughly twice a month compared to the every weekend service that has previously been offered.

The first weekend shuttle ran last Friday. Future weekend runs are scheduled for Sept. 29-Oct. 1, Oct. 6-8, Oct. 27-29, Nov. 3-5, Nov. 17-19, and Dec. 1-3.

"We had a total of 19 students ride the shuttle this past weekend," said Deputy Chief of Campus Safety Adam Reid.

Ridership on the shuttle will be monitored this semester and evaluated at the end of the semester to determine the future of the weekend shuttle.

No changes were made to the

break shuttle which takes students to transit ports such as Shady Grove, BWI Amtrak, BWI Airport, Baltimore Greyhound, and Owings Mills.

"The break shuttle was never under consideration for being cut," said Hamrick.

The first break shuttle is scheduled for the start of Fall Break on Oct. 13. Spaces must be reserved by Sept. 29.

According to historical documents, McDaniel has offered a shuttle service in some capacity since 2001, when it was housed in College Activities (now Student Engagement). It was transferred to Campus Safety's jurisdiction in 2007.

In some months of decline over

the past three years, ridership went down as much as 80 percent.

Ridership has always remained high on the break shuttle for semester breaks.

"Ridership remains consistently high for semester breaks, between 40 and 60 total riders," said Hamrick, "and about half of that at the end of the fall semester and the beginning of the spring semester."

Although the original cuts were made in congruence with the campus-wide cuts seen this summer, Hamrick made it clear that budget cuts do not affect what Campus Safety brings to McDaniel.

"Budget cuts have no impact whatsoever on the level of essential Campus Safety services," he said.

Still, rumors of fewer officers on duty have been circling around campus. Hamrick clarifies that these are just rumors.

"The rumor of fewer officers being on duty is probably coming from the fact that, over the summer months, we were trying to fill four vacant officer positions," said Hamrick.

Campus Safety never dropped below their minimum staffing requirements during those months, even with a staffing shortage, partially because minimum staffing levels are lower in the summer.

"We have since hired three new officers and are preparing to hire a fourth to fill the remaining vacancy," said Hamrick.

Significant Changes to the Business Administration and Accounting Economics Majors

Kaitland Clawson
Staff Reporter

After approximately two years of planning, the Business Department at McDaniel College redesigned its requirements for the Business Administration and Accounting Economics majors. In the spring of 2017, the Curriculum Committee approved these changes and new requirements were implemented in the 2017-2018 school year.

The new requirements for these majors are mandatory for McDaniel's class of 2021 and the classes to come. However, the requirements are optional for the current sophomores, juniors and seniors who have already begun the process in earning their business and accounting degrees. These students have the option of following the old major requirements or fulfilling the new requirements that were established this fall. It is a "case by case" decision and should be discussed and decided upon between the students and their academic advisors based on the courses they have already taken and the ones they will still need to take to graduate on time.

The business administration major has many new changes to its core requirements, including taking two semesters of Economics, one fewer semester of Statistics and an improved capstone course called Business Strategy. The Accounting Economics major's changes were not as dramatic.

"The goal is to give the best education to the students" says Department Chair Ethan Seidel. When planning and developing the new major, the business department discussed which courses were necessary to make the students more



Photo by Kaitland Clawson.

diverse and how the requirements could give students the opportunity to go deeper into their own interests without trying to increase the number of required courses.

Previously, students in the Business Administration major had to take a certain number of business courses to graduate. Now, students must complete basic courses in different areas of business including entrepreneurship, finance, economics, and marketing as the core requirements for the new major. "This new design then allows students to have time to dive deeper into an area of concentration that interests them" Seidel points out. Students are required to choose a minimum of one concentration and complete three courses within that concentration. The concentrations students can choose from are entrepreneurship, finance,

international business, leadership and management, and marketing.

Students have already expressed interest and excitement towards the new changes to these majors.

"In terms of the new accounting major, it seems to have opened the student's schedules a bit more, allowing more time for the CPA exam requirements" says Sarah McDonald, a senior majoring in Accounting Economics and Business Administration. "I believe it also helps the students gain a better appreciation for the inclusion of economics in the accounting major."

Another change to the business administration and accounting economics majors is their capstone course. Business Administration majors now must take the Business Strategy capstone. This course is more of a case study approach, where the students work in a group

to solve problems that are occurring in firms.

The previously required capstone, Corporate Finance, is now a required course instead of a capstone. The content of this course is not changing, but there is no final project at the end. "This change allows me time to give more focus on teaching tools the students can use for Business Strategy rather than worrying about the final project" says Julie Routzahn, professor for Corporate Finance. "The Business Strategy course brings together all areas of business, which is now what the students are getting through the new requirements for the major."

Along with the changes in these majors, minors are currently being planned by the Department of Business and being passed by the Curriculum Committee. So far, a Marketing minor was passed for the fall of 2017.

The new requirements and changes to the Business Administration and Accounting Economics majors purport to allow students the opportunity to become more diverse in their knowledge of business and give them more freedom to study the areas of business that they hope to pursue outside of college.

Student Action Prompts Reversal of Library Decision (continued)

-continued from page 1-

majority of the student need. We will also soon be seeking student workers interested in working with this staff member to cover the hours from midnight to 2 a.m. If you are interested, the Center for Experience and Opportunity can provide you with information on how to apply.

It may take us a few weeks to get the staffing in place, and we appreciate your patience everyone is trained. But please be assured that you will hear back as soon as the evening hours are available. I hope it goes without saying that your educational experience is incredibly important to us, and we are always looking for ways to make sure that experience is high quality.

Sincerely,

Julia Jasken

Provost and Dean of the Faculty

This change was hailed as a victory by the students, and was met with celebration by the petition's creator and its sponsors.

"Six hundred and ninety-three. That's how many people spoke up and said that the students of McDaniel have a right to use the library past midnight," posted Ash the day after the announcement. "Thanks to each and every one of you, we've gotten those hours back."

While transitions are still in progress, hours have already been extended for the week of Sept. 24, with the library being open until 2 a.m. on Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday. Whether the hour offerings will continue to be expanded is still to be seen.

United States Senate Increases Military Spending

Michael Cozzi
Staff Reporter

The United States Senate approved an increase in the United States military budget on Sept. 18. According to sources, the bill would put \$700 billion into the military. This would lead to the largest increase in military spending since the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The Senate passed the bill, The National Defense Authorization Act, with an 89-9 majority. This law authorizes defense spending and sets certain priorities on how the military funds should be spent. The House of Representatives passed its version of the act in July. Despite defying White House objections, President Trump has not announced or stated that he would veto the 1,215-page measure, likely due to his campaign promises to expand the military.

Senator John McCain, the Armed Services Committee Service chairman, states that without an increase in military spending all branches of the military would be at risk of losing their edge. According to McCain, Congress is partially responsible for numerous deadly ship collisions and helicopter crashes, as it failed to allocate sufficient funds.

Senator McCain managed to garner bipartisan support for the act. This was done through making a deal with Democratic senator Kristin Gillibrand of New York and Republican senator Susan Collins of Maine, who both suggested an amendment allowing transgendered



Image courtesy of Pixabay user forcal35.

citizens to serve, albeit through separate pieces of legislation.

The amendment that would have allowed transgender citizens to serve in the military failed to be added into the bill due to divisions amongst McCain's colleagues. This piece of legislation was also supported by Jack Reed of Rhode Island, the top Democrat currently serving on the Armed Services Committee.

As North Korea's nuclear program continues to be a growing threat to the U.S. and its allies, the bill also included \$8.5 billion to strengthen U.S. defense and missile systems. It is an increase of \$630 billion compared to the Trump

administration's requests. While both the House and Senate approved of the massive increases in spending, they also rejected Secretary of Defense James Mattis' plan to close down excess installations that would have saved up to \$10 million in government spending by 2021.

According to Mattis, the money could be used for acquiring either four nuclear submarines or a dozen jet fighters. Similar bills have frequently passed in the past 55 years. Though President Trump has criticized the bill, he has made no threats to veto it.

Kaylan Hutchison
Staff Reporter

McDaniel’s annual Innovation Challenge is part of the Encompass Distinction Program, a concentration harnessing entrepreneurial skills before and after graduation. Last year’s winners, Justin Arter ‘20 and Louis Schaab ‘20, with their Ride With Pride idea, were one of five finalists, chosen from a pool of 15 entries. After presenting their proposals in front of a full room of faculty, staff, students, members of the Carroll County community, and a panel of three judges — Kristen Ellis, Kristine Harjes, and Danielle Rowlett Tate — Arter and Schaab were awarded \$10,000 for first place.

Since the competition, Arter and Schaab have been working closely with the community to further bring their idea, Ride With Pride, into fruition.

The aim? Provide the Carroll County community with an accessible, reasonably priced and stylish service that changes the way people view transportation for those with disabilities.

Arter and Schaab have since entered two other business competitions: The Carroll Biz Challenge, in which they won 2nd place and roughly \$2,000, as well as the Point Breeze Credit Union Community Care Challenge.

As the school year progresses, so do Arter and Schaab’s business plans. As of now, the pair is working on their non-profit status so they can begin accepting private donations by the end of October. Thus far, they have secured a federal grant through the Federal Transit Administration that matches any capital they bring in.

The ARC Carroll County, Inc, an organization that promotes and protects the human rights of people with disabilities, is also greatly helping by offering to provide the drivers with training. Arter and Schaab were pleased to say that Donald Rowe, the ARC’s Executive Director, has really helped them put their “foot in the door.”

A Follow-Up with McDaniel’s Big Idea



*Justin Arter, left, and Louis Schaab.
Photo by Kaylan Hutchison.*

Organizations like Target and DORS, the Maryland State Department of Education’s Division of Rehabilitation Services, have also expressed interest in further funding.

Arter and Schaab have also received a great deal of positivity from the community.

“At each of these challenges, Innovation Challenge included, we had so many people come up to us and tell us personally that, ‘Hey we think that’s a fantastic idea.’ It means so much more when other people — other strangers — tell you that they think your idea is a great one,” Schaab voices. Arter adds, “People have come to us for help and think we are the answer.”

Another important component of Ride With Pride is an active effort to break the stigma of, in Schaab’s words, “the proverbial short bus.”

“Every business needs their ‘thing’ that puts them above all others... If you think about a handicapped vehicle, you typically think about a minivan. It’s obviously very practical, but there hasn’t really

been anybody thinking outside of that. If we were able to start using non-traditional vehicles like SUVs, it would take away that stigma.” Think Jeeps in terms of coolness.

Arter and Schaab plan to keep costs low, and one solution is to bring in student volunteers by early next Fall. While Ride With Pride is an opportunity for the community, it is also a chance for McDaniel students to get involved and contribute to a meaningful cause.

Associate Dean of Student Academic Life Lisa Breslin initially inspired Justin Arter to look into better transportation for handicapable people. One of Breslin’s friends at DORS had a client, a handicapped student in a nearby community college, in need of viable transportation who was denied service from the Carroll Transit System.

There is little transportation help outside of the Carroll Transit System: the sole private transportation entity available provided listed daily costs at over \$70 a day, over \$5,000 total for

the semester. Breslin, ARC Carroll County, and DORS examined the issue and decided to bring a raw idea of Ride With Pride to younger students who can move the solution forward with dedication. Breslin reached out to Arter, who then reached out the Schaab, and the two began making the idea a reality.

The push for getting students in this entrepreneurial mindset is not solely Breslin’s mission. Arter says, “In my experience since starting the application [for the Innovation Challenge] in January, Carroll County in general is moving toward an entrepreneurial mindset... with McDaniel following suit.”

Zach Fortuna, the creator of D1V3RG3NT, an all-purpose tailgating table that secured second place in McDaniel’s Innovation Challenge, gained similar skills in entrepreneurialism, as well as personal and professional growth. A junior from New Jersey, he notes that the dialogue and feedback he received from everyone has been invaluable.

“Before the competition I didn’t have any real experience in the business world, and was honestly pretty nervous about what I wanted to do after graduation. The best advice I could give absolutely anyone is to go out there and just go for it. After coming in second place and winning the \$5,500, I used it toward my business and different conferences in an effort to learn as much as I could this summer.”

Long before receiving their undergraduate diplomas, these McDaniel students are encouraged to use their entrepreneurial prowess in real-world experiences, network with experts in their fields, gain insight into the business world, and jumpstart their careers.

“For most students, when they come to college, they don’t have an exact, clear idea of what they want to do after school,” Schaab adds. “The Encompass Distinction made that path more clear for me.”

Claire Cappuccilli
Staff Reporter

McDaniel’s Belly Dance Club is greeted to the stage with applauding audience members. Dim lights and traditional music surround the stage as performers take their place.

Sijui Kama Bartrum, now a senior and president of the club, joined Belly Dance Club in the fall semester of 2015 after transferring from Montgomery College. Without knowing anyone on campus, she decided to become a member as a way to make new friends on campus.

“I looked up clubs and activities on campus and belly dance had caught my eye,” she said recently, reflecting back. “I had just left my dance studio at home and I thought it would be a great way to continue dance.”

The McDaniel College Belly Dance Club met in Gill Gym on the evening of September 11 for their first meeting of the semester. The club is currently made up of five female performers, although they hope to see that number rise throughout the semester.

Bartrum wants to emphasize that it is, “not only for females, it is open to anyone who is willing to learn.”

The Belly Dance Club was originally established as a way to

The Art of Belly Dance



Photo by Claire Cappuccilli.

bring African and Middle Eastern culture to McDaniel while also serving as a way for students to get exercise while promoting self-confidence and awareness of their body.

Aiyana Jones, sophomore and vice president of the club, said that she joined her freshman year, “as a way

to build confidence, I like to dance and I thought it would be a great way to exercise.”

Belly Dance is a social dance that emphasizes movements in the torso area. It originated in the Middle East as a way for women to get together and express themselves. It allowed them to establish a sense community

in a gender separated world. “I originally joined belly dance,” junior, Katie Ogorzalek said, “because I was looking for a group of people that I could be myself around.”

Throughout the fall semester they will be focusing on teaching the basics to the new members while performing at a number of events on campus, such as showcases and multicultural events. In the spring semester, they will be organizing events of their own with choreographed dance.

There are members who are at all different skill levels. As the beginners learn the technique, they slowly begin to learn a choreographed routine that could be performed as a solo, duet, trio or a group performance. Everyone is able to learn at their own speed, which is why the Belly Dance Club has attracted such a wide variety of students.

If you want to learn more about the club, contact Sijui Kama Bartrum at sb027@mcdaniel.edu.

Olivia Storer Staff Reporter

Sociology professor Dr. Linda Semu, born in the small southeastern African country of Malawi, knew from a young age that she wanted to pursue a higher education.

“I was influenced by the fact that my mom was one of the first women to graduate from the University of Malawi when it first opened in 1965,” she recalled recently, still remembering the enchanting atmosphere of her mother’s graduation. “All the gowns and everything! I thought, ‘that’s what I want to do!’”

With the support of her mother, Semu’s dream to become a college graduate came true, graduating from the University of Malawi and then completing her Masters and Ph.D. here in the U.S. But Semu never lost sight of where she came from, always aware that she was one of the very few lucky women who were able to get an education.

“Women’s education in Malawi is still a problem; many women don’t have the same opportunities as I have had,” she said. Her mantra today – as well as the mission of her colleagues at the Washington Malawi Foundation, an organization dedicated to helping impoverished families in Malawi – is “making a difference one person at a time.”

A survey from the Malawi National Statistics Office in 2016 found that only 3 percent of women in Malawi have had more than a secondary education, with a reported 12 percent having no education at all. These statistics are exactly what Dr. Semu and her colleagues at the Malawi Washington Foundation hope to change.

Dr. Semu Continues to Give Back



Dr. Semu helps a student. Photo by of Olivia Storer.

“Friends and I would talk about how we wanted to give back,” Semu said, describing the humble beginnings of the foundation. “Initially, we’d just get together socially and collect some money and then eventually we decided we need to formalize it.”

One of the main goals of the organization, according to its Facebook page, is to “support the education of youth (especially girls) at all levels of education, from primary to tertiary levels, and to support vocational training.”

“What’s interesting now is we’re also getting more and more requests from male students, especially university-aged males,” Semu said. “There are a lot of needy people in Malawi, especially those who are coming from rural areas whose parents have

no jobs or who are orphans.”

In partnership with an organization that has worked in education in Malawi for many years, the small, U.S. based foundation is able to cater to the needs of their scholarship holders and interact with them despite being hundreds of miles away.

“Basically, they are our implementers...we provide the funding and they send us the bios. We liaise with them in terms of who should be supported and we funnel the funds through them,” Semu said.

What makes the Malawi Washington Foundation unique compared to other charities and organizations is the way they continue to monitor and support those who they assist financially.

“Every semester we get a report on how the students are doing. It’s

not like you just send the money over and forget about it, we want to follow through and see that they have graduated,” Semu said.

Using this technique has resulted in their having a number of recent graduates, including a student who just graduated from the College of Medicine in Malawi and is now a pharmacist.

While focusing on improving the accessibility of education to young girls in Malawi, the foundation also strives to provide relief wherever and whenever it is necessary.

“2 years ago there were floods in Malawi and some houses were destroyed and people were displaced,” Semu said, “so we teamed up with other organisations and did some fund raising for food and other supplies. We have also provided funds for famine relief.”

Attributing her interest in humanitarian work to her studies in sociology, Semu is a strong advocate for the underrated social science. “You can do so much with sociology,” she said. “I’ve done research projects for the World Bank, the United Nations and other organisations in the U.K. and Germany.”

“It gives you the opportunity to do good work that has a real impact on people’s lives,” she said.

As for the future, Semu and her colleagues at the Malawi Washington Foundation hope to continue to send more aid back to Malawi. When asked about the foundation’s goals for the future, Semu said they “are working towards having a bigger financial base so we can help more people. We always get more requests than we can possibly support.”

McDaniel Welcomes Third Largest Class in School History

Gunnar Ward Staff Reporter

Between tearful goodbyes with loved ones and a bustling orientation schedule, incoming freshmen students will remember the controlled chaos that occurred on August 23: freshman move-in day. For the 513 incoming McDaniel students, move-in day gave many of them their first tastes of independence and discovering a new life on the Hill. The incoming students are filling a void on campus by nearly replacing the second largest class in history — the Class of 2017, missing a complete tie by only one student.

College offers students the opportunity to face life-changing challenges that will affect their lives. Incoming or returning students will be adjusting to new facets of life, but the faculty of McDaniel College are willing to help. Despite the incoming class being the third largest class in the Hill’s history, faculty are content with the challenge they, too, will face in assisting so many.

“We were pleased [with the class size],” Florence Hines, Dean of Admissions, says. With the rise in school popularity, there are many reasons incoming students decided to choose McDaniel College. From the friendly environment to the abundance of opportunities, students from all over the world are drawn to McDaniel’s offerings.

“I liked the idea of small class sizes and the great opportunities around the campus,” freshman Brenton Pegues says. With the number of students enrolled in a course generally not exceeding more than around 20, the student and faculty communities

are close.

“I chose [McDaniel] because how great the community [on campus] is,” freshman James McGetrick says.

The relationships students build with faculty members begins before they set foot on the campus as students. Social media serves as a primary tool for students to interact with one other and faculty over the summer. Leading the social media front is Dean Karen Violanti (known as Dean V) and Erin Giles from McDaniel’s First Stop Office.

“We have loved using social media and other online venues to connect with students,” Violanti says. “We try to be as creative and proactive as possible [with] all our online tools to connect students to each other, faculty, and to campus offices and departments.”

After students arrive on campus, the First Stop crew makes sure to welcome them even further.

“We are so excited each year to meet and connect with students and their families, and above all, start to build an important and personalized relationship with each new student joining the McDaniel family,” Violanti says.

Every incoming student handles the adjustment to the college lifestyle differently. McDaniel encourages all students to become involved in extracurricular activities in order to help this adjustment process. Whether it’s joining one of the various ethnic clubs on campus, signing up for an academic club, or playing an intramural sport, there is something for everyone. Any extracurricular can make this adjustment and the college experience all the more enjoyable.

Let’s Go DEEP: Empowering Students to be Social Justice Advocates

John Berchtold Staff Reporter

For three years, D.E.E.P., the Diversity, Empowerment, and Education Peers program, has been encouraging the students of McDaniel College to be the change they wish to see in the world.

As D.E.E.P. members, students of McDaniel College are taking the role of social justice leaders in the college community with an understanding that they must bring the need for a civic and social duty to the college’s student body.

In order to promote social justice, the students hold presentations and meetings that raise awareness about the importance of using inclusive language and having multicultural competency.

One recent meeting that Jose Moreno — the head of Student Diversity and Inclusion — mentions is the recent news of DACA: the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals act, established by the Obama Administration in June 2012. President Donald Trump’s recent efforts

and investigations into DACA were thoroughly discussed.

“We like to talk about issues that are national,” Moreno says. “For example, currently DACA, about immigration. We like to look at both sides of the story, but we don’t necessarily go out and protest. We like to create a place that allows open dialogue for students.”

Moreno advises to “attack the idea, not the person — because typically, with issues of this nature, you want to have open dialogue with those people.”

One could say that D.E.E.P. is a program about understanding and being an intermediary for each side of the spectrum. It is important to address people who don’t understand the boundaries they overstep and to give those who deal with being misunderstood the opportunity to express themselves.

One anonymous individual on campus expressed that they are “always willing to listen to other people, but when your arguments -continued on page 5-



From left to right: Freshmen Abby Binder, Mikey Pritts, James McGetrick, and Brenton Pegue. Photo by Gunnar Ward.

Chris Anthony
Staff Reporter

Most of the time, when people hear of Greek life on college campuses, they immediately have negative connotations. However, students and Greek participants at McDaniel College are starting to change those negative views of the community they belong to through lots of hard work and outreach.

Over the past several years, McDaniel College has had a major influx of national sororities and fraternities setting up chapters on campus. Within the last five years, more than five different groups have established roots here at the university.

Why? Most Greek organizations have been trying to re-develop their image as a positive group of men or women who benefit their community rather than a group who are known for wild parties and hazing incidents. McDaniel College is a perfect environment to foster that ideology because of its relationship with its community. This results in a higher interest rate from both national organizations and students alike.

“We plan to make a difference in people’s lives by showing them, in person, that we genuinely care and want to help,” said Kayla Malone, a McDaniel junior and the secretary of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority. “We hope that people pay forward the love that was given to them and, as a result, make the world a better place.”

Most Greek organizations are designated as either service or social. Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, however, is an exception. This sorority is, by technical terms, a social sorority, but is deeply invested in service. They are partnered with multiple organizations that range from on campus groups to



Kayla Malone and Eryn Rich of Zeta Phi Beta. Photo courtesy of Kayla Malone.

international organizations.

Locally, Zeta Phi Beta has worked with Women and Children’s shelters to help clean the facilities as well as collect toiletries for women in need. Whether it’s October or March, Zeta Phi Beta generally has some type of community outreach program on their calendar.

Juniors Katie Weinhold and Jared Payne are both the social chairs of their organizations, Phi Alpha Mu and Alpha Sigma Phi, respectively. Both also attest to their organizations taking part in making a positive impact on their community.

Weinhohld stated that her sorority works closely with the House of Ruth, an organization local to Maryland, which aids victims of domestic

violence, most of whom are women and children. Phi Alpha Mu is a local sorority to McDaniel College, meaning that they aren’t located on any other campus across the country. To them, this is significant in determining who they help because they value the community by which they are surrounded.

“We believe that it is not only great for the development of the sorority entirely, but also we believe that it supports our locals here in Westminster that typically do not receive as much support as they should,” said Weinhold.

Recently, the Phi Alpha Mu sorority partnered with a local public school, Francis Scott Key High School, to set up a “relay” event,

which supports the National American Cancer Society. Weinhold and her sorority find an even balance of local and national philanthropy makes the greatest impact and leaves a lasting impression.

However, it’s not just sororities who are making this effort to change the perceptions of Greek life and help the community on and off of the McDaniel campus. Payne, a member of Alpha Sigma Phi, said that for his fraternity, philanthropy is particularly important.

“We know that not one person can do it all, and if we can do just a small amount we know that in the long run simple acts of philanthropy can help other organizations go a long way.”

Alpha Sig, as it’s known across campus, is well known for their local work with the Boys and Girls Club of Westminster, as well as their participation in a number of national charity events. Most recently they took part in an Out of the Darkness walk on Sept. 10 to help raise awareness against suicide. Similar to Phi Alpha Mu, Alpha Sigma Phi members find an even and steady flow of philanthropic involvement to best suit their goals of helping the community grow throughout the year.

To these Fraternities and Sororities, the focus is clear: they have a drive to better their communities and leave a lasting impact.

“Service is one of our principles and we take our principles very seriously because they are the basis of what our Sorority was founded on,” Malone said. “We also do service because we have a sincere desire to serve our communities.”

Business Department Seeks to Increase Internship Opportunities

Brandon Vance
Staff Reporter

Many students realize the importance of having an internship on their resume before they graduate. But how many of them know about the student internship program at McDaniel?

With that in mind, the business department hosts Interview Day every year, giving students the experience of having several interviews with a variety of companies. If a student does well in the interview process, one of those companies may even contact them and set up a second interview, potentially leading to an internship, and possibly a career.

“I participated in Interview Day last year, which led to my internship and now future career at RSM,” said Doug Mills, senior at McDaniel with a triple major in business, economics, and accounting. RSM is a leading provider of audit, tax and consulting services, which will be a great place for Mills to start his career.

Internships are very important for students to gain hands-on experience in fields they are interested in, but finding the right student for the job can also be difficult.



Professor Donald Lavin teaches a class. Photo by Brandon Vance.

“The connections we have with the companies willing to hire McDaniel students are very strong,” said Don Lavin, facilitator of the student internship program. “However, we simply can’t place students in internships if they aren’t willing to dedicate 100 percent of their time to the companies that we have built connections with over the years.”

Internship information sessions

are in the works at McDaniel in order to give students a better idea of what to expect during the interviews as well as preparing them as much as possible for anything that comes their way.

“There have been a lot of changes made in the business department recently that will allow the students to present themselves with more qualifications on their resumes,”

Lavin said. “This can potentially lead to a larger number of internships coming out of the business department for years to come.”

Acquiring valuable work experiences in relation to the major at hand can be crucial for a student’s future success.

“The professors will do anything they can to help students get internships as long as the students are hard working individuals willing to do as much as possible for the companies,” said Tom Davis, senior at McDaniel with a double major in Accounting and Business. Two years ago Tom came out of Interview Day with an internship at Gross Mendelsohn, which is a one of the leading CPA firms located in Baltimore.

There are many great companies that come out to Interview Day, which will be in the beginning of October this year. This event will be available to all Business majors looking to get off to a great start in furthering their future careers.

Last year, 48 internships came out of the business department’s Interview Day—a total that the department hopes to expand with the new changes at the school.

-continued from page 4-
center around the fact of how you think you’re better than me, then I am no longer obligated to listen.”
D.E.E.P. is a program that focuses on celebrating and accepting each other’s differences. The students of this organization are deeply passionate about appreciating one’s culture and bringing about social justice and

societal change in the school’s community. The organization is all about making people feel at home at McDaniel and leveling the playing field for students who identify differently than others.
One student, Kelsey Golias, a senior and member of D.E.E.P. says members of the program “also talk about our privileges as well, because

you have to understand yourself in order to talk about issues and understand what power structures exist before you can talk about and understand other people.”
As members of D.E.E.P., students understand the need to recognize what makes their lives different from others’ before they can analyze and begin to understand what differ-

ences others face.
D.E.E.P. builds a community on campus that encourages students to be different — D.E.E.P. emphasizes the importance that these students need to feel welcome and understood when they are engrossed in the school’s community.

Fun at the Fall Fest Parade



Participants in McDaniel’s float pose for a photo. The float was themed to McDaniel’s sesquicentennial. *Photo by Kyle Parks.*

Tiffany Afoakwa
Staff Reporter

Westminster residents rounded the city in a parade that kicked off a weekend celebration of the 39th annual Fall Fest on Thursday, Sept. 21 at 7 p.m.

The parade is yet another festivity of Fall Fest, Carroll County’s largest community event that seeks to unite the city of Westminster and spotlight local organizations serving the community.

From fair vendors, to rides, to food, many events were available for individuals to attend. However, hundreds of residents stepped out of their doors to watch large, colorful floats and numerous volunteers walk around the center street. Westminster local Susan Humphries, who has attended the parade for over 15 years, shared, “It’s nice to see the bands

from different schools, and there are so many people out!” Another resident John Daigle agreed saying, “It builds the community. It brings everyone together to have a good time and celebrate the fall.”

Schools, clowns, churches, advocacy groups, and other organizations were represented in the parade; and over 40,000 people gathered to watch them walk. Assistant Director of Westminster Recreation and Parks Heather Mullendore stated, “We have a lot of community organizations, non-profits, and businesses that participate in the parade. A lot of the organizations come with flyers, handouts, and candy to advertise to the community.”

In particular, eyes were on four local charities selected by city officials for fundraising and benefits. This year, the featured organizations



Parade participants marching off of Monroe Street. *Photo by Tiffany Afoakwa.*

included Tender Care Pregnancy Consultation Services, Westminster Lions Club, Human Services Programs of Carroll County, Inc., and Girl Scouts of Central Maryland. Mullendore continued, “It’s a good way to get word out about different services that we have to offer here in Carroll County.”

Behind-the-scenes, months of preparation were involved for setting up the parade route, which commenced at Monroe Street and Pennsylvania Avenue and ended at East Middle School. For instance, the Department of Recreation and Parks coordinated with the city and state highways to shut down roadways, and set up emergency preparation systems.

Also, advertising for the event is done largely on social media sites, and volunteer applications were

first put out in July. On the Fall Fest Facebook page alone, there are over 3,000 followers – some of whom are parade volunteers. One volunteer was McDaniel College Senior Sisanda Marolen, who joined a cultural float representing the school’s Africa’s Legacy Club. She stated “I was asked to participate and represent a part of Westminster that people may not immediately think of at first – McDaniel College.”

Whether to volunteer at the parade or to just enjoy the festival, residents shared a night where the city came together to applaud one another. As expressed by resident Humphries, “Everyone is so happy and nice. Everyone is just here for a good time – and leaving all their troubles and craziness behind for one night.”



The floats even included live music. *Photo by Kyle Parks.*



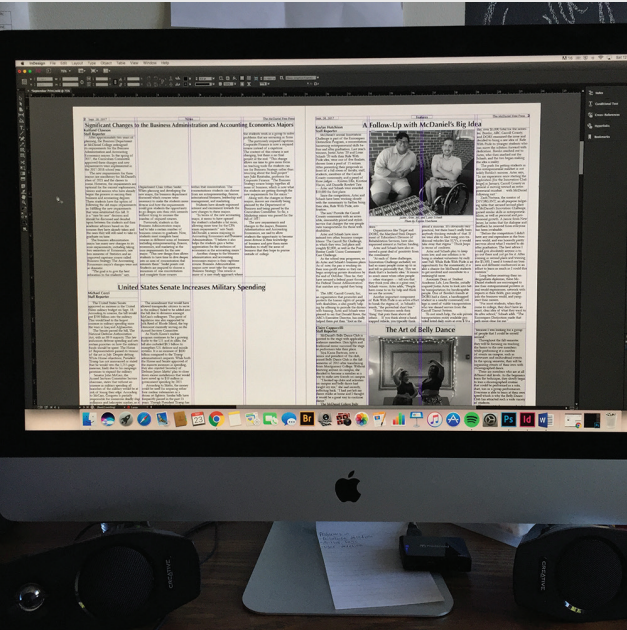
A clown hands out candy at the conclusion of the parade. *Photo by Kyle Parks.*

FROM OUR INSTAGRAM

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The Free Press’ table at the Involvement Fair on Aug. 30. *Photo by Kyle Parks.*



This print issue in progress on Sept. 23. *Photo by Kyle Parks.*



The Global Issues Colloquium on Sept. 25. *Photo by Kyle Parks.*

Danger Sauce’s Sept. 22 Show (photos)



Kyle Parks
Editor-in-Chief
Multimedia Editor

On Sept. 22 Danger Sauce, McDaniel’s improv comedy group, a show in Big Baker. Members participated in a variety of improvisation games—old and new—surrounded by an amused audience. Those in attendance were also introduced to new Dangersauce members, who participated in several games.



Comedy-Duo Talks Diversity at McDaniel

Tiffany Afoakwa
Staff Reporter

On Sept. 6 the Office of Student Diversity and Inclusion (OSDI) put on the Black-Jew Dialogues in order to acknowledge some of the different cultures that exist on our campus. The duo-scripted show featured comedians Larry Jay Tish and Ron Jones, one Jewish and the other black, as they discussed the similarities and differences between their two minority cultures in order to bridge the gap between their races.

The Black-Jew Dialogues is a comedy segment from “Dialogues on Diversity,” a social justice theater company founded by Tish and Jones in 2006. “We wanted to write a show about our cultures. We started out doing synagogues, colleges and high schools – and here we are, eleven years later!” states comedy actor Ron Jones.

The duo has since won numerous awards and now even works with younger actors such as Jeff Marcus, who performed at McDaniel’s show with Jones in place of Tish. These two have travelled across the globe speaking at various colleges and other organizations for years. In fact, they had to leave soon after their talk at McDaniel in order



Photo by Tiffany Afoakwa.

to catch a flight for their next presentation.

From acting as college students in a classroom to dressing up as grandmothers and discussing the impact of racial stereotypes on their families, the actors comically make bold or uncomfortable statements that address real life instances—yet their characters seem to always patch up in the end. For example, in one skit, the Jewish Marcus, used the n-word, which caused a stir within the McDaniel audience.

However, it sparked a conversation between the two characters about understanding why the n-word is offensive, and how to be more cognitive towards individuals moving forward. “It becomes personal and less comedic because it’s real now. It’s this new world that we’re living in. We try to instill things that are happening within the world because it is still evolving,” says actor Jeff Marcus.

The show ranged from funny to

serious, as characters shared their racial history. Jones shared what it’s like to undergo scrutiny due to black male stereotypes, while Marcus spoke about the affects of the Holocaust on his people. “The message is universal,” Jones declared, “There’ll always be somebody who needs you to stand with them. Ultimately, if you’re not in charge of your own narrative, you will suffer or your narrative suffers. So, it’s up to all of us to look out for each other.”

The Black-Jew Dialogues is one of many ways that OSDI challenges students by establishing a space for conversation about relevant diversity issues, rather than forcing a conclusion or opinion on individuals.

As stated by OSDI director Jose Moreno, “I’m a firm believer that we, as a society and as a human race, really need to go deeper into learning about people’s backgrounds because we’re all different. If you don’t see who they are, then you don’t really get to experience that person or people. The more of our students see differences in people, the more they can appreciate it, hopefully. That’s the goal – to find an appreciation.”

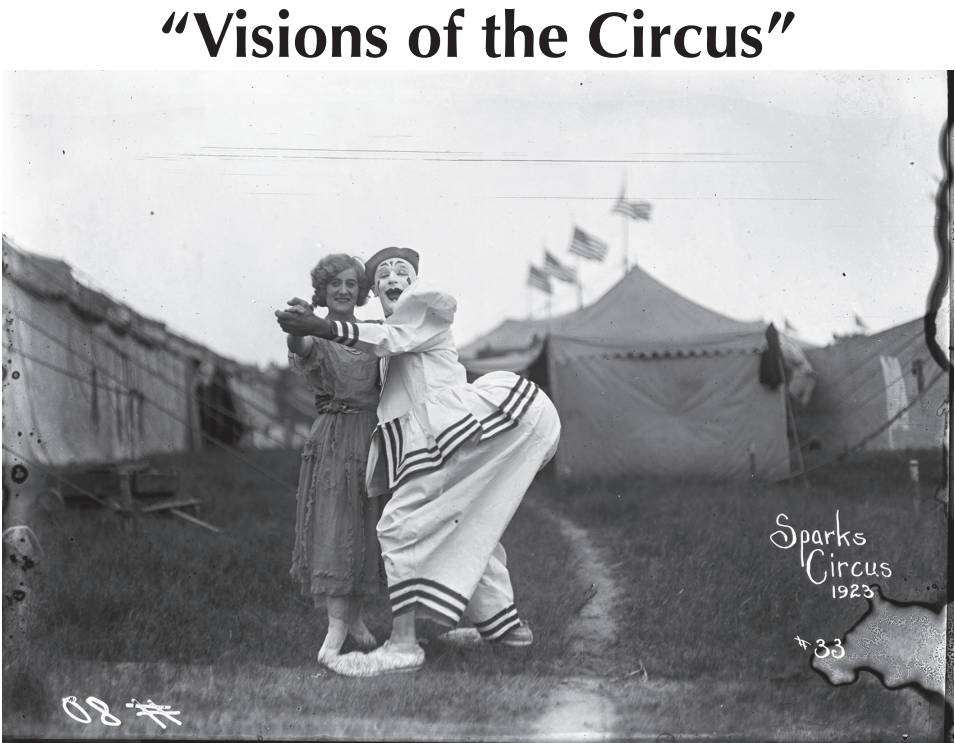
Jedidiah Fowler
Arts & Culture Editor

After years of planning, hard work, and countless back and forth emails, McDaniel College’s very own Communication professor, Dr. Robert Lemieux, has put together a fantastic exhibit titled “Visions of the Circus.” Currently displayed in the Rice Gallery at Peterson Hall, this exhibit centralizes on one of America’s greatest sources of entertainment of all time, the circus.

Fascinated by the topic himself, Dr. Lemieux collaborated with multiple organizations including both the Whitney Gallery in New York City and even the Smithsonian Institution in order to put together this marvelous exhibit.

“Visions of the Circus” covers everything from the various acts in the show to the travel routes, and even the jobs of the circus support staff. The colorful banners as well as numerous props and pictures easily draw viewers into the exhibit.

There are numerous nooks and partitions all littered with photographs chronicling various



Pete and Florence Mardo, Sparks Circus, 1923.
Photo by Frederick W. Glasier. Courtesy of The Ringling.

elements of the circus, as well as a few large props donated by the Smithsonian including giant clown shoes and an antique canvas clown costume. Perhaps the most attractive

element of the exhibit is all of the original posters from the circuses. Their gaudy looks and old-fashioned text pop out with an exciting and enticing appearance.

During the gallery opening itself, Dr. Lemieux walked the guests through the entire exhibit, while explaining the various facets of circus culture as well as extra information that had learned from the various exhibit donors. His knowledgeable explanation and intriguing presentation was a joy to experience and added much depth to the exhibit.

“Visions of the Circus” will be showing in the Rice Gallery until Oct. 12, leaving students and other prospective viewers plenty of time to stop in and view the exhibit. Be prepared to be in awe of the vast collection and perhaps even surprised by the unknown facets of circuses such as the eerie side shows.

Even if you are one who is disturbed by the sight of clowns, there is still much for you to observe learn beyond the white faced jokesters. A wonderfully compiled exhibit, “Visions of the Circus” is well worth the time for a visit.

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Colin Lyon
Assistant Editor

There are few poets more renowned in the twentieth century than Gwendolyn Brooks. Her parents experienced a classic love story: her father was a janitor that gave up a life of prosperity as a doctor to raise a family, while her mother was a concert pianist and teacher.

Brooks herself was born on June 7, 1917, in Topeka, Kansas. She spent most of her life in Chicago, however, as the Great Migration took its toll on African-American families in the South and Midwest. As a youth, Brooks had a great deal of experience with the racism and segregation infesting the United States; two of the three schools she attended might have been integrated, but throughout her teenage years she faced racial injustices and prejudices that led to form the backbone of some of her more renowned poems.

In a way, she is the quintessential example of a Writer of the Week; she refused to complete a four-year program at Kenendy-King College simply due to the fact that she wanted to strike away as a writer.

Brooks’ career as a poet began

at age thirteen, when she published her first poem in “America’s Childhood,” a nationally recognized children’s magazine. Part of her early success stemmed from several other well-known poets, such as Langston Hughes and Richard Wright, though it was clear even from an early age her poetic style set her apart from others.

The characters in her poetry took strong influence from the little apartment she lived in during her twenties, where she said she could “look first on one side and then on the other. There was my material.”

Brooks’ writing style catered to reality, as bleak and as beautiful as it could be in Chicago’s South Side. Richard Wright, one of the most respected African-American authors of the time, noted to one of her publishers that “she takes hold of reality as it is and renders it faithfully... she easily catches the problem of color prejudice among Negroes.”

Amongst all of her poems, she writes with an almost static punch, a burst of emotion that accompanies each word. Many pieces are short, easily scanned in a minute, but no

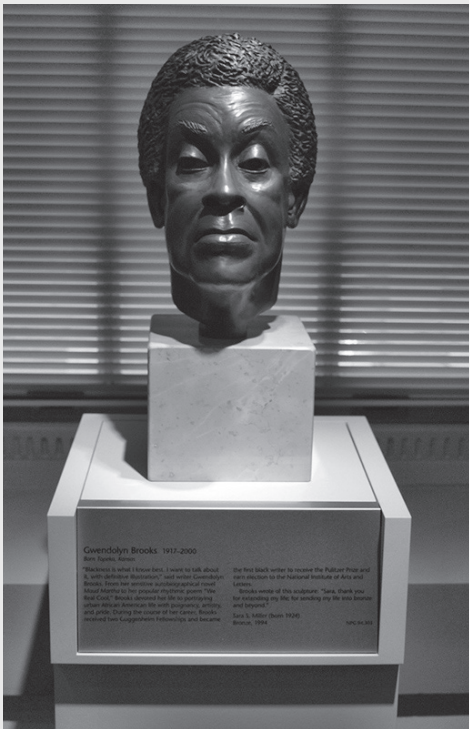
matter if it’s ten lines or a hundred, Brooks manages to strike each syllable with an impact that refuses to bow to flowery prose or smooth transitions.

Brooks’ later life, when not focused on her poetry and teaching others about the impact writing can have, was dedicated largely to social activism. Her works, especially from the 1960s onward, contain a political undertone that one can’t help but recognize. Her poems, naturally, focus on the tribulations and the small victories of the urban African-American lower class, and her only novel stars an African-American woman surrounded by a patronizing and racist white society.

While recent studies suggest that Brooks had her hand in leftist politics for decades and developed a black nationalist stance to distance herself from any government connections, she is most often and fondly remembered for her work towards achieving her own victories in the fight for civil rights.

Brooks, for all her work and all her glory as an excellent poet, passed away in December of 2000. Her life

has still been celebrated today; she is still recognized as the first African American to receive a Pulitzer Prize.



Sara S. Miller’s 1994 Bronze Portrait
Bust Of Gwendolyn Brooks.
Image via the Wikipedia Commons.

Writer of the Week: Gwendolyn Brooks

Lelia Vetter
Staff Reporter

“Truthwitch” is the first book in Susan Dennard’s young adult high fantasy series The Witchlands, titled after the name of the fictional land in which it takes place.

In the Witchlands, there is magic called witchery, of which there are many different varieties. The main characters are Safiya and Iseult, a pair of best friends.

Safiya is a Truthwitch, which means she is able to tell truth from lies. Her rare power is highly coveted, so she keeps this ability hidden from all except those closest to her, including Iseult. Iseult is a Threadwitch, able to see the invisible threads that connect everyone in the Witchlands. These threads make people’s emotions and connections visible to Threadwitches.

The thread aspect of the magic system was very intriguing, setting it apart from other young adult fantasy.

“Truthwitch” by Susan Dennard

While both the magic system and the world are unique, I would have liked a little more world-building at the beginning – from the first page you are instantly thrust into the world and the action. Though I love the fast pace, the lack of explanation for the magic system makes the book a little confusing. The world-building, while unique and interesting, is hard to explain because it was only described on a surface level.

The focus on the friendship between Safiya and Iseult was one aspect of the book that I especially liked. They are best friends and threadsisters, which is another concept unique to this book. Thread families and siblings exist among people who have very deep and meaningful connections. The fact that there was a specific word for the connections between such significant

relationships really appealed to me. Safi and Iseult work well together, and have strengths that complement one another. Safi is impulsive and rash, while Iseult is logical and thinks through her actions.

The entire cast of characters are compelling and well-developed, including the hot-tempered Prince Merik, a Windwitch who is both an admiral in his country’s navy and the crown prince who cares deeply about his home and his people.

“Truthwitch” pulls you in and starts off fast-paced from the first page, and maintains that fast pace throughout. It was engaging and exciting, and though the action was not full steam ahead at all times, I never felt that the book lagged.

The second book in the series, Windwitch, was released earlier this year. The release of the third

book has been pushed back to 2019 because the author is writing a prequel following two of the side characters from the first book. Currently, the series is planned to be five books long, not including the prequel.

“Truthwitch” is a book of heart-pounding action, fiery romance, close bonds, political intrigue, and magic. I would highly recommend this book to any fans of fantasy or adventure.

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Artist Bill O'Reilly Talks at McDaniel

Jedidiah Fowler
Arts & Culture Editor

On Sept. 14, McDaniel College's Art & Art History department hosted its first speaker of the year, Bart O'Reilly.

O'Reilly is an Irish immigrant who now resides in Maryland. His work consists mainly of paintings, but he has a significant collection of video works as well. Fascinated by nature, much of O'Reilly's work revolves around trees, landscape, and the world around us. He even goes as far as seeing how the forces of nature can physically affect his work.

For example, he has painted outdoors in the winter in order to experiment with how the extreme cold can freeze his paint and therefore affect the overall look of his paintings.

Additionally, O'Reilly is, as he says, "interested in the ordinary." One of the works that he displayed at his talk was a video of him exploring an old shed at night. Perhaps the most prominent part of this work was his use of a flashlight in his exploration. He continuously altered the focus of the flashlight in order to create different shadows and forms to play with the way that our eye perceives light and shape.

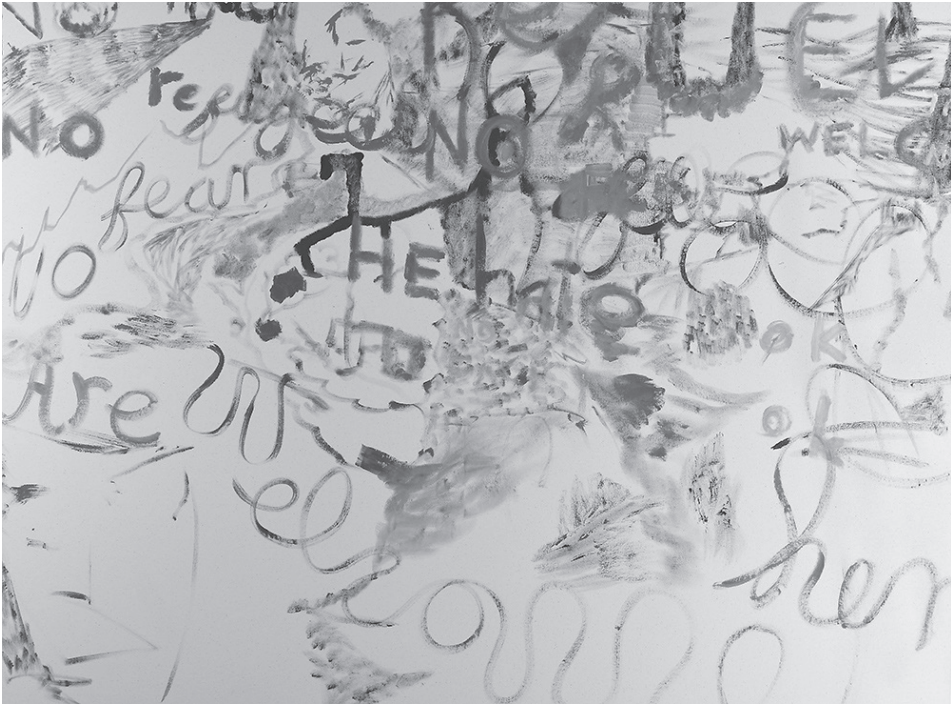
O'Reilly has also dabbled in poetry. His poems were raw in the ways that they addressed their topics, using vibrant and even forceful language to express meaning. O'Reilly often linked certain poems to specific pieces of art, which allowed for a fuller and broader understanding of the

concept being portrayed.

O'Reilly also incorporated music into some of his pieces. One of his pieces showed a section of window panes that had been video edited to fade in and out of different filters. As the filters changed, the music also changed in order to fit the mood of each one, providing a unique transmedia experience. O'Reilly's work was both eye-catching and thought provoking, and his presentation was calm and inviting, making it an enjoyable experience for all who attended.



Bill O'Reilly.
Photo courtesy of McDaniel College.



"This Land's not made for Refugees." Photo courtesy of McDaniel College.

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New at McDaniel: Slammin' Good Poetry

Marya Topina
Staff Reporter

For newly formed Slam Poetry Club founder and president Bailey Boyle, performing or viewing spoken word poetry is meant to move you, challenge your deepest held beliefs, and reject stereotypically "traditional" or "normal" viewpoints.

"I brought slam poetry from my home, Chicago, where I competed in the Louder Than a Bomb slam tournament," says Boyle, a McDaniel sophomore. "People I know from here share Facebook videos of slam poems that move them, and there's already a strong writing community on campus, so I thought that opening a safe space for a new type of expression would do well on the McDaniel campus."

The club aims to introduce slam poetry to community members, students, and faculty on the Hill by hosting weekly writing workshops, sharing online examples of slam poets, and of course, holding slam poetry events and competitions. The group meets on Mondays at 8 p.m. in Hill Hall room 208.

"It's going to be a community building learning experience for all who choose to participate, so anybody that hasn't tried slam poetry before doesn't feel left out or behind," Boyle explains.

The advisor for the first ever Poetry Slam Club, Kathy Mangan, English professor and Joan Develin Coley Chair in Creative Expression and the Arts, is an established poet herself. She shares Boyle's enthusiasm, adding that it's "an exciting initiative and a good supplement to the Contrast literary magazine already present on campus." She hopes that the club will attract a diverse group of students and is looking forward to seeing where it goes.

And with two dozen prospective members showing up to the first meeting last Monday night, it seems the club is already building a solid foundation. Boyle and her officers, vice president Gianna D'Avella and assistant to the vice president Madison Konski, were pleased with the huge turnout.

This first meeting featured a slam poem by Kanye West, as well as a tutorial for writing an "I Am" poem. Students were instructed to write several basic facts about themselves, rewrite each one in an abstract way, and then rearrange each phrase to create a poem. Many people shared their work to the applause and support of the audience. Whenever a particular line or phrase stood out to the audience members, they showed their appreciation by snapping or softly clapping. The room brimmed with creativity and a shared love for their craft.

D'Avella and Konski are also sophomore students. They and Boyle have big plans for the club during the next two and a half years of their college careers.

"Beyond this fall, we hope to continue a similar model and host a slam each semester, and possibly do some outreach to more of Westminster like the Carroll Arts Center and the high schools. We're also considering guest speakers as an option for the future," says Boyle.

In addition to weekly workshop meetings, the club will perform for the McDaniel and Westminster community throughout the semester. The first event will be Slam at Sunset on Friday, Sept. 22 at Harveystone, beginning at 6:30 p.m. The first slam competition, featuring judges and prizes for the poets, is tentatively planned for Dec. 1.



Photo by Marya Topina.

Mario Fernandez
Lifestyle Editor

In this increasingly interconnected world, you are more likely than ever to meet someone from a different country. That is normally something to be excited about, and in the past, it truly was a wonderful experience to meet someone completely different than you.

Unfortunately, in today’s United States, an increasingly xenophobic and ultra-nationalist country, being from a different country, or just having a multinational background, is becoming controversial. I cannot speak for all immigrants, but I can speak for myself and my experiences through discussing the question, “where are you from?”

This is normally a very innocent question, a conversation starter; at least, that’s how people that live in their own country view this question.



Photo courtesy of Mario Fernandez.

However, the question can bring many different emotions to someone that is not a native.

This question makes me think of home, as it should, but it also reminds me that my home is no longer one I can call my own – it reminds me that I had to flee. It also reminds me that I was lucky to flee when I did. Moreover, I am reminded that this country is not my real home, it is my adoptive home. I am reminded that I truly am without a country of my own.

Before Trump’s election, before racists were emboldened by his victory, I would proudly claim to be Venezuelan when asked that question. Now when I am asked that question, I change my answer depending on who asks. If I do not know this person, I normally hide my background, for fear that they will hurl racist slurs at me, or will order me to return to my country.

I do not mean to burst their bigoted bubble, but I will not be

leaving “their” country because I have as much of a right to be here as they do, even if the culture of this country clashes with my own. Many times, when asked this question, people create stereotypes and opinions based on the answer received. Most of the time, it is the ignorant racists that create these stereotypes.

If I were to give them the real answer, they could immediately create a misconception about me, fed by the idiotic things that Trump says, and will believe that I am a “bad hombre,” and that my country did not “send their best.”

To avoid that, I tell them I am from Knoxville, Tennessee, in the heartland of the United States. I am lucky enough to appear white enough that most people will just see me as Southern European, and they stop asking. Many times, people follow up with the question of “where are you really from?” As if unnecessarily trying to dig up an answer they will not like in order to give them a reason to hate me.

In a country that claims to be the “land of the free and the home of the brave,” I should be free to bravely say I am Venezuelan, regardless who asks. I should not have to hide my background.

I should not have to worry why people are asking me where I am from, and although I do not like it here, I will not leave just because some bigoted orange will categorize me as any other Latino immigrant and claim I am a “bad hombre.”

I am here to stay until I decide that I will leave, and if you don’t like it, just leave.

The Precarious Liberal Arts College

Kyle Parks
Editor-in-Chief
Multimedia Editor

The liberal arts college, and McDaniel, will face sweeping changes in the coming years.

McDaniel has done quite a bit of rebranding since I arrived three years ago. What I came to was a pretty standard liberal arts college, where I was told I could transform what I’ve learned here into a career later on. Increasing emphasis, at least from my standpoint, has now been placed on professional development rather than education quality.

This could perhaps be beneficial, but some of the changes seem more financially motivated than anything else. For example, I’ve seen small class sizes—a major reason I chose to come here—drift ever-closer to those that frustrated me in high school. Also, despite increasing globalization and longstanding importance of language study in the liberal arts, the world language requirement was decreased my sophomore year.

A large new class, painted as a positive shift, has seemed to only further increase class sizes and do little to cease cutbacks. Regardless of slightly slowing annual tuition increase rates, we still pay much more than students at the average private, nonprofit college in 1979, where students paid about \$10,783 (adjusted to modern rates).

Larger classes and gradual abandonment of the conventional liberal arts curriculum, whether we like them or not, are largely inevitable. A return to McDaniel’s roots would involve curtailing many programs, services, and expensive renovation projects; something a

school attempting to attract students wouldn’t dare do. And this can’t be escaped by going to a public institution, or even other liberal arts colleges.

The numbers are alarming. Clayford Christensen of Harvard Business School has projected that (paywall) of the U.S.’s about 4,000 higher education institutions, about half are in danger of closing in the next 15 years. Small, private, non-top-tier institutions like our own will have a continuously more difficult time competing with less personalized, more affordable public options, especially if measures like those in New York state are implemented in Maryland.

While McDaniel is not in as great of danger as the smallest colleges, those harboring a few hundred students, what it means to be a “liberal arts college” will continue to change heavily.

Online learning, something perhaps antithetical to the standard liberal arts college, has been growing. McDaniel, along with the Council of Independent Colleges, has experimented with online and hybrid courses, with questionable success. Graduate programs, not stressing as much close connection with faculty and a campus community, have transitioned far more.

Whatever the future brings, let us not forget the essence of the liberal arts: that knowledge is an indispensable tool. Regardless of what our institution is, or becomes, we need to challenge ourselves, our beliefs, and our understandings. At the very least, we can maintain self-worth where material worth fails us.



Photo by Kyle Parks.

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Atticus Rice
Sports Editor

It's no secret that tailgating at McDaniel is a big deal. The college claims fame to a 2011 Weather Channel ranking placing the college at number six in the nation for the football game-day festivities, and anyone around Gill Stadium during a home game can see the popup village that gets created for the day.

The bowl surrounding the field and free admission make the perfect conditions for those looking to take part in the near-2,000 person extravaganza. Football games are no doubt a community builder, bringing more people to the game than undergraduates at McDaniel.

The football program boasts a budget of over \$100,000 and the largest roster in years of 118. But the team doesn't receive any more funding than they should, according to Athletic Director Paul Moyer.

"We don't really treat our teams differently," says Moyer. "We give them more funding when they improve because they play more games."

This is standard throughout the Centennial Conference. Make it to the playoffs and get more funding to play those games.

It's been a while since the football team put up a record that warranted post-season play, but women's soccer did it as recently as last year when they advanced to the third round of the NCAA tournament.

The team hosted the first two rounds at home, playing two extra home games. They then advanced to a single game at Brandeis in Massachusetts, racking up the bills along the way.

"For teams that go on into the playoffs," says Moyer, "they're going to get more money."

Athletics Budgeting at McDaniel



Field hockey head coach Melissa Jones on the sidelines during a 1-3 loss to Susquehanna on Sept. 13. Photo by Atticus Rice.

And women's soccer did.

Moyer starts each team out on the same line at the beginning of the year

"Zero-based budgeting is how we operate," he says.

With this method, all teams and athletes are treated the same way. They get to manage their own money, which is divvied up based on the conference norms in their sport.

And different sports cost different amounts to play.

"We can't go up to our officials and say, 'We're not going to pay you as much,'" says Moyer. "It's a formula."

It really is. Athletics sets up a spreadsheet so they'll know exactly how much each team will need all season to play their schedule without any hiccups. If teams want to take overnight trips here and there, it's on them.

Just last weekend, field hockey took an overnight trip to Virginia.

"It was great out-of-conference experience for them," said Head Coach Melissa Jones. "[It was]

something that is very costly but I pulled a little bit from here and there."

Even if it would have cost more than Jones would have wanted, the experience alone justifies the spending.

"It worked out just fine. It was a great team bonding experience," she said.

Moyer agrees.

"They had a great trip. It was a great experience for the students, but we didn't pay for all that. They raised money to pay for the overnight portion."

Women's soccer did something similar when they traveled to Spain last fall, and softball and baseball do the same when they travel for spring break.

"Our trip to Spain was amazing and definitely brought our team closer together," says senior team captain Kristen Upton, a junior at the time of the trip.

"Those are pretty awesome experiences to be with your friends," says Moyer. "I wish I could send the

whole school for spring break."

Outside of special trips, all teams operate with the same understanding. They're given enough funding to play their games and if they need more, they ask for it.

"Honestly, I do not believe that I receive any less funding than what is truly needed to compete," says Jones.

In her 12th year at the helm of McDaniel hockey, Jones is used to explaining how the financial operations work to recruits and their families.

"We travel by charter bus just like everyone else. We get our practice kits like everyone else. We get our laundry done like everyone else," she tells recruits.

It's a fair system, Moyer believes.

"The flexibility comes in when teams are more successful. Clearly, when teams have more interest or participation, then the donations for that program go up," he says, referencing the football program.

Despite the team's records of the past few years, they draw crowds larger than any other sport and create a hype about the college. But that's not all keeping football at McDaniel.

Even if teams aren't doing well, the fact that the Centennial Conference lists them as a sport means that McDaniel will keep them.

"Do you decide [to keep a team] just because people watch it?" Moyer asks. "There's not a million people watching golf games, but we have an amazing course and it's a sponsored sport in the conference. For us, it makes a lot of sense to have golf."

For now, football, golf, field hockey, and all the other McDaniel sports play on, all hoping to make it to the postseason with that guaranteed extra funding.

Matthew Danis
Staff Reporter

The sound of cheering cuts through the air. Another touchdown for McDaniel football. Thousands of people line the stadium and hillside either watching the game or getting involved in the famous tailgating. It's football season once again at McDaniel College.

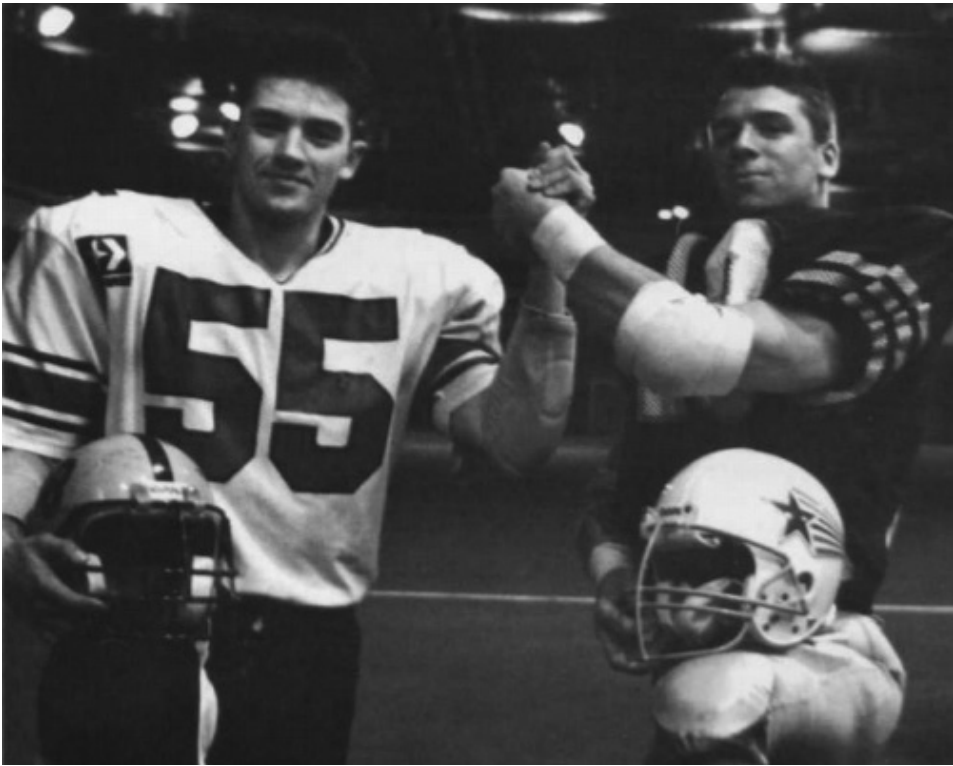
McDaniel College football has a long and prestigious history, well over a century in fact. It was established in 1891 when McDaniel faced off against rival Gettysburg College. The team had many fantastic seasons, going undefeated several times along with many championships.

In 1934, renown coach Dick Harlow received a telegram inviting his team to participate in the first ever Orange Bowl. Unfortunately, due to financial issues, McDaniel football missed their spot in history that time around. But in 1992, they didn't miss a beat.

After the regular season in 1992, the McDaniel football team was given the opportunity to become the first U.S collegiate football team to compete on Russian soil.

The football team went to Russia in early March of 1992. The exhibition game between the two teams was played on March 17th in the Central Sports Club of the Red Army in front of a crowd of about 4000, and ended with a McDaniel 47-7 win against the Euro-Asian league All-Stars. The game was played indoors, so often kicks would hit the ceiling, and the Russian team had three different jersey colors for

25 Years Ago: McDaniel Football in Russia



McDaniel's Keith Abel (right) and a Russian player embrace at game. Photo courtesy Ashley Scattergood.

their one team, all of which made the game all the more bizarre and interesting.

"Everyone was really excited about it," then-athletic director Rick Carpenter recalled recently. "Anytime you are first in line to do something that raises eyebrows like this, we were actually getting national attention for this for the first time since I've been here."

It really was a big moment for McDaniel, the college received a lot international attention for its achievements. Several major newspa-

pers such as the Baltimore Sun, the Washington post, CNN and NBC all did stories on the historic event. A USA today reporter from Moscow interviewed players, so it even made it into international papers.

Part of the reason this event was so monumental is because the Soviet Union fell only three months prior to the game being played, and even before that the U.S had been involved in nearly 45 years of tension with Russia during the Cold War. In fact, the fall of the Soviet Union nearly caused the game to get scrapped due

to the instability of the country's economic and political environment, but McDaniel persevered and the game happened.

Current football head coach Mike Dailey is optimistic about the future of the McDaniel football team and the potential for them to travel abroad once again. He has been a coach for 37 years and has been involved with a variety of programs and even has experience with running clinics in Barcelona, Spain.

"We have other priorities at the moment," Dailey said, "Especially since I've only been the coach here for a few years, the budget, and a variety of other reasons. But I think it would be a tremendous experience for our players. McDaniel is a place that wants all students to be well rounded and have different experiences so I feel that the school would be behind it."

Current McDaniel Punter Joey Cornwell is planning to do a short study abroad during the January term in Greece, but is all for the idea of the team traveling abroad to play.

"It would be a great experience to go out and learn about other cultures," he said.

This year marks 25 years since McDaniel College football travelled to Russia. For now, the possibility of another trip in the near future is slim, as McDaniel football seems to have other things in the playbook, but it seems that coaches and players alike remain hopeful for opportunities down the road.



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The McDaniel Free Press

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Westminster Boys and Girls Club set to expand

Olivia Storer
Staff Reporter

The word "Welcome" hangs from the roof in rainbow letters just inside the doors of the Westminster Boys and Girls Club. The halls are silent and empty, but in a few hours around 100 pairs of feet belonging to some of Westminster's youngest residents will tramp through the doors of the Union Street building. From 2:30 p.m. onwards they will have the opportunity to participate in the some of the academic and extracurricular activities that the after school club offers.

If all goes to plan these feet will be joined by many more when the club opens the doors of its new building on Main Street on Jan. 2.

"When we move to the new building we can take as many as 600 kids," says Erin Bishop, marketing director of the Westminster Boys and Girls Club. "We won't do that right off the bat. We're not totally crazy! Our plan is that we will grow our population by 30% a year."

The new building is the old PNC bank building on Main Street which, at 21,000 sq. ft., is almost 10 times larger than the current Union Street location.

"We began to look about a year and half ago, when we knew that we were growing to the point that we would need to expand," Bishop says. "We looked for a long time and eventually we found this old bank building that has been vacant for 6 years. Now we are embarking on a 5-million-dollar capital campaign renovation project"

The plans for the new club which is currently a dusty but humming worksite include a 3,200 sq. ft.



Image by Olivia Storer

gymnasium, recording studio, radio station, art room, kitchen, music and dance studio as well as a library that will be sponsored by Penguin Random House.

While renovating the new space to cater to the needs of the kids, the staff at the Boys and Girls Club are also planning to make the most of the remnants of the old bank.

"Next to the radio station, which is really cool, is the old vault from the bank," says Bishop. "It's a beautiful old vault and we are turning that into a sound recording studio. So kids will be able to compose and create their own music."

Bishop and her colleagues at the Boys and Girls Club are certain

that this new building will positively impact the after school experience of their members and are also aware of the economic development that they will bring to Main Street.

"We are moving into a part of Main Street where there isn't a whole lot of economic vitality and we'll basically bring 400 families a day to Main Street at dinner time," says Bishop.

McDaniel College has always had strong ties to the Westminster Boys and Girls Club with many students volunteering at the club and mentoring the kids in a variety of programs. The club boasts innovative programs such as Smart Girls and Passport to Manhood programs that both deal

with the challenges that face both boys and girls at critical ages.

"The McDaniel volunteers are so instrumental to the success of the program because they are really good role models for our kids," says Bishop. "A lot of our kids would be first generation college students so we are trying to show them that correlation. Look if you do the work now and you get good grades you can do this; you can go to college too!"

Miranda Jacobs, a student at McDaniel College who works at the Boys and Girls Club, describes how her time at the club has impacted her life.

"The club has such a diverse population which has allowed me to grow tremendously as a person and a leader," Jacobs says. "The relationships I've made and the lives I feel like I have impacted make it all worth it! The new club will allow for the kids to explore and express themselves in ways that we can't at our location now."

For many years greek life organizations at McDaniel have worked alongside the Boys and Girls Club and will continue to help the club as it raises money for this project. McDaniel fraternity Phi Delta Theta has run fundraisers for the club over the past few years.

"We run an annual bowl-a-thon for the Boys and Girls Club to help them raise money for things they may need and last year we also hosted a field day for them," says Tory Cook, the philanthropy fundraising and recruitment chair of Phi Delta Theta. "We work with them because we know they do great things for the kids of the community and we as a
-continued on page 2-

Gender-Neutral Housing: Where Does McDaniel Stand?

Emma Carter
Features Editor

Across the country, a new type of housing at colleges and universities is gaining popularity.

For most colleges in the U.S., co-ed floors in residence halls—where genders are often split by wings or sections of the floor—are commonplace. Many schools even allow housing where both genders can live in the same suite or apartment.

But what about co-ed *rooms*?

Co-ed rooms, also known as gender-neutral housing, or gender inclusive housing, have already been a housing option for several years at some universities. In a gender-neutral living situation, two students of different genders can live in the same room.

Already, universities such as Stanford and New York University have implemented policies that allow for different genders to share the same room. Even in Maryland, several schools have added gender-neutral housing as an option for on-campus living. Towson University and Goucher College are among



A hallway in McDaniel Hall. Photo by Kyle Parks.

them.

How does McDaniel fit in?

Here on the Hill, talk of gender-neutral housing has not yet been widespread—but that doesn't mean McDaniel is not ready to have the discussion.

"I know it's come up [at McDaniel]," says Jose Moreno,

director of the Office of Student Diversity and Inclusion on campus. Even with little current action, though, Moreno strongly believes gender-neutral housing is a possibility here.

"McDaniel does really well in terms of being more inclusive," he says. One of the goals of gender-

neutral housing is to provide a comfortable and friendly housing arrangement for transgender and non-cisgender students.

McDaniel already has all-gender bathrooms in some areas, as well as the preferred name policy, which allows students to choose what name appears on their class rosters and school IDs. Adding gender-neutral housing would only continue this trend.

To implement this change, however, there would need to be a real drive from students.

For Michael Robbins, head of McDaniel's Office of Residence Life, student action is key. The change is something "students would need to advocate for through SGA," he says.

Robbins wants students to be serious and knowledgeable about the issue when they take action: "I would want the students to reach out to the other campuses that have done it and try to find out what problems, if any, has it led to."

And there are certainly potential problems with implementing
-continued on page 5-

Westminster Boys and Girls Club set to expand (continued)

-continued from page 1-

fraternity also believe that kids are the future.”

The McDaniel community is getting behind the project, and Bishop believes that it is important that the greater Westminster Community recognize the importance of the campaign and do what they can to help. She hopes that this project can combat the drug problem that has troubled Westminster for many years.

“We as the Boys and Girls Club looked at what’s happening here in Westminster and we said what can we do to make a difference and what we can do is we can save the kids,” says Bishop. “We can take the kids and we can give them all of the tools that they need to create a path to a great future. That’s the Boys and Girls Clubs motto; great futures start here and it’s going to take every single person in this community to make it happen.”

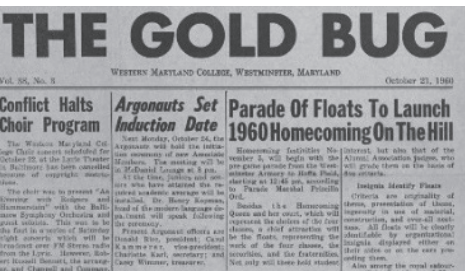
Homecoming in the Past: From the Archives

**Hannah Krauss
News Editor**

October 14, 2004

“Tailgaters ‘drive-in’ for Homecoming”

From a 2004 edition of the McDaniel Free Press, the enduring importance of the tradition of tailgating at McDaniel can be seen.



October 21, 1960

“Parade Of Floats To Launch 1960 Homecoming On the Hill.”

In 1960, the events of homecoming opened with a parade of floats, all of which were part of a contest as a part of the homecoming festivities.

October 30, 1941

“Dance to Climax Alumni Welcome At Homecoming.”

Although this Homecoming took place over 70 years ago, some of the events that were customary back then are still part of Homecoming at the 150th anniversary of McDaniel. Sports events, such as a football game, are a big part of Homecoming.

October 9, 1980

“Homecoming 1980.”

This page from the archives is full of pictures of student participating in homecoming activities. Although McDaniel no longer has a parade down Main Street, some of the same student organizations were present on campus that continue to attend homecoming, such as Phi Delta Theta.



Amy Latta '02 Turns Hobby Blog into Sell-Out Hand Lettering Book

**Atticus Rice
Sports Editor**

Amy Davidson Latta has been writing as much as you would expect an English major to be. Maybe more. She’s also put her minor in education to good use.

The award-winning craft blogger and 2002 graduate of McDaniel released her first book on July 11, which promptly sold out in early August.

“The reception has been incredible,” Latta said at a workshop at the college last month. “They printed 7,000 copies and right away people were telling me that they couldn’t get it.”

The book, Hand Lettering for Relaxation, proved so popular, Latta feared that she wouldn’t be able to get the 50 plus copies that were needed for the workshop where she

led attendees through the book’s various exercises.

“It was absolutely crazy for a new book like that, especially a specialty book, to go to reorder within the first month,” said Latta.

But it should come as no surprise to those who have watched Latta’s online following grow over the last few years.

Since launching One Artsy Mama, her award-winning craft blog, Latta has gained about 20,000 followers on both Instagram and Facebook.

She thinks the publisher may have underestimated her following.

“I had been promoting [the book] on my Facebook and Instagram so there were a good number of people that already knew it was coming and had pre-ordered,” Latta said.

Latta first launched One Artsy Mama in 2011 when she took a break

from teaching to stay at home with her newborn son, now 9 and the integral “Little Crafter” on her blog.

“It was St. Patrick’s Day and I sat down and made the most terrible blog on Blogger,” said Latta. “I just wanted to get all these ideas up there.”

For a while, Latta thought the only visitors she would have would be her mother, best friend, and husband.

“And then I started to see people popping up who had read my blog,” she said. “It was the coolest thing to know that there were actually people out there who wanted to read my blog.”

The few visitors quickly built up to her near-20,000 followers.

They also turned into her first book deal, which she first thought up around Christmas of 2015.

After talking with publishers for a

few months, Latta reached a deal in March 2016 with Page Street Publishing in Salem, Mass. which specializes in adult coloring books and cookbooks.

Naturally, Page Street Publishing was interested in a book that would take their coloring audience one step further.

“Instead of coloring other people’s stuff, you can color your own stuff,” Latta said.

The hand-lettering renaissance came about two years ago on Instagram and Pinterest. Latta stresses that while it’s everywhere now, it was just starting to be everywhere back then.

“As we get more technological, there’s a drive to go back to where we came from,” said Chloe Irla, professor of art at McDaniel College. “I

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Are Students Paying Too Much for Housing?

**Brandon Vance
Staff Reporter**

Many students are struggling to afford school, but is there anything that can help? Paying for on-campus housing has become a burden, which is why, according to many students, an alternative should become more feasible for the student body.

“This is the first year I have been able to live off campus due to school regulations, and I am saving a lot more money,” says Joe Schiller, senior and exercise science major at McDaniel.

The cost of living on campus has been steadily increasing over the last few years. Per academic year, it now costs \$8,040 to live in a five-person North Village single room, and \$7,240 for a double. The average cost for a two-bedroom off-campus house is at most \$550 a person per month, which comes out to \$6,600 for a year, including the summer months. The on-campus housing is over \$600 more.

“My loan came out to be \$2,000 cheaper this year than it was last year due to living off campus, and that includes paying for an extra three months of rent during the summer for my off campus house,” says Schiller.

McDaniel has struggled to fill its



Photo by Brandon Vance.

freshman and sophomore classes in recent years, which could be directly related to housing. The freshman and sophomore dorms are old and need updating. Some students transfer from McDaniel during sophomore year to find more affordable schools; last year the sophomore class was down over 25 percent from its estimated number.

“I have had a tough time keeping golfers interested in McDaniel based on the freshman housing they see on their overnight recruiting trips,” says Scott Moyer, head golf coach.

Many students want to go off campus to make school more affordable, but there are limitations that prevent underclassmen from doing so. Students have to wait until their senior year to start looking for off-campus housing. This means most students are stuck with paying on-campus housing rates.

“Colleges have become so expensive anymore that if McDaniel provided students with cheaper housing options, it would help the student body tremendously,” says Zach Crooks, a McDaniel senior and

sociology major.

If non-senior students are found living off-campus without permission by the school, they are charged a fee.

“I tried to live off campus this year as a junior, but I was told by Residence Life that if I were caught they would charge me \$5,000, along with the full on-campus housing price,” says Shawn Macburnie, a junior business student at McDaniel.

Allowing underclassmen to live off campus could provide affordable housing for many students; improving the on-campus housing, along with lowering the costs, might be not only beneficial to the students, but to the college as a whole, as more students would be inclined to stay with the lower costs.

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Kaylan Hutchison
Staff Reporter

“Hot and sweaty, and not in a good way,” said Atticus Rice, describing his experience as one of the several students who make the awkward transformation into McDaniel’s Green Terror mascot for campus events. “When I get in it now, we have to staple it together each time,” Rice, a junior from Portland, Oregon, added. “It looks like it was made in a basement.”

Rice is close. In the 1990s, when McDaniel was still known as Western Maryland College, an alumni’s mother created the homemade suit. McDaniel’s current model — a furry, green, wolf-like creature missing both footpads and multiple papier-mâché teeth — shuffles around to only a few campus events. While most mascots are meant to last seven years at most, ours is over 25.

Lucky for McDaniel students, a new mascot is coming to town on Oct. 21 for the annual homecoming game, coinciding with this year’s celebration of the school’s sesquicentennial year. This Green Terror revamp will take place during the pregame, unveiling the new design to the public for the first time.

The process of creating a new mascot started roughly five years ago, as alumni have been pushing for a change.

“At first, no one on campus really knew who should be doing it,” Alex-

Green Terror Gets a Makeover

andra DeJohn, Associate Director of Student and Young Alumni Programs, said. “Our alumni are probably the most passionate bunch, so it fell into the alumni relations world.”

Heather Wilensky, Executive Director of Alumni Relations, who also oversees the Alumni Council and is a visiting member of the board of trustees, brought it to DeJohn’s attention in May of 2016.

“In the last 16 months, it’s been a major priority,” DeJohn said.

In late spring of 2017, an OrgSync survey was sent out to every faculty member, staff member, student and alumnus who provided contact information, sporting questions such as what gave the green terror its green color and what made the green terror a terror.

More than 770 responses returned.

“Alumni are such a big part of our community, but the students are the current voice,” DeJohn said. “We wanted everyone to feel like they were a part of the process.”

From the survey answers, Alumni Council pulled the most common threads and worked with Avant Garb, a custom mascot costuming company, to formulate a representation of the ideas. Mock-ups from Avant Garb, as well as design submissions from alumni and the college community, were presented in a later Alumni Council meeting.

Ranging from a friendly teddy bear to something resembling an insect, alumni were presented with design options on which to vote. They could vote on specific aspects, such as if the Green Terror had a beard or wore pants, as well as which overall design they favored.

From that feedback, Alumni Relations staff, including Wilensky and DeJohn, worked with Avant Garb to create a final design.

“Our goal was to stay true to our most recent memories of him, but give him a new makeover that was fresh and relevant,” said DeJohn. “We are the only school with a Green Terror, and he is an embodiment of our school pride and uniqueness.”

The mascot was paid for entirely through donations from alumni, faculty, staff and students. Student Alumni Council raised money from October 2017’s Pumpkin Smash and May 2017’s Car Show.

“This was a gift from the heart of people who truly care about our mascot representing us in a more professional way, and understand the importance of the Green Terror as a significant addition to the public identity of the College,” DeJohn said.

Over the decades, McDaniel has used everything from leopard-like to monster-under-your-bed to put the abstract into a memorable mascot capable of bringing a sense of community, identity and spirit.



*The current Green Terror mascot.
Photo by Kaylan Hutchison.*

“I wish we had a mascot I’m not too scared to hug at events,” said Hannah Maxwell, a junior from Towson, Maryland.

“I love that our mascot is intimidating, but not that it’s outdated,” said another student, Laura DiCarlo, a junior from Bel Air, Maryland, and the philanthropy chair of Student Alumni Council. “It’s falling apart.”

While current reviews lean negative, there is optimism for the new mascot’s future. Many students would like to see a push for the new mascot to make an appearance at every home game, not just football games or admissions events.

“I think it should be more present,” Rice said. “Somehow, I do think there are students on this campus that don’t know our mascot and what it looks like. We should be out there. The mascot should be bringing us together.”

And, hopefully, on Oct. 21, it will.

Chris Anthony
Staff Reporter

“We do not inherit the land from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children,” said Gina Piellusch, a member of the Green Revolving Fund committee, as she talked about the Native American proverb that drives her involvement with the new McDaniel organization. “The idea is that when you borrow something, you return it in just as good, if not better, condition than how it was given to you.”

During the 2015 academic year, McDaniel College received a \$100,000 grant from the Jessie Ball DuPont Fund that is intended to kick-start a Green Revolving Fund (GRF) to aid the school with campus-wide energy conservation projects.

The Jessie Ball DuPont Fund is a national foundation that works with more than 330 different organizations. The eligibility of these organizations was determined exclusively by Jessie DuPont in her will. Since 1988, McDaniel College has been receiving funds from the DuPont organization that have been used to finance a wide range of on-campus projects.

The fund works with a total of 70 institutions of higher education, including 29 liberal arts schools. The DuPont Fund understands that these smaller colleges and institutions often become overwhelmed with the cost of maintaining their facilities, so they have set up an organization to fund projects for these institutions that save both money and energy.

“[Liberal arts colleges] are low-hanging fruits in terms of sustainability,” said Jason Scullion, an Environmental Studies professor here at McDaniel. “They have great opportunities to increase sustainability, but a relatively low amount of capital to invest.”

The best and most efficient way to help these schools, the Jessie Ball DuPont Fund established, is to provide a grant specifically developed to finance a Green Revolving Fund. The idea is that a school will finance green projects using this fund, which

Green (Terror) Revolving Fund



*Laura DiCarlo, a Business Administration major, outside of McDaniel Lounge.
Photo by Chris Anthony.*

will in turn save the school money. The money saved from electrical bills is then reinvested into the fund with hopes of financing yet another project.

For McDaniel, this opportunity means that the school can finally act on projects that are in need of attention, as well as develop new ones through the involvement of the community: students, faculty, and staff. Just last year, McDaniel replaced the heating ventilation and air conditioning system in Western Maryland College Alumni Hall. This replacement was especially effective, as the old system had parts that were not only inefficient in terms of energy use, but also completely broken.

In addition to the recent replacement in Alumni Hall, many other improvements have been made across campus. Ranging from noticeable projects like a campus-wide energy efficient lighting system upgrade to less visible projects like improving the efficiency and power quality of the campus electrical distribution system, McDaniel has saved money that would likely have been spent on energy bills.

This fund at McDaniel is overseen by a committee made up of eight members: three staff members, three students, and two faculty members from different backgrounds. Applicants seeking funding for new campus energy conservation proj-

ects can submit requests through the McDaniel Portal—an online resource for members of the McDaniel community—which then gets reviewed by the group. The committee is even offering \$300 to applicants who successfully submit an idea that makes it through the voting process.

“Most of the interest thus far being expressed is by students who are in my sustainability class, and Green Life,” said Scullion. “We encourage people from all specialties to apply; it’s not just a program designed for

people with an interest in the environment.”

The committee’s hope is that by involving students, staff, and faculty, they can “move the needle,” as Piellusch has said, helping change students’ lives as well as make them interested in energy conservation at the same time.

“It’s a ripple effect, essentially,” said Piellusch. “If we continue to build a sustainable campus, the ideas being implemented will grow as will the students, who then move forward and build a culture of being green here on campus.”



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Fall is in the air, and that means the weather is getting cooler and the leaves are starting to change. This makes it perfect for getting out into nature and being active without having to deal with the hassles of the hot weather. Maryland has many popular hiking spots some of which are local to Westminster.

Starting with the closest location, we have the Wakefield Valley Golf Course, which is less than three miles from McDaniel College. It is a permanently closed golf course but is a great place for going for a walk, run, or bike ride. It's simple, but it is right near campus and a great place to go to get outdoors and have a good time.

Angel Petty is the president of the Outdoors Club at McDaniel, which gathers about once per month for events ranging from horseback riding, hiking, and even high ropes courses. "If I had to suggest one hiking area that gives you your biggest bang for your buck, it would have to be Hashawa Environmental Center" said Petty.

The Hashawa Environmental Center is only 15 minutes away, and



Photo by Matthew Danis.

it has 5 miles of trails to walk, a lake where you can fish, a picnic area, and a bird watching area. The Bear Branch Nature Center is also there and has tons of cool information about the park. It has everything that an outdoors person would love to do, all within 15 minutes of McDaniel.

Another location that is great for those who love hiking uphill or doing rock climbing is Sugarloaf Mountain, about an hour away in Fredrick County. It has multiple trails that

range from only a mile to up to 7 miles. If you hike to the top of the mountain's 1,282ft summit you get an amazing view of the entirety of the surrounding area, which will be especially great during the fall when the leaves are changing color. There are also rock faces all around the mountains that are open for people to climb.

"I live close to Sugarloaf Mountain so I'll go there often during the summer or winter to get a workout

in hiking, and the view at the top is amazing, it's totally worth the hike" said running and workout enthusiast Alex Fondersmith, a McDaniel student. "I'd recommend it to people that like a good challenge with a great reward, it's a lot of fun."

Cunningham falls is the last and most popular location for many people in Maryland to go to. It is home to the longest cascading waterfall in Maryland. It has tons of trails to walk on, camping, and picnicking areas, there are designated swimming areas that allow you to explore the falls, as well as boating and fishing areas. It has many beautiful areas and lots of different activities that can appeal to almost anyone and is located only 45 minutes from McDaniel College in Thurmont.

"Personally, I enjoy backpacking on the Appalachian trail, but that's scary to a lot of people" said Petty. "Hiking is more for beginners and this area is really great for that because there are plenty of trails to walk around and be in the outdoors and do literally anything you want to do. These local areas are all places I'd love to see McDaniel student go and enjoy the outdoors.

Junior Tyler Hagen to run for Democratic State Central Committee of Maryland

Kate Baremore
Staff Reporter

The results of the 2016 presidential election disappointed junior Tyler Hagen and left him with a desire to act.

"I strongly believe that if you have a disagreement with the leaders in our government, it's our obligation to step up and try to do something about it." Now that he feels the timing is right, Hagen is running to be on the Democratic State Central Committee of Maryland: the governing body of the Maryland Democratic Party, or as Hagen describes it, "the state version of the DNC."

If elected, he will be responsible for advocating on issues that are important to him with help from party leaders, department heads and other legislators who have the resources to make a change.

So, how does the election process work?

Voting for the members of the Democratic State Central Committee will take place during the 2018 gubernatorial election on June 26. Voting is carried out based on the



Candidate Tyler Hagen. Photo courtesy of Tyler Hagen.

district the candidate lives in. Hagen lives in district 7; only people who live in district 7 can vote for him to be on the committee. People living in other districts will vote for candidates from their own districts.

Participating in this election is no simple task. To prepare, Hagen has strategically collected a team of individuals whom he trusts, and has given them roles catered to their spe-

cific skills. Two of the team members are McDaniel students: junior Matt Hopson works as one of Hagen's advisors, and Emma Carter, also a junior, is one of two social media coordinators. Friends from his hometown constitute the rest of Hagen's campaign team: a second advisor, second social media coordinator, political advisor and press liaison.

Looking forward, the next step

for Hagen and his team is reaching out to voters. McDaniel junior Matt Hopson and Hagen's campaign advisor mentions the significance of voter knowledge on the importance of this election.

"While this isn't a race for governor or state delegate or state senator or a higher national office, and it may not get the big attention on national news outlets or something like that would get," Hopson says, "it's still important and it's still something that voters should be looking at to look at the improvement in the future of the Democratic party."

Hagen is ready to begin in this step of campaigning for the election.

"What I'm most excited about is talking to the voters, seeing the issues that really matter to them and trying to figure out a way that the Democratic party can be the leading party in helping to address those issues."

In the months ahead, Hagen and his team will be looking forward to the election, and the chance to finally begin actively participating in government.

Claire Cappuccilli
Staff Reporter

On Monday, Sept. 18, all members of Greek life organizations wore red as a way to represent their unity against hazing. This signified the start of National Hazing Prevention Week, which takes place each year on college campuses across the country.

The purpose is to bring awareness to students and faculty about the problem of hazing and how to prevent it from occurring. A number of events were held on campus as a way for students to learn what hazing is and to recognize when it is taking place. The overall goal is to empower students to put an end to it.

"As a community, in planning Hazing Prevention week, we wanted the outcome to improve awareness for what exactly is hazing," said senior Chloe Ouimette, a Greek life engagement peer. "Each of our events strived to inform the population of what hazing is, while still trying to make it an enjoyable experience."

McDaniel College defines hazing as, "any action taken or situation cre-

National Hazing Prevention Week

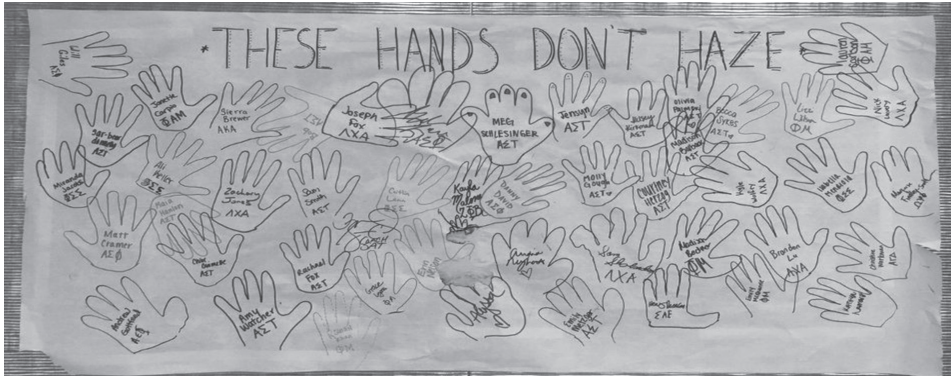


Photo by Claire Cappuccilli.

ated, intentionally, whether on or off College premises, to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule."

It is prohibited on college property and in all organizations affiliated with the school.

"It's not a problem that I have experienced on campus, but I still think it is an important topic to discuss," said senior Bridget Sorrells.

Tracy Maxwell is the founder of HazingPrevention.org, which is a

non-profit organization dedicated to bringing attention to hazing while providing the proper resources to prevent it. She started the organization as a way to steer the discussion from punishing those who participate in hazing to preventing it from happening all together.

"We are required to participate in National Hazing Prevention Week in order to maintain standards with the National Panhellenic Conference member organizations, North Amer-

ican InterFraternity Council members, and the National Pan-Hellenic Council member organizations," said Christine Workman, director of Student Engagement. "Our campus has been participating with event since NHPW's inception a decade ago."

There was a "These Hands Don't Haze" event where members traced their handprint and took a pledge to not promote or engage in hazing. A question and answer session was held for the student body so that they were able to have an open discussion about hazing and to determine what is and is not allowed.

Student Engagement also held a "Deeper Than Letters" event in an attempt to end the stereotypes that surround sororities and fraternities. Each student wrote down what Greek life means to them and how it has impacted their lives in an attempt to create a positive stigma surrounding it.

"We want our new members to feel welcomed into sisterhood," says Sorrells. "Hazing would do the complete opposite of that."

Adrian Stanley
Staff Reporter

The sun is shining, birds are chirping and students are walking to classes. Just another usual day at McDaniel. Then, in an instant, everything is disintegrated, leaving behind only rubble and despair. North Korea has just struck the United States with a nuclear missile.

Could anyone on campus survive such an attack from North Korea? Many have heard of the bunkers built on campus, but few, if any, know where they are, let alone how to enter or operate them.

McDaniel was even home to the Wartime Information Security Program (WISP), which, in the event of nuclear war, would be hosted in the basement of Lewis Hall of Science. On this bunker, College Historian James Lightner recalled that it “was the worst kept secret on campus. Everyone knew it was there, but no one had ever seen it.”

The North Korean threat may not actually be any greater now than it has been in the past, despite all the recent bombast between the current leaders of the two countries, Donald Trump and Kim Jong Un.

“North Korea has been detonating (nuclear) bombs since the ‘80s,” says Francis Grice, a McDaniel professor of political science. “They declared war back in 1994. Aggressive rhetoric is not terribly new.”

However, there is still reason to be concerned with recent provocations.

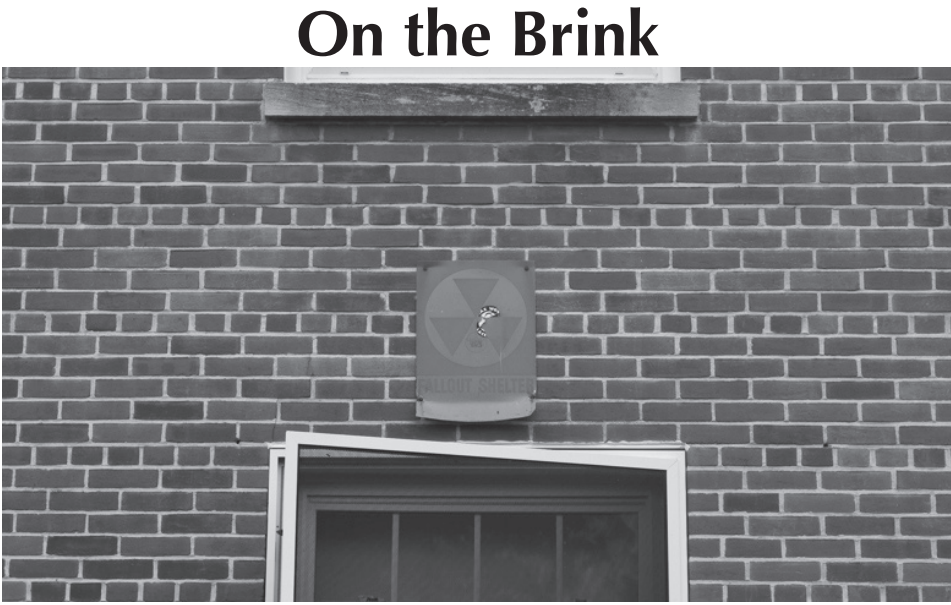
“Shooting missiles over Japan is a deliberate violation of Japanese

Gender-Neutral Housing: Where Does McDaniel Stand? (continued)

-continued from page 1-

gender-neutral housing at McDaniel.

Costs of renovating buildings to accommodate a new type of housing arises as a possible issue. Because of building codes that require a certain number of fixtures per bathroom for each gender, Robbins says, new bathrooms would have to



Fallout shelter signs on multiple campus buildings remind us of past and present nuclear threats. Photo by Kyle Parks.

airspace,” Grice says. “This represents a deliberate provocation and they (North Koreans) are deliberately trying to escalate the crisis.”

North Korea poses a great threat to the United States.

“North Korea is the greatest military threat we face,” says McDaniel professor of political science Matthew Mongiello. “If we were to get into a major war, it would not be surprising if it was over North Korea.”

Current reactions and policies from the Trump administration are a mixed bag, drawing both concern as well as some modest praise.

“The current president is in a situation without good options; he needs to be cut some slack,” says Mongiello. “Current policies are not that different from past administrations. Current rhetoric

is concerning and with the Trump administration I am slightly more concerned.”

“If Clinton had won the election,” Grice says, “we would have just seen an extension of the Obama administration era policies. We would see similar scenarios but with a calmer and much more multilateral response. We would be a lot less close to the brink of war.”

The Trump administration has been attempting to work with North Korea.

“We ask, ‘Would you like to talk?’ We have lines of communications to Pyongyang,” Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said last week, as reported by CNN. “We’re not in a dark situation or a blackout. We have a couple of direct channels to Pyongyang. We can talk to them. We do talk to them. Directly, through our own channels.”

But Robbins makes it clear that this housing option “would never be a mandatory [living arrangement].”

Even with possible setbacks, Moreno sees the benefits gender-neutral housing could bring to the McDaniel community.

“To learn about an opposite gender of yours, it’s good to get a better understanding and to learn more about people,” he says. Gender-neutral housing “can give students the ability to do that better.” Moreno hopes that this kind of living arrangement could “break down

Grice does not see much changing in the near future.

“There is just a lot of sabre rattling,” Grice says. “It’s like a game of chicken and neither side can afford to collide.”

The Trump administration seems to understand the tenseness and seriousness of the situation.

“I think the most immediate action that we need is to calm things down,” Tillerson said, as reported by CNN. “They’re a little overheated right now, and I think we need to calm them down first.”

However, a missile launch from North Korea is not the only threat.

“My worry is that a collapsing regime uses nuclear weapons,” Mongiello says. “If their economy continues to deteriorate, North Korea could start selling nukes to states or non-state actors.”

Many have thought about how to solve this issue, and no one has a perfect solution.

“The long term solution would be the normalization of relations, and to bring North Korea back into the world community,” Mongiello says. “If we expose these nations to democracy and the benefits of trade between nations, things will get better in North Korea. We don’t worry about Europe or Israel having nuclear weapons. How do we get there with North Korea?”

It is best to prepare for the worst in any situation. When walking around campus, keep an eye in the sky—and if you see something, you may want to make your way to the safety of the basements of Lewis Hall of Science, Daniel MacLea Hall or Albert Norman Ward Hall.

barriers” between genders as well, especially in a patriarchal society.

The process of introducing and implementing this policy would not happen over the course of a semester; this kind of change needs a year, or perhaps more, for consultations, presentations, forums and meetings.

But the first step lies with students: if McDaniel undergraduates voice a desire for gender-neutral housing, the school will listen.

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JT Lockman
Staff Reporter

Where in Westminster: The Carroll County Farm Museum

The Carroll County Almshouse and Farm, also known as the Carroll County Farm Museum, is located at 500 S. Center St. in Westminster. The Carroll County Farm Museum is a historic farm complex that provides the public with the ability to learn about 19th-century rural life. The original Carroll County Almshouse was founded in 1852, but it wasn’t until August 1966 that the Museum opened its doors to the public.

The spacious farm complex consists of 15 buildings including a main house. The main structure was built with 30 rooms and was originally designed for use as the county’s almshouse, charitable housing that is used to support lower class citizens in the community without work and housing. A two-story building with 14 rooms is home to the original kitchen and bathroom, and also housed the farm help.

The farm also includes a spring house, smokehouse, ice house, blacksmith shop, and numerous other sheds that saw use in farm work.



Photo by Stefan Specian.

Some of these buildings, now filled with artifacts, house the museum’s exhibits. Visitors are allowed to explore the vast collections of horse-powered plows that were used on the farm during the 19th century.

Not only is the farm home to history exhibits, but it also hosts community and historical events open to the public. The museum features the annual Living History Reenactment every spring. This year’s annual reenactment will be held on May 6 and 7 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. It will depict the Seven Days Campaign, illustrating six major 1862 battles between the Army of Northern Virginia and the Union Army of the Potomac.

The farm museum is also host to the annual Maryland Wine Festival, which takes place in the third week of September. The festival began in 1984 and has taken place at the

Carroll County Farm Museum since 1985. The Maryland Wine Festival is one of the largest and oldest wine festivals on the East Coast, attracting over 25,000 people to sample more than 200 wines each year.

The museum also seeks to entertain and educate children about farming in the 1700s and artisan skills, such as blacksmithing, weaving, and hearth cooking, demonstrated in the 1800s. Guided tours, which are available for school or family trips, give children insight into agricultural technology, period clothing, and historic cooking techniques.

The museum offers an abundance of family-friendly events, such as music and arts festivals and holiday celebrations. With summer right around the corner, The Carroll County Farm Museum is a great place to visit if you want to learn about Maryland history through a guided tour, enjoy a family friendly community event, or just explore the farm and enjoy the beautiful weather.

Kyle Parks
Editor-in-Chief
Multimedia Editor

Farms to Financial Districts: Xiong'an

In April 2017, China made a major announcement: the creation of the Xiong'an New Area, which has been promised to become an eco-friendly megacity covering 2,000 square kilometers.

Though projected to contribute less than half a percentage point to China's annual GDP growth, Xiong'an has gained the crucial support of Chinese President Xi Jinping, who just entered another five-year term. It has been predicted that this development will cost up to the equivalent of \$580 billion over the next 20 years.

It was this major shift that students, faculty, and staff alike reflected on during a talk by Ling Zhang, a historian of Boston College, on Oct. 12. The event, "Ponds, Paddies, and Frontier Defense: Yellow River in China (960-1127)," part of Global Climate Change Week at McDaniel, gave historical insight to the region that is to become this metropolis.

Zhang revealed that the region of Xiong'an is quite poor today. Nevertheless, the policy of the People's Republic of China since the late 1970s has been "Coordinated Development," that is, to develop markets in urban regions in order to create wealth needed for further development in poorer, rural regions. Three



Shenzhen, located in southern China just outside of Hong Kong. It is one of China's most successful urban development projects and today one of its main economic centers. Image courtesy of Pixabay user Buibuy89.

highly prosperous hubs of China—Beijing, Shenzhen, and Shanghai—have created vast wealth while some regions, as is with Xiong'an, have yet to see substantial growth.

Immediately after the announcement, traffic jams clogged roads leading towards the region and housing prices tripled; the government had to halt these transactions to keep the situation under control. Meanwhile, local landowners are said to have hit the jackpot.

Zhang's talk, however, emphasized the ecological implications

for the project, discussing imperial action in the region during the Song Dynasty approximately 1,000 years ago. In this time, much of the land was involved in a imperial water project: due to its location on the periphery—the frontier—of dynastic rule, a "Watery Great Wall" was to be constructed to heed away invading Khitans from the North. Thus, for defense purposes, the Yellow River was diverted northward, ponds were enlarged, bodies of water were deepened, etc.

These projects, Zhang revealed,

were highly detrimental to the region. Increased salinization of water led to crop failures in this highly agricultural region, bringing devastation—an ecological collapse.

Today, this region, though containing much less water, is marshy, and still highly agricultural, and eco-tourism has been on the rise.

Located 62 miles from Beijing, Xiong'an is intended to relieve the burden of the Chinese capital, which struggles with air pollution, water shortages, and overcrowded highways, among other problems. Universities and businesses are now being encouraged to move operations to this new city, along with portions of Beijing's more than 20 million residents.

Xiong'an has been painted as a highly eco-friendly urban plan, lacking the air or water pollution of Beijing or Shanghai, respectively, and to have the interest of locals at heart, who it is said will benefit economically from the change.

Certainly, there is no surefire manner in which to develop China, as other similar projects have been unsuccessful, but Zhang's talk highlighted the importance of historical insight when engaging in such endeavors. In this light, local and environmental interests should have seats at the planning table to promote fair, sustainable development.

Spenser Secrest
Assistant Editor

A familiar face at McDaniel is now at a new location! Joshua Ambrose, also known as Prof. A., formerly the Director of the Writing Center (and Free Press faculty advisor) is now the Executive Director of the Center for Experience and Opportunity.

As Executive Director of the CEO, Ambrose's new duties have been considerably expanded and include overseeing all of the CEO, coordinating the Encompass Distinction, advising the Fulbright Program, as well as teaching several courses. The transition from the Writing Center to the CEO has been great for Ambrose, who feels that he is joining a really accomplished team.

Despite his new position, Ambrose has retained some of his old duties, such as being the Fulbright Program advisor. However, what's most important through these transitions is preserving the strong

Ambrose Finds New Home in CEO

community connections developed in his previous position—a personal touch that continues to be a priority to Ambrose.

Ambrose feels that working in the Writing Center prepared him for the CEO, stating that both positions involve interacting with a lot of students and that both help with writing and communication.

When asked if he missed his advising duties to the McDaniel Free Press, Ambrose stated that "I will always have nothing but the highest opinion of the Free Press" and that the paper plays an incredibly important role on campus.

Despite his new expanded duties as the Executive director of the CEO, Ambrose will continue to teach courses. He is currently teaching two this semester. Ambrose stated that he believes teaching is something that every administrator should do.

This is all bittersweet for Ambrose, who does miss the Writing

Center. He states, "the Writing Center office will always have a special place in my heart" and that he loves all of the tutors who have been working there. Ambrose said that he was glad that the Writing Center had found someone as competent and reliable as Vanessa Flora-Nakoski, the new Director of the Writing Center.

Ambrose's arrival has already seen changes at the CEO. For example, the CEO's new website <https://ceo.mcdaniel.edu/> has been launched. The CEO has seen record attendance at all of their events, too.

Ambrose has high hopes for the CEO office. For example, he stated that one of the goals is to take a leading role in helping work with the Provost on the newly launched McDaniel Commitment. Ambrose is also looking forward to growing the entrepreneurship program and is passionate about getting students involved on campus.

Ambrose stated that he hopes the

CEO will be seen by the students as one of the most helpful stops along the way here at McDaniel.



Photo courtesy of Josh Ambrose.

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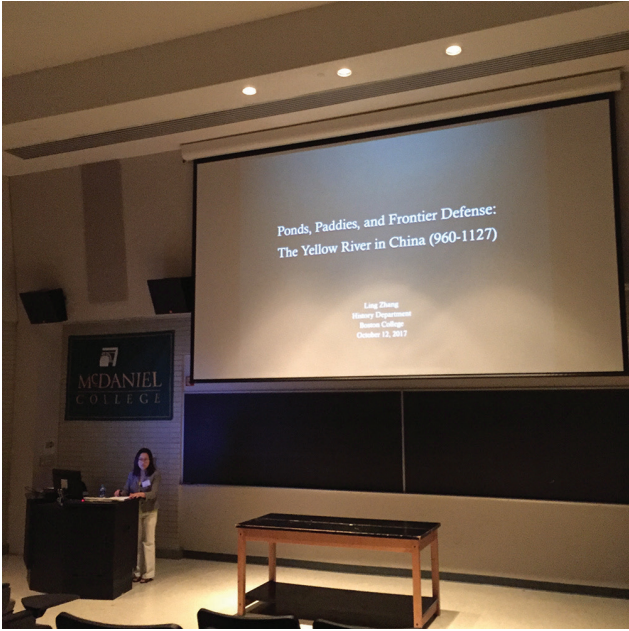
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The DACA Teach-in taking place in Red Square. Photo by Kyle Parks.



The McDaniel Gender & Sexuality Alliance's LGBTQA+ Panel, "Realizing One's Identity" on Oct. 9. Photo by Kyle Parks.



"Ponds, Paddies, and Frontier Defense: The Yellow River in China (960-1127)" by Ling Zhang on Oct. 12. Photo by Kyle Parks.

DACA Teach-In: ‘Who’s Worthy of Being Protected?’

Eric Chung
Staff Reporter

Emotions ran high in Red Square Thursday, Oct. 4 as the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) and the Office of Student Diversity and Inclusion (OSDI) hosted a DACA Teach-In, part of DACA week at McDaniel. The event aimed to raise awareness about Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA).

Jasmin Chavez, founder and president of the McDaniel LULAC chapter, said the event was to “inform and educate the McDaniel community about what DACA is, what they can do to help, and what as students themselves can do now that the renewal date is literally tomorrow.”

Chavez and other members of LULAC expressed hope that the event would not only inform people about DACA, but also inform them about passing the DREAM (Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors) Act, which would grant illegal immigrants a pathway to citizenship.

DACA, an immigration policy enacted by former President Barack Obama through executive order in June 2012 and rescinded by President Donald Trump in September 2017, provided immigrant youth who entered the U.S. illegally protection from deportation for a period of two years as well as a work permit.

The rescinding of DACA has been met with disappointment by a majority of Democrats as well as many Republicans.

The event had co-sponsorship from the Progressive Student Union, Social/Civil/Human, Gender & Sexuality Alliance, the Black Student Union, Africa’s Legacy, and Intersvarsity, and tables were present to provide resources to students looking to contact their Congress members.



Photo by Kyle Parks.

The event came at a time when race is an increasingly sensitive issue.

Jose Moreno, Director of the OSDI, revealed personal experiences that many minorities in America are all too familiar with. He discussed his life as a Puerto Rican American, describing that despite being born in Puerto Rico, he is often not seen as a true Puerto Rican because he was raised in America. On the other hand, he relayed experiences in which others didn’t view him as American because of the color of his skin.

Sociology professor Dr. Linda Semu, who serves as the faculty advisor for Africa’s Legacy, stressed the idea that the U.S. is a country of immigrants. The national media has convinced Americans that immigration in the U.S. is an issue strictly restricted to Hispanics, but Semu elaborated that DACA affects immigrants of other backgrounds.

“Data is showing that there is ethnic diversity when it comes to DACA, but that ethnic diversity is obscured when the discussion is at the national level, so we have to be aware of that,” Semu said. “Some of the

beneficiaries of DACA are from Asia, South America, the Caribbean and African countries, but that trend is not reflected at the national debate.”

Semu made another point that enlightened the crowd: “In Maryland, in Montgomery and Prince George’s Counties, they have a very high proportion of potentially eligible youth who are of African descent.”

Semu closed her speech by encouraging students to make change. “I don’t believe in [politicians’] willingness to do what is right. I believe in the ability of the people in our communities to put pressure and to organize and make the change that we need to see.”

The keynote speaker of the teach-in was Jonathan Jayes Green, a DACA recipient himself. Jayes-Green is the founder of the Undocublack Network (UBN), which advocates for undocumented black immigrants and tells their stories.

Jayes-Green relayed his story as a Panamanian immigrant. The son of a construction worker and a caregiver, he explained his unique upbringing. Jayes-Green described that he was

admitted to several four-year colleges, but couldn’t receive federal financial aid as an undocumented resident, and was charged out-of-state tuition rates.

Despite this obstacle, Jayes-Green was offered a scholarship from Montgomery College, a community college, and he accepted.

Jayes-Green explained that his first year at Montgomery College introduced him to his call to fight for immigrants’ rights after witnessing a failing vote for the DREAM Act. Although he was disappointed, his energy never ceased, and as he began to gain more experience in advocacy, he was introduced to intersectionality and transformational solidarity.

Jayes-Green didn’t use his time at the podium just to rally support for DACA. He also spoke about oppression and injustice that black citizens go through that immigrants could sympathize with.

Jayes-Green proclaimed that “there are close to 600,000 black undocumented folks that experience a criminal justice system and the immigration system as one. For us, immigration is a racial justice issue. Immigration is a black issue in particular.”

Jayes-Green also took the time to address some the experience black citizens have with law enforcement officials.

He said, “Whenever I interact with law enforcement officials, it does not matter that my passport says República de Panamá, instead of the United States of America, it does not matter that I speak English with an accent when I’m nervous, and it does not matter that I identify as Afro-Latino. I’m still black.”

“Who’s worthy of being protected?” Jayes-Green exclaimed.

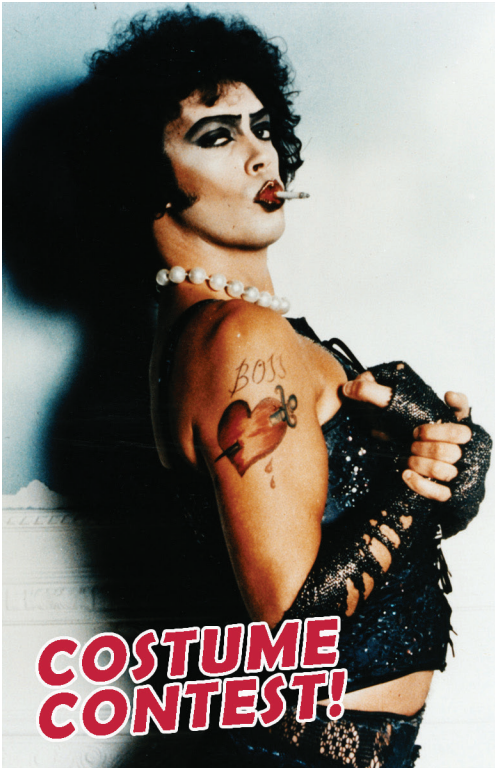
Jayes-Green iterated that at the end of the day, the issue of immigration is systemic, not individual.



Photo by Kyle Parks.



Photo by Kyle Parks.



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**Marya Topina
Staff Reporter**

On the most important day of his career so far, first-time author Jared Reck was still assigned to lunch duty, watching eighth grade boys compare armpit hair to see who was first to hit puberty.

Although it seemed like an ordinary Tuesday for his students, Reck was on cloud nine. His debut novel, “A Short History of the Girl Next Door,” was being released that day after four years of writing and more than 60 rejections from various agents and publishing houses.

“It was a wild feeling, like weightless almost,” Reck told the audience in McDaniel Lounge last month. “You get to the end and you feel like someone should be there taping this.”

On Sept. 26, Reck’s debut novel, “A Short History of the Girl Next Door,” was released in stores and online. The next day, Reck travelled back to McDaniel to thank members and staff of the Writing for Children and Young Adults graduate program, without whom he would not have found the ending for his story.

Reck spoke for over an hour to his captivated audience, detailing the writing and publishing process, as

Jared Reck: From Teacher to Novelist

well as his successes and frustrations along the way.

Mona Kerby, coordinator of the Writing for Children and Young Adults Certificate Program, said “that was the first time in my life that I had a speaker that I didn’t want to give him the time.... I didn’t want him to stop! We have just watched an incredible star and we are the very first audience to get this.”

In 2014, he took “Reading Like a Writer” with Lisa Graff and “Fiction: Writing Novels for Grades 3-12” with Daphne Benedis-Grab. According to Reck, both courses were “hugely rewarding” and helped him figure out how to outline the end of the story. Reck also recalled learning of a James Joyce quote that helped hone his writing style. Joyce’s phrase “in the particular, lies the universal” became a backbone in “A Short History of the Girl Next Door.”

“It’s this idea that there’s a really emotional deep connection in specific, ordinary, seemingly insignificant moments in our lives,” said Reck. In his novel, he took this a step further to also include objects that would evoke strong feelings from both his characters and his readers.

“I really like books that make you laugh, but I love the books that make me laugh but also just rip my guts out... I want to be left a sniveling mess,” said Reck. “So when I’m writing, that’s what I’m pushing for. If you read this, I really hope you laugh. But secretly, I’m kind of just hoping that you’ll be devastated. What I’m really going for, whether I’m trying to make my reader laugh or just trying to make my reader hurt, is emotional resonance.”

And Reck is no stranger to the range of human emotions, since the writing and publication process took him on a roller-coaster like never before.

“The entire experience was a whirlwind for both of us,” said Laura

Crockett, Reck’s agent.

“When I started teaching, I had zero plans to write a novel. I didn’t think it was physically possible,” said Reck. “I could never imagine myself writing enough words, filling up enough pages to even complete something like this.”

He spent over 12 years writing alongside his eighth-grade language arts students during classroom workshops. His students served as his first readers, providing feedback that helped him perfect his characters and plot along the way.

“They are willing to be completely honest with you. If you can make a room full of eighth graders laugh, then you know you’re doing okay,” said Reck.

Of course, the responsibilities of teaching full time took precedent. Summer was the only opportunity for uninterrupted writing. After several summers of writing, Reck “didn’t want to start another school year and stall out... [he] needed something to keep [him] going.”

Thus, he decided to take a writing course that would force him to write during the school year. He found and chose McDaniel because he had heard his colleagues speak highly of Mona Kerby, the Chair in Education and Graduate and Professional Studies at McDaniel. Additionally, his father had also studied at McDaniel.

Thanks to the courses he took, he finally finished writing during the summer of 2015. Then it was time for a drastic emotional shift as he entered the next stage of becoming an author: seeking an agent.

“You’re switching from being submerged in writing and creating into a world of just waiting and worrying,” said Reck.

He started querying in July of 2015. After seven long months full of waiting and rejection, he got an offer from agent Laura Crockett.

“Personally, that part was probably the most painful of all. I would start getting the first nibbles



*Kerby and Reck.
Photo by Marya Topina.*

of ‘yeah let me see the manuscript’ and then I would just go back to waiting. So, I remember just checking my email every 30 seconds,” said Reck.

After signing with Crockett, Reck was prepared to wait for “another eternity” before hearing from a publishing company. However, he got extremely lucky; within just two weeks of Crockett sending her pitch to various editors, they got an offer from Alfred A. Knopf Books.

The call came on April 1, 2016. Erin Clarke, executive editor at Knopf, offered Reck a six-figure deal. It was almost too good to be true.

“I literally laid on the dining room floor and just cried,” recalled Reck. “No one was home yet so it was okay, but I just sobbed into the floor.”

After several more whirlwind months spent fine-tuning the manuscript with Clarke, the book was finally ready in the fall of 2017.

Reck will continue to report to lunch duty as he works on publishing his second book and simultaneously writes his third. “A Short History of the Girl Next Door” is available for purchase both online and from most major book retailers, as well as in McDaniel College’s bookstore.



Photo by Marya Topina.

**Erin Pogue
Assistant Editor**

On Friday Oct. 6, the Asian Community Coalition hosted their second annual Chuseok, or Korean Thanksgiving.

This year the event fell on the third day of the Chuseok celebration. The event, which has been in planning for about a month, is a traditional Korean day of festivities to give thanks to one’s ancestors.

There was a wide array of Korean foods, such as kimchi rice,

ACC Hosts Chuseok Celebration

bulgogi (a beef dish), pajeon (scallion pancakes), white rice, vegetarian dumplings, and san jeok (crab skewers).

The ingredients for the dishes came from a few local stores, as well as H-Mart, a Korean specialty store. This allowed ACC to find ingredients not normally available in Westminster. The members of ACC made all the food. One member, Soyoung Jeon, is from South Korea, and had experience cooking Korean

foods.

This event came about through the club members’ interest in Korean culture and their desire to explore it. This is the club’s second event highlighting Korea after Seoul Food night last year.

Abigail Rose-Craver, a senior and the president of ACC, stated that her favorite part of the event was working together to cook all of the dishes. “It takes so many people to make the dishes, it’s really a team

effort and a great team building activity for the club to do.”

Rose-Craver also said that the dinner also gave members new recipes to use at home or for other ACC events. Many of them had never tried these dishes before, and discovered new favorites.

This dinner and other events from ACC are a great way to experience the food and festivals of other cultures. The club meets Fridays at 5 p.m. in Hill 104, and will continue to have fun events throughout the year.



Photo by Erin Pogue.



Photo by Erin Pogue.

McDaniel Theater Performs “A Streetcar Named Desire”

Laurel Pogue
Staff Reporter

The McDaniel College theater department has just finished its run of the Fall 2017 play, Tennessee Williams’ “A Streetcar Named Desire,” directed by Professor Gené Fouché. The show ran from Oct. 4-7, 2017, on the WMC Alumni Hall mainstage, and performances lasted about 2.5 hours, with a brief intermission between the second and third acts.

The cast was comprised of Brian Bowen, Torreke Evans, Andrew Frascella, Jonathan Halberstam, Kiah Hyman, Valerie Lamb, Ben Michaels, Mandy Quarantillo, Brandon Richards, Megan Smith, Alex Tolle, and Patsy Zetkulic. Many other McDaniel students were involved behind-the-scenes with props, sets, lights, sound, and more.

“Streetcar” follows the lives of Stanley (Bowen) and Stella Kowalski (Tolle), a recently-married couple living in New Orleans, when Stella’s sister Blanche Dubois (Smith), a former school teacher with a troubled past, comes to live with them. Her arrival turns the French Quarter upside down, and the tension between the characters rises more and more as the months pass.

Stanley and Blanche can’t stand one another, as he thinks she is rude and entitled, while she thinks he is boorish and uncouth. Stanley and Stella’s relationship begins to degrade, even as they expect the birth of their child, as their opinions of Blanche drives a wedge between them. Blanche also attempts to start a romance with Stanley’s friend Mitch, but their relationship ends when he

learns that she has been lying about her age and her past, and is haunted by her husband’s suicide.

By the final scene, Blanche has suffered a psychotic break due to both Stanley’s violence and the fact that Stella and Mitch have both chosen to try to let things go back to the way they were before she arrived, believing Stanley over her. Stella and Stanley have a hospital take Blanche away, and she, not knowing any longer what is happening, says the famous line, “I have always depended upon the kindness of strangers,” as the play comes to an end.

The small cast delivered a powerful performance, and the show was a success, with an even larger turnout than expected. “It was a great show to be a part of, everyone worked extremely hard, it turned out very

well,” says Ben Michaels, who played Blanche’s beau Harold “Mitch” Mitchell, “It was very rewarding to see how well the finished show went, with all the hard work we put into the show in such a short time.”

The theater department is currently rehearsing the musical “Carrie,” directed by Josh Selzer, which will be performed Nov. 15-18, 2017.



Photo by Laurel Pogue.

McDaniel Art & Art History Department Hosts Guest Lecture by Nikki Painter

Molly O’Hara
Contributor

On Oct. 5, 2017, McDaniel College Art Department welcomed visiting artist Nikki Painter to talk about her work.

During her lecture, as she described her artistic journey, although she quickly denounced a some of her work as terrible, oftentimes before she even showed the piece itself. As Nikki herself said, sometimes you have to make terrible stuff to make great stuff; to learn.”

Despite her self-deprecation, much of her work was quite actually quite pleasing. Painter loves to play with spatial relationships and wants

to reclaim the idea of ‘negative space’ as an actual choice in art rather than a burden of consequence. The multiple layers within her work creates a sense of busyness and causes the viewer to look everywhere, taking in the line-based work with its hard edges.

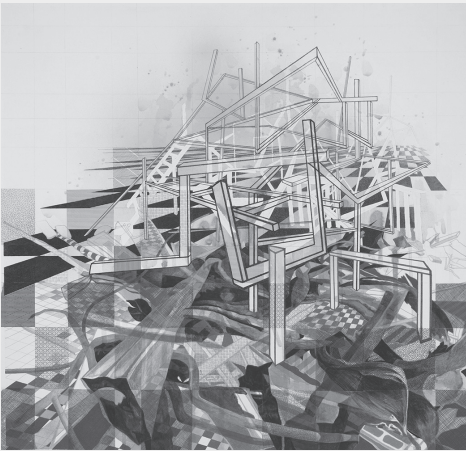
In the beginning, most of the layers in her works came from images she took from artists’ magazines. Bothered by this lack of originality, Painter stated, “something about the work doesn’t really feel like mine.”

Thus, she eventually began to look at spaces around her instead, such as construction sites, something in which she still finds inspiration today. However, Painter said that

she still felt like she was stealing. She questioned whether or not she should start making the destruction herself rather than take it from life around her.

Painter is on a quest for originality, something she can distinctly call her own. Despite heavy influences from artists Judy Fath and Jessica Stockpor, Nikki remains determined to create her own original work. Her lecture brought forth an interesting question to her listeners: Where exactly is the line between inspiration and originality?

Nikki’s work can be viewed at nikkipainter.com.



“Surge,” 2013, gouache, watercolor, ink, pencil, colored pencil, pen, collage, 26.5” x 27.5”, private collection. Image courtesy of McDaniel College.

Amy Latta ’02 Turns Hobby Blog into Sell-Out Hand Lettering Book (continued)

-continued from page 2-
think what Amy is doing is definitely relaxing. It can be really relaxing to sit down and create your writing again.”

At the time, many of the tutorials only made sense to artists.

And Latta saw her window of opportunity.

She made things simple, easy and doable and captured an audience that had been left out of the craze that primarily focused on those with existing artistic ability.

“A lot of people start people out with the brush technique which is really frustrating. So starting out with the faux calligraphy can be really helpful,” said Latta.

But she couldn’t have done it without her background at McDaniel.

“I was using my McDaniel education to break things down into their simplest forms,” said Latta. “I think that’s honestly how I got the book deal.”

“My education courses shaped the way that I teach. Whether it’s in

the classroom, or teaching ballroom dance classes, or the workshops in the book,” said Latta. “They shaped the way that I learned how to take material and make it accessible to everybody.”

Her friends have noticed her educational background emerge, too.

“She’s just become more passionate about teaching others to make beautiful things,” said Erin Kerst, Latta’s best friend and project assistant. “My favorite part was seeing Amy’s dream come true.”

The Summa Cum Laude graduate was a member of the Honors Program and was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa, all while surviving the college’s name change from Western Maryland to McDaniel.

Latta’s publisher has since put in a second order of Hand Lettering for Relaxation which hits the shelves at the end of the summer. The team has also begun work on another hand lettering book geared toward children.



Photo by Atticus Rice.

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Kyle Parks
Editor-in-Chief
Multimedia Editor

It was midterms week once again, and my dread for the approaching week would be beyond justified. During midterms, my daily “trips” to the library could have been better described as “camping out.” However, this midterms week my late nights in the library, with the sole exception of an extra two hours on Sunday, were cut quite short at 12 a.m., when everyone was made to leave.

So there I went, back to my room, where my progress on my essays, studying, and other assignment goes to die. My work this week ended up taking much longer than if I were in a more focused environment, i.e. the library. The busiest week of the semester thus became even more challenging.

Last semester, I frequented the library nearly every evening past midnight. During midterms, I recall the time hitting 4 or even 5 a.m. on multiple occasions.

I do remember my first year here, when the library operated under similar hours. This wasn’t an issue under a first-year workload, but as a highly involved senior this is greatly insufficient.

This inconvenience was capped off with the abrupt decision by Campus Safety to begin locking the library doors at 9 p.m., which I was reminded of when I desired to take a brief walk around campus to clear my head amid hours of work.

Adding to my frustration is the



Hoover Library late at night, closed. Photo by Kyle Parks.

fact that the school acknowledged an increased need during midterms, but provided only two extra hours. An email from Provost Julia Jasken told us, “...we do understand the importance of having this space available, should you need it, particularly during mid-term and finals week.”

Yes, we can get our student IDs approved to get into the library after 9 p.m. or into the Charlson Lab 24/7, but it seems many students neglect to do this, which Campus Safety should be aware of. One would assume McDaniel would be efficient enough to keep track of the numbers it assigns to its students and automatically register their IDs. An issue I have with my own ID is that the numbers once visible on the back

have rubbed off in these 3.5 years. I’ve been advised get a new ID, for a fee, if I’d like to be able to easily register it again.

Has the school forgotten that the library has become a touchy subject this semester?

Logically, those in charge would know that the curtailing of any privileges and services would trigger resentment, especially when all returning students are paying even more for tuition, room, and board.

Locking the library earlier for ‘safety reasons’ achieves its goal, if that is to keep students ‘safe’ from studying. Given the recent history of incidents on campus, any improvement to safety is overshadowed by inconvenience.

Two cases of vandalism, in Hill

Hall and Big Baker, respectively, were done while the buildings were empty, which the library rarely is. An incident involving a gunshot to a window came from residents of Westminster who were locked outside of Whiteford.

When the one electronically locked door in Hill Hall began inconveniencing students at 9 p.m., we found various ways around this. We let each other in, we propped the door open, and some nearly broke the door trying to open it. This doesn’t work and merely worsens student experience.

Students, new and old, indicated their interest: we need our library, “particularly during mid-term and finals week,” as it has been put.

Adding a few extra open hours to the library per week has helped, and somehow managed to tamper down student criticisms. However, it is foolish to think that this can be put to sleep when the extended hours are sporadic and only span until 2 a.m. the Sunday before midterms. The unforeseen decision to lock the library earlier has also led to a resurgence of complaints.

The central marketing ploy of the school, that it is “student-centered,” does not seem to be in effect here. When this statement, and/or the school, prompts resentment, fewer current students and alumni will want to be indirect advertisers, repeat customers, or donors; services the school can’t do without, either.

www.mcdanielfreepress.com

Gunnar Ward
Staff Reporter

To swipe left or to swipe right, that is the question social app users around the globe face as they search for matches with people they have never met.

Making connections through virtual platforms, most notably smartphone apps, is increasing in frequency. However how is the advent of these apps impacting student life on the Hill?

Statistically, the most used of these social apps are Tinder and Grindr. Tinder, a location-based social search app, launched in September 2015. According to research from March 2017, Tinder has been downloaded 100 million times, resulting in 26 million matches daily. A match on these social apps is a mutual interest by two users, indicated by a right swipe.

Grindr, originally started in 2009, is a similar platform for gay and bisexual men to connect. Although both Tinder and Grindr are labeled “social apps,” they are perceived to be primarily used for casual sex and or hookups.

Embers from the Tinder flame have ignited interest in many McDaniel College students who download the app and to see what all the hype is about.

These social apps have exploded into mainstream popularity on campus. Whether through word of mouth or online stories, most McDaniel students have heard of them, and many have downloaded the apps themselves.

“All the girls are like, ‘I’m hooking up with this guy on Tinder’ [so] maybe I could hook up with a girl on

Sex on the Hill: A New Age of Dating



Image by Dylan Brown.

Tinder,” A Rouzer resident said.

With many users at McDaniel College and the surrounding area, the chance of seeing another student on Tinder is likely. However, some users have seen people they would least expect to see on these apps.

“I found my RA on Tinder and super-liked her,” one freshman said.

Super-liking is a feature that grants the one giving a super like to be noticed immediately by the recipient. The recipient is informed of this super-like and has the option to swipe left and match with the sender or swipe right and disregard them.

Meeting people online is a double-edged sword, with both pros and cons. One upside is safety, as the original messages are online and not face-to-face.

“Meeting people online is a little easier for shyer people,” a freshman from Pennsylvania said, “If you meet someone online it’s easier to get into a conversation.”

The online platform seemed to be successful in this case: that same freshman from Pennsylvania met his girlfriend on Tinder.

“We hit it off right away when we met in person,” he said.

The other hand, meeting people online certainly has some red flags. Using the internet as a mask is a danger that has the potential to affect many people including a friend of a McDaniel student.

“I had a buddy back home who said he met the coolest girl ever, she was 19 and cute,” an ROTC cadet said, “When [he] met her in person she was 36 and asked if he wanted to buy crack.”

Tinder and other social apps have carved out a considerable presence at McDaniel.

College is an opportunity to create relationships. Experimenting with social apps could be the gateway to meeting someone new. Taking to these platforms is an opportunity for fun, romance, and more, so long as users are conscious of the risks that come with them.

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Uniting Special Olympics and McDaniel Athletes Through Soccer

Katie Clawson
Staff Reporter

Special Olympics has been an organization in Carroll County for more than 25 years. The purpose of their organization is to provide sporting opportunities for any individual who has an intellectual disability. The organization first only offered skiing and track and field. As the program's success has grown, so has the program itself.

Carroll County Special Olympics today offers 17 different sports throughout the year. In their fall season they have soccer, kayaking, flag football, powerlifting and ten-pin bowling. During their winter season they offer skiing, snowshoeing, three basketball teams and duckpin bowling. Their spring season consists of softball, cheer, swimming, track and field and bocce.

"We want to provide programs that help our athletes become better speakers and provide a stage for them to shine as athletes, as well as people," said Laurie Brewer, director of Carroll County Special Olympics.

This is what the Carroll County Special Olympics seven-on-seven adult soccer league is hoping to accomplish this fall when partnering with the McDaniel women's soccer team.

"A partnership with McDaniel women's soccer program offers our team an opportunity to practice alongside players who compete at a very high level, and to learn from an outstanding coach, Sandy Lagana," said Todd Reilly, coach of the Carroll County Special Olympics soccer team.

Reilly was surprised to find that Lagana, the head women's soccer coach at McDaniel, was excited at the idea of both teams working together.

"I know how hard Coach Sandy and the team work during their season, so when I reached out to Coach Sandy, I hoped only to get some advice and suggestions for how



McDaniel's Allie Titus high fives a Special Olympics of Carroll County team member during an Oct. 2 joint practice.

we could best prepare our team for the coming season" said Reilly.

Lagana referred to the relationship between the two teams as a "partnership", a term that Reilly agrees fits perfectly with the goals that both teams share.

Reilly's Special Olympics soccer team competes as a "unified team" in Carroll County. On his team, some of the players are "Unified Partners," fully-abled individuals who play alongside the Special Olympics athletes.

Reilly has goals for his team. First, he hopes that by the end of the season, all his players will learn to love soccer and will have fun learning individual and team skills. Another goal he has for this season is "that both the athletes and the unified partners (and anyone watching) will learn that they, the athletes and unified partners, can compete effectively alongside one another and contribute equally to the success of the team."

His team participates in games against other Maryland county teams, including Howard and Frederick Counties. They also compete in Qualifiers, which are regional tournaments organized by different county soccer programs. Reilly said

that their objective this season is to compete in the Special Olympics State Soccer Tournament that is held at the end of October.

The McDaniel women's soccer team and coaching staff has held a few joint practices this fall for the Carroll County Special Olympics Soccer team. They will continue to have joint practices each month.

Lagana had never been a part of something like this before, so when she was preparing for their practices, she said that her goal working with any unfamiliar group, regardless of age, is to make it a fun experience.

"Our focus is always on them [in the] hope that they learn to love the game," said Lagana.

She added that after their first practice together, she had never left a practice feeling so good.

Reilly said that after just having one practice with the McDaniel women's soccer team, the partnership had already far exceeded his expectations.

"Coach Sandy had put together a series of drills and activities that kept all of our athletes engaged and working for a full hour practice," Reilly said. "The energy provided by the McDaniel players was amazing. Our athletes responded to their

encouragement with a level of effort and enjoyment we just can't achieve at our practices."

Both the Carroll County Special Olympics and Frederick County Special Olympics soccer teams and their families joined the McDaniel team for their Sept. 23 match against Swarthmore on the Hill. The Special Olympics teams helped introduce both sides' starting 11, by giving high-fives to players as their names were called. Both teams stayed to support and cheer on the Green Terror from the sidelines during the hard-fought game.

During half time, the Special Olympics teams got to play against each other in front of a very large crowd.

"It was a very unique experience for my team, and I think that it was an amazing experience for all of us athletes, unified partners, coaches, and family members," said Reilly. "I was incredibly impressed with the lengths to which the McDaniel coaches and staff went to make this such a rewarding experience for our team, and to make everything run so smoothly all while playing and winning a highly competitive game against a tough opponent."

Special Olympics teams have worked with McDaniel College athletics before. The Carroll County Special Olympics Swim Team practices at McDaniel. In previous years, Carroll County Special Olympics Basketball qualifiers have been hosted by McDaniel College.

However, the partnership between McDaniel Women's Soccer and Carroll County Special Olympics is special. "The relationship between these teams is a unique one," said Melissa Anger, Regional Sports director for the Special Olympics Maryland.

Lagana hopes that the partnership between McDaniel Women's Soccer and Carroll County Special Olympics soccer team continues for the years to come.

The Ultimate Look: McDaniel's Ultimate Frisbee Team

John Berchtold
Staff Reporter

It's ten o'clock at night and members of McDaniel's ultimate team are down on the turf getting their game on with hard sprints, cuts, and passes both short and deep. Effort is everything in the sport of ultimate.

In recent years, McDaniel College's Green Terror Ultimate team has taken root and found its position as a student organization on campus.

While ultimate, also known as ultimate frisbee, is not as widely known as popular sports in the United States such as football and baseball, many would argue it has the potential to be.

A sport of fast-paced cuts, onslaughts of deep and short passes, with competitive play and great times, members of any ultimate team have a sort of compassion for the sport they play and show it through their effort and ambition.

You don't need to be the best of the best to go out and perform on the ultimate team. Members of McDaniel's team enjoy the time for fun, friends, competition and exercise.

"I felt welcomed pretty quickly," said first-year student Tyler Ahern.



Team member Tate Myers jumps to secure the disc during a McDaniel Ultimate practice. Photo by Atticus Rice.

"Everybody's really cool. Ultimate Frisbee kicks ass!"

As an organization, the ultimate team has been around since 2006, but only in recent years has the organization been documented. Within the last two years, five members of the organization have taken the role of president.

"We've grown immensely," said current president Atticus Rice. "When I joined the team as a first-year we were fairly sizable, but almost all seniors. During my sophomore year and on, we grew in numbers and have had a fairly consistent team

with even representation across the classes."

Rice is hopeful for McDaniel's ultimate team and wants to get more people involved.

Due to a lack of funding, however, the team doesn't have an adequate ability to travel and play other teams. They are still able to make do in the form of carpooling to play other colleges.

It is Rice's hope that the organization one day holds events here at McDaniel, allowing the organization to reach out to other college teams, further broadening

their horizon.

Rice also mentioned the hope for opening an after-school program with the Boys and Girl's Club or a local middle school, giving the members of the organization an opportunity to do a bit of community outreach.

Because the organization isn't a sanctioned college sport, there aren't any requirements to be a member, giving the students the ability to come and go as they please. That said, many students have found their niche in McDaniel's Frisbee team.

"It's something that I enjoy," said senior Joseph Ferguson who has been playing for four years. "It helps me de-stress. I enjoy playing it and I enjoy being around these people."

Ferguson is hopeful that the organization grows in years to come and produces better turnouts at practices.

Green Terror Ultimate holds practice Monday and Thursday 9:30 p.m to 11 p.m. at Gill Stadium.

Editor's note: Atticus Rice is both on the editorial staff of this paper and the Executive Board of Green Terror Ultimate. No favoritism was given to this article in its production or distribution.

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Course Evaluations Changing Course

Marya Topina
Staff Reporter

For any upperclassman, the standard routine of finals week is all too familiar: you ingest way too much caffeine, stay up late in the library each night to cram for exams, breathe a deep sigh of relief after each test, and skip past the course evaluation pop-up to anxiously take a look at study materials on Blackboard for your next exam.

However, that will no longer be the case as fall 2017 exams approach. After experimenting with several options over the past year and evaluating students' response rates, the college is now implementing mandatory course evaluations.

"Our goal at McDaniel is to provide a high-quality education to our students. In order to do this, we need to hear from all of our students regarding their experiences in their courses," said Wendy Morris, associate dean of faculty development and associate professor of psychology.

"Based on student feedback, faculty can improve their courses and do the best job possible for our students, [and the school can] evaluate professor performance, which is important when making decisions



Photo by Marya Topina.

about promotion and tenure," Morris added.

Over the past few semesters, Morris collaborated with psychology major Max Seigel as part of a larger independent study about statistics. Together, they tested whether there were any important differences between the responses provided in spring 2017 when the EvaluationKIT program showed a non-dismissible pop-up during the second week of the evaluation period, compared to

the responses provided in fall 2016 (when the Blackboard pop-up was always dismissible).

They found that the average numerical ratings students gave their professors did not differ between the two semesters. In addition to the greatly improved response rates, the non-dismissible pop-up allowed staff to hear more about the experiences of students with lower GPAs. These students were much less likely to complete their evaluations when the

pop-up could be dismissed during fall 2016 and during spring 2016 when there weren't any pop-ups at all.

The college has already gone through several changes in evaluation practices. It switched to online course evaluations in undergraduate courses in the fall of 2015, which dropped the response rate down to 46 percent. Paper evaluations prior to that showed around a 95 percent participation rate because they occurred in class.

"The low response rate was a serious concern because it is hard for faculty to improve their courses if less than half of their students provide feedback about the course," Morris added.

The following semester, during the spring of 2016, faculty were encouraged to try to increase their response rates by bringing their students to a computer lab during class time. They also asked students to complete evaluations in class on their phones, offered rewards if a certain response rate was achieved in the class, and sent reminders to their students to complete the evaluations.

-continued on page 3-

Kaylan Hutchison
Staff Reporter

Across from the collection of sports snacks, beyond the racks of leggings and t-shirts, and next to the display of running shoes under street signs for "Performance Drive" and "Stability Street" hangs a chalkboard labeled "Run Moore Goals." This special corner dons visitors' goals such as "break school record for high jump," "heal," "beat brother-in-law in Disney 5K to win the respect of my spouse" and "to fly."

Since 2014, Steve Moore has served the running community by opening up Run Moore, a running gear store on Westminster's Liberty St. Moore's use of gait analysis — Run a process in which customers are filmed while in motion to determine what shoes will fit them best — caters to runners in a personal and in-depth way, taking the guessing game out of training, footwear and proper preparation for any stage of the running process. Run Moore also serves as a hub for information and involvement in the running community.

"The running scene is pretty great at McDaniel," said student-athlete Sydney Gonsalves, whose track and field coach recommended she visit Run Moore early last year. "We have a strong network, and Run Moore supports and sponsors a lot of community events to build that network."

"It's not always about buying something," said Moore, 37, a daily runner who hits six feet tall. "We want you running for the long-term. We love geeking out on running. I like to think having us here, as an ally, as a guide, as a resource — we are hopefully the pulse of the running

Steve Moore: in It for the Long Run



Steve Moore. Photo by Kaylan Hutchison.

community."

Running has always been a passion for Moore. "I was always that kid who loved to run," Moore said. When he was just 6 years old, Moore had a neighbor who would take him on mile runs. Though Moore started off back-of-the-pack slow, running stuck with him as something he wanted to do for the rest of his life.

As a kid who read Runner's World magazine cover to cover to a high school coach at Westfield High School in Chantilly, Virginia, Moore had always been interested in form and running mechanics. "All these years, I had been learning by reading, practicing, and doing," Moore said. "I had been taking in all of this information and looking for an avenue to use it."

Before Run Moore, Moore was in the food and beverage industry in outside sales. He and his wife had talked for years about opening up a

restaurant, but his passion stayed in running.

"I always wanted to be my own boss and run my own business," Moore said. "I was working in restaurants, and all I thought about was running."

Within the first week of his second son being born, he hatched the idea of a running shop. A friend of his suggested visiting the Carroll Business Pathway, a resource for people in the Carroll County community to pitch business ideas. Within three weeks, he had pitched the idea and had gotten feedback on the very first business steps.

"This was my first big, intimidating sit-down with somebody," Moore said. "I knew if I couldn't convince this guy, whose job is to open up businesses, that this is going to be feasible, the idea will die right here."

Moore's son was born in

February. By April, he was looking for retail spots.

In August, Run Moore opened.

During the first year, Moore still worked a full-time job and returned to Run Moore on evenings and weekends. His balance relied heavily on planning and adaptability. "Say yes to everything and find a way to make it work," Moore shared.

The initial community feedback allowed Run Moore grow and strengthen, and currently, there are about a dozen employees on the Run Moore crew. Because of Run Moore's success, Moore now has time to devote to other projects.

Peter Christiansen, an avid runner on Moore's support team, described being involved in multiple projects as "the Steve thing."

Moore also has a radio show on WTTR every Saturday at 7 a.m., a newsletter disseminated every month, a running blog, a video blog and two new titles: professor of an upcoming trail running class at Carroll Community College in the spring and president of an upcoming indoor track at the Shipley Arena in Westminster.

"We've been told that if an indoor track does not get built in two years, they're cancelling indoor track at the high school level for the entire county," Moore said. "I've taken it as a personal responsibility. We now have our nonprofit status and are ready to start fundraising."

Steve Moore is also involved in various running events. Last year, Moore was on the management side of 39 races.

The first 5K he created, Bolt for
-continued on page 4-

Chris Anthony
Staff Reporter

Over sixty years ago, Don Mc-
Clanen founded the Fellowship of
Christian Athletes (FCA). The orga-
nization’s vision statement, “Unite
your two passions, faith and athletics,
to impact the world for Jesus Christ,”
drives the FCA today.

Since its beginning, the Fellow-
ship of Christian Athletes (FCA) has
grown tremendously. Spanning sixty
countries with over 17,000 certified
“huddles,” which are team studies
focused around living by biblical
values, and more than 100,000 camp
attendees, this organization is one of
the largest of its kind.

Five years ago, three students who
attended the Crossroads 140 Church
a few miles from McDaniel decided
to bring FCA to McDaniel. Britton
Hastings ’17 and Andrew Roberts ’16
contacted Joe Laughlin, an FCA staff
member in the area, to see if he was
interested in setting up an organiza-
tion on campus.

Since then, Joe Laughlin has been
running McDaniel’s branch of FCA.
This April, McDaniel officially recog-
nized FCA as a student organization,
giving it the same privileges as other
clubs on campus.

“At each meeting we have around
40-45 members present,” says Mc-
Daniel senior Kyle Savick, who
serves as the student president of
McDaniel’s FCA. “Currently, we are

McDaniel’s Fellowship of Christian Athletes



FCA’s logo on the Hill at McDaniel’s homecoming football game.
Photo courtesy of Kyle Savick.

mostly made up of sophomores and
juniors; I think it has something to
do with freshmen still learning how
to balance faith and academics and
seniors not having the time they did
in years prior.”

FCA’s name implies a target audi-
ence of student athletes, but despite
this misconceived notion, not all
FCA members are athletes.

“I first got involved with FCA
my sophomore year of college,” says
junior Abby Grahm. “I played volley-
ball my freshman year and stopped
the summer going into sophomore
year. Even after I stopped playing a
sport, FCA was so accepting of me.”

Savick notes that while a majority
of FCA members at McDaniel play
sports, not all are student athletes.
“Our organization implements an
open-door policy, where we encour-
age anyone and everyone to come.”

Students involved in FCA also
participate in community service. Just
last week, FCA held a fundraiser for
Operation Christmas Child, a pro-
gram that collects money and gifts
for children in developing nations.

Along with fundraising, mem-
bers take part in faith-based youth
organizations in their areas. One of
the most popular is Fields of Faith.
Fields of Faith is a student-run event

generally held on an athletic field,
where students gather to invite, pray
with, share with and challenge their
peers to read the Bible.

“FCA has been a major part of
my experience at McDaniel,” says
junior Alicia Wagner. “When I came
to school my freshman year, I would
never have anticipated the friend-
ships and growth I’ve made in my
faith so far. FCA has become one big
family to me.” Wagner serves as the
Vice President of FCA at McDaniel.

Some members work as interns
with or become staff members of
FCA and start their own branches at
other schools.

“You have the benefit of devel-
oping and strengthening relationships
with people around you who have
the same interests, ultimately devel-
oping a family environment,” says
Savick.

“All we ask is that students come
with an open mind and experience
it for themselves,” says Savick. “It’s
one of those ‘don’t knock it till you
try it’ type of situations. Majority of
the time, students will get something
out of it, but what that is depends on
what you put into it.”

Students who are interested can
find information about McDaniel’s
FCA chapter on Instagram, Twitter,
or Facebook. Weekly meetings are
Wednesdays at 9 p.m. in the VIP box
above the Gill Stadium.

Michael Cozzi
Staff Reporter

As Congressional Republicans
plan to overhaul the tax code,
President Trump plans to meet with
several GOP Senators to discuss the
plan.

The lunch will be President
Trump’s first appearance at a regular
GOP lunch meeting at Capitol Hill.
There is a potential for tension,
however, as the President will be
sitting down with senators who have
criticized the Trump administration,
such as Senator Bob Corker of
Tennessee and Senator John McCain
of Arizona.

President Trump will also discuss
how to gain votes for the tax code
overhaul with majority leader Mitch
McConnell. However, Trump’s
comments continue to frustrate
members of Congress.

Senator Corker of Tennessee,
as well as other Republicans in the
Senate, are hopeful that Trump will
be willing to work with them on
successfully implementing the tax
code, so they will be prepared for
the 2018 mid-terms. John Thune of
South Dakota added, “I think that to
the degree the president delivers that
message it will be very well received
by Republican senators.”

President Trump has also
disagreed with Republican Senators

over the popular 401K retirement
programs. While GOP Senators
want to impose cuts on the program,
President Trump wants to preserve
the program because they primarily
benefit the middle class. According
to Reuters, Trump strongly believes
in defending the popular program.
On Twitter, Trump wrote, “This
has always been a great and popular
middle class tax break that works,
and it stays!”

Several Democrats are opposed
to the tax reform bill. This is because
the new tax code would include
a cut in top marginal tax rates of
individuals as well as corporations.
There would be a corporate income
tax rate cut from 35 percent to 20
percent, while the income tax rates
would be simplified to three brackets
of 12 percent, 25 percent, and 35
percent.

New York Senator Chuck
Schumer is one of those opposed
to this tax reform, asserting that the
bill is a massive tax cut for the rich.
According to USA Today reporters
Nicole Gaudiano and Eliza Collins,
Senator Schumer stated “Each of
these proposals would result in a
massive windfall for the wealthiest
Americans and provide almost no
relief to middle-class taxpayers who
need it most.”

The tax reform bill would also

include a repeal of the estate tax,
and would increase the standard
deduction for middle class taxpayers.
According to Vermont Senator

Bernie Sanders, the tax reform
bill is “morally repugnant and bad
economic policy.”

Trump to Work with GOP Senators to Pass Tax Plan



Photo courtesy of Gage Skidmore.



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New Professor of Military Science Aims to Further Develop Program

Stefan Specian
Managing Editor
Commentary Editor

This year, McDaniel College ROTC welcomed a new Professor of Military Science, Lieutenant Colonel Donyeill “Don” Mozer. Mozer, an active duty service member of 17 years, was selected to serve with the Green Terror Brigade, and began working with the group this semester.

Mozer states that one of his major goals will be to continue the expansion and improvement of the ROTC program on campus, through a mix of facility improvements and creating new opportunities for cadets to interact with alumni and other members of the military.

“We are really excited about army ROTC at McDaniel,” said Mozer, “we’re really trying to bring it into the 21st century. The four things that we teach are problem solving, critical thinking, management skills, and cultural awareness, so, at this point, we’re really looking at the hundredth anniversary [of McDaniel ROTC] in

2019 and trying to ensure we have all the necessary resources to make sure we can create cadets that have all those skills.”

He noted that some major projects in the works for McDaniel ROTC included facility updates that would help improve the training for cadets, including the possible development of a land navigation course at Singleton-Matthews Farm, the creation of an obstacle course for cadet use, and the creation of a firing range somewhere near campus to help cadets do marksmanship training.

He also hopes to continue to develop and grow the McDaniel ROTC alumni association, so that graduates of the program can give back.

Mozer also stated that he hoped to continue to design the best curriculum possible for the cadets, with trained instructors capable of teaching them the skills needed.

“We’re trying to ensure that the instructors we bring here have all

the right training, and have at least a master’s degree,” said Mozer, “that’s one thing that we require.”

Beyond improvements to the facilities and faculty, Mozer also hopes that through his connections he can introduce cadets to a variety of unique experiences that will both educate and give them an idea of the different paths their involvement in ROTC could lead them down in the future.

Included in these experiences are educational trips, such as the recent staff ride at the Gettysburg battlefield, and visits to various government organizations that might employ cadets after graduation, including tours of the Pentagon and the State Department.

“We’re trying to make sure we expose the McDaniel College cadets to all the different facets of government and different ways they can serve their country even after they get out, whether they do twenty years in the military, or they just do their commitment of four years,”



Photo courtesy of Don Mozer.
said Mozer.

He recommended that anyone who was interested in ROTC should reach out to him or to his recruiting officer.

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Course Evaluations Changing Course (continued)

-continued from page 1-
Despite all of these efforts, the response rate in spring of 2016 increased by only a single percentage point.

A professor stationed in Lewis Hall, who wished to remain anonymous, recalled the change from paper to online evaluations:

“I used to give 10 extra points to be in class on the last day and I would give course evaluations sheets then, so I would be almost guaranteed to have everybody fill one out,” she said. “So I used to get really good participation, but the first time it was online, I only got like 30 percent of the people and that’s awful. And it wasn’t like I wasn’t

reminding people in class to go do the course evaluations. They just refused.”

Then, during the fall of 2016, when the college started reminding students to complete their course evaluations via a dismissible pop-up every time students logged into Blackboard, response rates were brought up to 60 percent.

Finally, during the spring of 2017, a two-week evaluation period was set up so that students would see a dismissible reminder during the first week and a non-dismissible pop-up during the second week. They also offered an incentive of a \$100 lottery prize to students

who completed all of their course evaluations.

But not everyone was pleased with the incentives. A female junior said that the non-dismissible pop-up is not fair “because you need study materials on Blackboard. It’s not like fun stuff that they’re locking out, it’s necessary stuff that affects our performance on finals and in the class overall.”

At the end of the two-week period, response rates increased to 82 percent with a median response rate of 84.6 percent. Many courses had response rates above 90 percent.

Given all this evidence, Morris concluded that the mandatory

evaluation practice should be continued beyond the pilot phase.

Despite the benefits to the school and the professors, some students are still displeased. A male senior who wished to remain anonymous said he was unhappy with the change.

“It’s such a burden on us to have them lock our accounts out. If we have something to do, and we don’t realize ‘Hey, it’s time to submit it,’ we could totally miss out on opportunities of grading and things like that,” he said. “They need to do it way in advance. I think they should have it right now because by week ten you have an understanding of what the course is about and how the teacher acts.”

Vanessa Flora-Nakoski Becomes New Writing Center Director

Spenser Secrest
Assistant Editor

McDaniel’s Writing Center has a new director this semester.

With Professor Josh Ambrose’s reassignment as executive director of the Center for Experience and Opportunity, Vanessa Flora-Nakoski has recently been hired to serve as the new director of McDaniel’s Writing Center.

Flora-Nakoski also teaches several courses in the English department, and is currently teaching College Composition and Intro to College Writing.

Before her current position, Flora-Nakoski worked as an instructional associate and was part of the English faculty at Montgomery College. She has also held similar roles at Howard Community College, Stevenson University, University of Maryland University College, and the University of Iowa.

Flora-Nakoski was attracted to McDaniel for both professional and personal reasons. She values the liberal arts college’s emphasis on writing, as it is an important interdisciplinary skill. Professor Ambrose’s reputation within the field also brought McDaniel to her attention. Flora-Nakoski has family connections in Carroll County as well.

Flora-Nakoski’s transition to McDaniel has gone smoothly. She notes that she has made good connections here and has enjoyed getting to know all of the Writing Center tutors.



Vanessa Flora-Nakoski. Photo by Tyler Van Dyke.

Professor Ambrose has been a significant help to Flora-Nakoski’s during her transition. Flora-Nakoski says both Professor Ambrose, as well as Professor Schafer, who served as the interim director of the Writing Center in the spring of 2017, prepared a guide about the Writing Center for her. She has also maintained regular correspondence with Ambrose, who has been helpful in giving Flora-Nakoski insight into the Writing Center and its role at McDaniel.

Flora-Nakoski has made some minor changes to the Writing Center.

The Writing Center’s hours, for instance, are now shorter — the center now closes at 8 p.m. instead of 10. Additionally, appointments are now available in half-hour and full-hour slot, rather than the exclusively hour-long appointments of past semesters. Flora-Nakoski, however, says these changes may not be permanent, and that they depend on how McDaniel’s student body receives them.

Flora-Nakoski has significant plans for the Writing Center. She is looking forward to the Writing Center’s tutor training course, which she will be teaching for the first time at

McDaniel in the spring. Flora-Nakoski will be teaching Intro to College Writing in the spring as well. She is also excited about hosting writing workshops in the spring, which she hopes will be attended by many students.

The Writing Center is also continuing to plan events that are open to the McDaniel community. Flora-Nakoski recalls that earlier this semester, the Writing Center “partnered with the CEO to host resume workshops in early September in preparation for the Internship Fair.”

This semester, however, Flora-Nakoski says the Writing Center will host “a series of workshops for National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo).” The workshops are held each Friday evening at 8 p.m. in Hill Hall’s computer lab, room 101.

She notes that the workshops were “developed by one of our writing tutors who has published novels of her own along with the support of another writing tutor who is in the process of finishing a novel.”

Flora-Nakoski says the Writing Center is currently “in the process of revamping [its] website and social media” in hopes of improving outreach at McDaniel. She encourages students to “keep an eye out for a new look rolling out over Spring through next Fall.”

Students are welcome to make an appointment at the Writing Center and to meet Flora-Nakoski in the Writing Center or her office.

Brandon Vance
Staff Reporter

Farm to Table: Baugher's Restaurant

Over a century ago in 1904, Daniel Baugher founded the Baugher family orchard. Then, his family depended on the farm as their main source of food and income. Over the next decades, the farm would survive through the Great Depression and World War II — not only as the Baughers' source of food, but for many of the families close by as well.

Although these times were trying for the family and their farm, it was times like these that established Baugher's as the place to go.

"Our orchard had started in the early 1900s, as many farms had a few fruit trees to help feed their families," said Dottie Dunn, one of several managers at Baugher's.

"During the Depression years, many attempts at making some money were tried, along with growing and selling fresh fruit. So as sales and interest expanded, so did the orchard and farm, and it has become the size it is today, out of demand and profitability."

What started out as a 60-acre piece of land has been transformed into a 600-acre orchard, making it the second largest in Maryland.

"The restaurant was opened in January 1948, when customers at the fruit stand started asking for sandwiches and soup," said Dunn.

Baugher's Restaurant is still a favorite for the Westminster community — not only for their renowned breakfast, but for lunch and dinner, too. Some fan favorites include their "Hungry Appleman Breakfast," which comes with a generous serving of hotcakes and eggs, and their classic Baugher Burger.

"I love going to Baugher's because I trust their products, I love sup-



Photo by Brandon Vance.

porting their business and I believe they have the best quality items for the best prices," said Lauren Hunt, a shopper from Westminster. "Their farm has been around for as long as I can remember, and I have yet to be disappointed."

Customers from Carroll County and beyond come to buy fruits, vegetables, honey, jelly and more. The Baugher name has become so well-known in Carroll County thanks to their reputation for top-notch customer service and products.

"Baugher's has always been a great place to not only eat, but shop for produce as well," said Gary Rowan, a regular Baugher's shopper. "Many times, you can also find seasonal items such as pumpkins and Christmas trees."

Over the years, Baugher's has continued to grow, and its reputation has flourished. The customers have helped it prosper in more ways than one: in addition to simply buying produce, Baugher's allows customers to experience the farm first-hand.

"The 'Pick Your Own Fruit' at

our orchard began in the 1970s, from consumers wanting to experience 'the farm' and get the freshest possible fruit," Dunn said. "It has become the primary part of agritourism on our farm."

Baugher's is now a dynasty in Maryland's farming industry. Years of hard work have paid off for the Baugher family, and it looks like they will pay off for many more.

Steve Moore: in It for the Long Run (continued)

-continued from page 1- Bolts, in Littlestown, Pennsylvania, was sparked by a simple question from his mother-in-law: "Hey, you run. Can you put on a 5K?"

Bolts for Bolts now raises a few hundred dollars annually for the Littlestown Football Boosters Club. "That's what I'm most proud of," said Moore. "It's a pretty cool feeling to see people wearing your race shirt every year."

While Moore's passion lies in running, he still faces the ebbs and flows of honing his craft. "Sometimes it feels like work. A lot of times it feels like work. We get sore. We get blisters. We still have days where the last thing we want to do is run," Moore said. "But I know I will feel great when I'm doing it. I think I'll always be a runner. I hope so, anyways."

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Pumpkins for sale at Baugher's Orchard. Photo by Grace Hounson.

Laura DiCarlo
Contributor

Nothing kicks off the holiday season better than driving around seeing red, green, and blue lights. This year, to celebrate the holiday season McDaniel will be hosting its first Holiday Light Show.

After enjoying Westminster's Miracle on Main Street parade, the community has been welcomed to visit McDaniel's new light display. The parade will be held on Nov. 25, with the Holiday Light Show following after.

This show will be available to the public and the campus Thursday through Sunday nights from Nov. 25 up until Dec. 31. There is no cost to attend the shows.

Both students and community members are encouraged to check out the show. The lights will flash to holiday music for 12-14 minutes. All the viewers need to do in order to hear the music is to tune their

McDaniel to host Holiday Light Show

radios to a certain frequency. The information about which station the music will be played on is yet to be determined.

During the event, McDaniel College's Student Alumni Council will be hosting an event that will allow students to watch the light show and listen to the music from Hoover Library.

The event will be held in the Gill Stadium. Cars are able to drive into the stadium lot from the Main Street entrance, and will be able to park or circle around the bowl. Although stadium seating will be closed from Nov. 15 until the end of the light show, the field will still be available for student athletes.

In support of this event, the Light Show is being sponsored by Fox 45 News, CoolProgeny, and Carroll Hospital. McDaniel alumni have also donated about two-thirds of the

cost for the event.

McDaniel Holiday Light Show is a continued celebration of McDaniel's 150's anniversary. Throughout this celebration, faculty, staff, and students have made a significant effort to reach out to the surrounding community.

Christina Steinbrenner, Executive Director of Advancement Engagement at McDaniel, was appointed the Chair of the 150 Years Planning Committee. This celebration has been in the making for the past two years. "It was really important to me that we do something really big for the community," she said. "We've been here for 150 years; we've been an integral part of Westminster. Our history is tied in with Westminster's history."

In fulfillment of this desire, McDaniel's involvement in the community has been more than present this

year. The Fall Fest Parade featured both students and staff from the McDaniel family, including President Casey and his wife. The upcoming light show is also a way for McDaniel to get closer with the community. "The idea that I have is to really bring the community to campus," said Christina Steinbrenner.

Don Hobart, an alumnus from the college, played a large role in creating the McDaniel Arch float for the parades. "If the beginning this year, we can establish the light show as a holiday tradition I believe it will not only provide an activity for McDaniel students, but also attract the community to the Hill and foster closer ties with Carroll County," he said.

Both McDaniel students and the Carroll County community are encouraged to come out and view the Holiday Light Show together in order to enjoy the holiday spirit.

Dangersauce Photos (Oct. 21 & Oct. 27)



Mable Buchanan being lifted up by fellow Dangersauce members on Oct. 21.

Photo by Kyle Parks.



Two Dangersauce alumni acting out a scene on Oct. 21.

Photo by Kyle Parks.



Dangersauce members Ben Kahn, Darby Bortz, and Jehan Silva during a skit on Oct. 27.

Photo by Kyle Parks.

From the Archives: Buildings of McDaniel’s Past and Present

Hannah Krauss News Editor

Over the years, McDaniel College has seen many changes with the different buildings on campus, with some buildings changing the purpose for which they were being used and various controversies about how the school decided to structure housing. McDaniel’s different newspapers over the years have chronicled the various alterations and plans and how the McDaniel community responded to their changing campus.

Thompson Infirmary to close

After a long series of discussions it was decided by the administration to close the Thompson Infirmary. The costs for running the building proved unnecessary because of the inefficiency of the system. Dean Higbee said, "New health services will be set up most likely in Gill Gym second floor." The problems of the existing system are many. The size of the infirmary is simply not needed. There are two large rooms full of beds that are not used. Many years ago they were used for overnight patients when contagious diseases were common. Another wasteful aspect is employing two nurses, working on four shifts 5 days a week and alternating with on call duty at night. Instead one nurse will be working an eight hour shift with no on call duty. The doctor will now be contacted directly from the area coordinator. This will cut out the wasteful step of the nurse as a go between. It will be a convenient change because one of the nurses is retiring after this year, also providing that the remaining nurse wants to work an eight hour shift. All the functions of W.M.C.'s health service will remain, in fact, they will now take a proactive role. "CPR and nutrition training are hoped to be added to the nurses job description," said Dean Higbee. Birth control may also be included. The fate of the Thompson building is not known but what is known is that the health services will remain and be enhanced, only the location will change.

April 12, 1984, “Thompson Infirmary to close.”

At one time, Thompson was used as an infirmary for students. According to this article, it had been used in the past to care for students overnight when contagious illnesses were more common on campus, instead of sending them to the hospital, with a nurse on call duty during the nights. In 1984 they found this infirmary no longer necessary, with staff speculating that health services would be moved to the second floor of Gill Gym. Today, Thompson houses payroll and other necessary offices for the college.

December 8, 1967, “Arguments Continue Concerning Housing.”

This article does not state specifically which dorms are being built or where they are located, but some controversy in 1967 concerning the new men’s and women’s dorms was recorded in The Gold Bug. A petition was circulating during that time specifically concerning the new women’s dorm, taking issue with how the school intended to arrange the students by year in the building. The Dean of Men James Robinson is quoted in the article as saying that “the segregation between the Greeks and the independents was so great that ‘it couldn’t be worse.’” This reflects on the great divide between Greek and independent housing that existed back in the sixties, which is less of a problem today at McDaniel.

Arguments Continue Concerning Housing

A petition currently being circulated in the women’s dormitories in Western Maryland College, concludes, “We ask only that these arguments be considered before the administration makes its final decision concerning apportionment of the new girl’s dorm.” Although the petition concerns apportionment in the new women’s dormitory which is scheduled to be completed by next fall, several of its arguments can be applied to the essentially similar apportionment policy for the new men’s dormitory scheduled for completion at the same time. In an interview late last week, Dean of Men James Robinson considered those arguments which concern the policy for housing in the new men’s dormitory. He confirmed that the housing in the new dormitory will be restricted to freshmen, independents and selected upperclassmen in the Freshman Advisory Council. Dean Robinson stated that this policy was a reflection of the opinion of the student body, including the Inter-Fraternity Council, two years ago. He admitted that if student opinion on this matter has changed since then, perhaps discussion should be reopened. He is willing to listen to the opinions of the present student body and to accommodate their wishes as well as possible. One of the arguments presented in the petition states that, “This action would make the independents a separate group something along the lines of a (fraternity).” Dean Robinson stressed that the segregation between the Greeks and the independents was now so great that “it couldn’t be worse.” The petition’s claim that “That action would segregate freshmen (men) from the dorm contact with upperclass (fraternity) members who could be instrumental in introducing them to campus life,” was also considered by Dean Robinson in regard to its bearing on the housing of college men. He stated that the fraternity men are not doing this now, and that they do not appear willing to leave their roommates and room with freshman. He stated that he will review the FAC applications to ascertain that no one fraternity is disproportionately represented on that body. This action would refute the claim of the petition that the housing policy “might preempt action by a fraternity to monopolize the FAC as a way of rushing frosh.”

Baker Chapel’s History Sketched By Gold Bug Research Reporter

The most picturesque and attractive building on our campus, Baker Chapel, has seen 46 years of college history, including the weddings of some graduates. The chapel seats 250 people, and was used to accommodate the entire student body for Sunday evening chapel, investiture services, Christmas services, and other occasions. A Sunday School was organized in 1891 with Dr. McDaniel as superintendent, and was attended by almost all of the students. The impressiveness of services in the chapel is especially remembered by those who were students then. As the student body grew too large for the building, the regular services were held in Alumni Hall, which previously had been used for entertainment only. Necessarily, these services lost a little of their inspiration in this transfer. At present the chapel is used by the Sunday School, now in the hands of the students, and frequently for S. C. A. meetings. The chapel was built by William C. Baker, after his son, who had been a student of the college, recovered from an operation. The dedication inscription on the tablet near the pulpit reads, “To the glory of God in grateful recognition of the mercy that spared the life of a beloved son this chapel was erected.” The organ was given by Mrs. Oliver Pearre. When first built, the chapel had plain windows with venetian blinds, and later the beautiful stained glass windows were given by Mr. Daniel Baker, brother of the founder. The painting above the pulpit is an excellent reproduction of the famous “Christ and the Rich Young Ruler,” and was done by Miss Fannie Thomson. Although the chapel is not in constant use, its very presence adds much to the campus. This verse from the poem taken from the college bulletin describes it as: “A little graystone chapel, ivyclad, Watching beside a way of hurrying feet; Brooding in silence on its memories Drawn from the years—happy, and sad, and sweet! !” On The Hill . . . (Cont. from page 2, col. 3) you may win a copy of the song of the week, “I’ll Never Set the World on Fire.” CONDENSED CARICATURES: Tom Arthur—chemical action; Jean Eckard—smiling inquisitiveness; Martha Kratz—bubbling beauty; Charles Chlad—nutty nonchalance; Joe College—? ? ? AFTERTHOUGHT: During the usual oscillation from freezing to

Nov. 27, 1941, “Baker Chapel’s History Sketched by Gold Bug Research Reporter.”

This article takes a look at one of the older buildings on campus, Little Baker Chapel. At the time this was written, Big Baker had not been built yet; that structure was dedicated in 1958. The author describes the appearance of the chapel as well as how it was used by the campus for Sunday school organized in 1891, which most of the students attended until the student body grew too large and services were moved to Alumni Hall next door. The article ends with a short poem,

“A little gray stone chapel, ivyclad, Watching beside a way of hurrying feet; Brooding in silence on its memories Drawn from the years—happy, and sad, and sweet! !”

April 12, 1984, “Administrative Council housing decision.”

This article from 1984 describes the rearranging and renovations to various dorms on campus. During this time, Daniel MacLea Hall (DMC) and Blanche Ward Hall were designated as male only and female only dorms respectively, while Whitford Hall, Rouzer Hall, McDaniel Hall, and Albert Norman Ward Hall (ANW) were coed by floor or wing. One difference in ANW was that it also housed a floor for a fraternity. Two more significant differences during this time are that Elderdice was still housing students and that Greek organizations were able to hold alcohol related events in their designated clubrooms, limited to two events per semester.

Administrative Council housing decision

During the past several months a number of groups have been working diligently to assess student interest in various housing options for next year. The SCA Housing Committee administered a questionnaire and sponsored an open forum. Groups of Greeks and independents met twice with Administrative Council to express their ideas. It then became Administrative Council’s task to formulate housing options for 1984-85. (Administrative Council consists of the President, Vice Presidents, and Deans of the college.) The following plan reflects many hours of hard work and deliberation on the part of students and staff alike. We would like to express our gratitude to everyone involved in this decision. Albert Norman Ward Hall ANW will be renovated this summer. However, as of this writing, architectural details are not as yet available. ANW will be coed by floor, with one sorority and one fraternity living on the first two floors, 3rd and 4th floors will house independents, one floor male and one floor female. The four meeting rooms in the basement of ANW will be assigned to two fraternities and two sororities. Blanche Ward Hall Blanche will remain single sex female. Two floors will house sororities. The other two floors will house independents. Two meeting rooms will be created in the basement in the number of male and female students admitted for 1984-85 men may be housed on basement floor. Elderdice, Garden Apartments, and Pennsylvania Avenue Houses Members of Greek organizations which have decided to live together by floor or section will not be eligible to sign up for Elderdice or the apartments or houses. Spaces in these areas will be equally divided for male and female students. Use of Greek Meeting Rooms in Residence Hall Halls In order to protect the rights of non-Greek students, parties in Greek meeting rooms (closed or invitational) will be limited to two alcohol-related events per semester per Greek organization. These events must be scheduled on weekends. Sororities and fraternities will be allowed to continue to use their meeting rooms for dry rush functions, meetings, and appropriate informal activities for their memberships only. Additional Greek parties may be scheduled in Decker College Center. Further details will be available when lottery numbers are distributed. All returning resident students are reminded that housing deposits must be paid by Friday, April 6th. No student will receive a housing assignment for 1984-85 until his/her deposit is paid.

Jan Term at McDaniel: Three Weeks of Exploration

Katie Clawson Staff Reporter

Senior Mark Gales says his favorite part of both of his Jan Terms abroad, to Berlin and Dublin, was connecting with fellow students and forging new friendships. He said the experience also helped events from history books, such as the Holocaust and the fall of the Berlin Wall, come alive. “It made it all seem so real,” Gales said on his visit to a concentration camp.

January Term offers McDaniel students the opportunity for an in-depth and exciting three weeks of exploring a totally new subject, taking on an internship, or studying abroad.

“Jan Term is part of what makes McDaniel unique,” said Stephanie Madsen, associate dean for sophomores.

If students choose to dive into a new subject on campus during the few weeks prior to the second semester, they will attend around 14 days of classes. Other students can choose to study abroad for their Jan Term which is usually a 1-3 week trip. “This short trip is great for students because most are usually nervous about traveling abroad on their own,” said Elizabeth Davis, director of International and Off-Campus Programs. “And for some it’s their first time being outside of the country.”

In these abroad programs, students travel in groups with the support, planning, and organization of McDaniel professors and staff. One example of these abroad programs is Discovering Dublin and Beyond. This program is hosted by Student Academic Support Services (SASS) of McDaniel.

“Our program is designed for students with disabilities in the mind,” said Dana Neville, associate director of SASS and coordinator of special programs. Gales was one of the students that traveled on Neville’s Jan Term. “After traveling on the first trip, Mark emerged as a leader and grew confident about traveling abroad,” Neville said.

“We gear our trip abroad to Dublin or Berlin, towards helping students with disabilities have the confidence of traveling alone. We want them to learn how to handle and be comfortable with



Gales at the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin.
Photo courtesy of Mark Gales.

experiencing a whole new culture, currency, food and language,” Neville added. Many abroad programs, like Neville’s, have pre-departure meetings so students know what to expect when traveling and how to feel secure in a new culture. “Students get a whole new perspective when learning a topic in a different country. For example, students can learn about ecotourism in Peru or Greek history and culture in Greece,” said Davis.

“Jan Terms, even on campus,

allow time for students to learn new topics and dive into new subjects with friends,” said Madsen.

“My favorite part of both Jan Terms abroad was meeting other McDaniel students and creating friendships,” said Gales. On-campus Jan Term courses also offer their own learning experiences. There is a new course being developed and offered as a Jan Term called My Design. “The course is to encourage students to be comfortable taking a Jan Term as a freshman,” said Madsen. “The course is to allow students the chance to see at the beginning of their academic development, the value of liberal arts and to design their experiences over the next few years to maximize their time at McDaniel.”

This course, like many others on campus, is designed to help prepare students for their future and expand their knowledge on subjects beyond their major – the main goal of a liberal arts college. “My Design course is designed to give students time to connect with employers and show them their opinion of liberal arts and the post grad opportunities that liberal arts provides,” said Madsen.

One Jan Term course is required by McDaniel undergraduate students as part of the McDaniel Plan. Professors and staff at McDaniel have focus groups and surveys to allow students the chance to give feedback about what they hope to see in the future, and their ideas of potential improvements to Jan Terms abroad and on campus.

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SAC's Pumpkin Smash Event



Many pumpkins were available for decorating and smashing on Nov. 8.
Photo by Kyle Parks.



Student Andre Berry smashes a large pumpkin.
Photo by Kyle Parks.



Many students stopped by Red Square to smash pumpkins as well as watch others do so on Nov. 8. *Photo by Kyle Parks.*



Those in attendance were also able to write on the pumpkins.
Photo by Kyle Parks.

Homecoming & Sesquicentennial



The unveiling of the new Green Terror Mascot at the beginning of the Homecoming football game. *Photo by Kyle Parks.*



Many members from the McDaniel community, new and old, tailgated next to the field during the Homecoming game. *Photo by Kyle Parks.*

FROM OUR INSTAGRAM

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Festivities in Red Square during McDaniel's sesquicentennial celebration on Oct. 21.
Photo by Kyle Parks.



Chase Ross giving a talk on Nov. 7, hosted by the McDaniel College Gender & Sexuality Alliance.
Photo by Kyle Parks.



Student Alumni Council's Pumpkin Smash event on Nov. 8.
Photo by Kyle Parks.

Mario Fernandez
Lifestyle Editor

2017 has truly been an eventful year for the HLA club. Earlier this spring, they officially changed their name from Hispanic-Latino Alliance to Hispanic-LatinX Alliance in order to be more inclusive of the LGBTQ+ community that is on campus as well as those that are regularly involved in the organization. Additionally, HLA has reached an important milestone in the Hispanic-LatinX world this year: its quinceañera, or fifteenth birthday.

HLA is a hugely important community for not only its members, but also for campus as a whole. As HLA president Manuel Rodriguez stated, HLA has “brought back his Latin roots.” Further speaking of his goals for the organization, he expressed his desire for HLA to grow as both a family and a group, reflective of the real Latin American world. Commenting on the legacy he desires to leave with the club, he stated that he “wants people to really admire their roots and really enjoy who they are.” HLA has thus far stayed true to these goals, and 2017 has been a truly exceptional year for them.



Photo by Nailab Calhoun.

HLA’s Quinceañera Dinner



Photo by Nailab Calhoun.

Every year, HLA hosts a cultural dinner, this year’s landing on Oct. 25. These dinners have always been a night of great food and wonderful dancing, as well as a general exhibit of Hispanic-LatinX culture. This year was extra special for the club and campus, however, due to their quinceañera theme. The dinner began with a speech by Rodriguez, who introduced the concept of the quinceañera to those who were not

familiar with it. A quinceañera is a rite of passage for Hispanic-LatinX girls on their journey to womanhood. HLA’s main focus for the night was to convey a short and simple message that spoke directly to multi-cultural and immigrant families. They stated that “it is easy for one to forget their own culture, and even more difficult for a parent to bequeath their traditions to their kids.”

To demonstrate this, members of HLA performed a play. Each scene was broken up by various traditional Hispanic-LatinX dances.

The play began with three HLA members portraying a girl and her parents. It was clear that the young girl did not want to comply with her own cultural traditions of having a quinceañera; instead she wanted the U.S. equivalent, a sweet sixteen. In a dream, the young girl was visited by her fairy godmother, whose mission was to showcase, not just to the girl on stage but to all spectators, the joys and traditions that come with having a quinceañera.

First, to the awe of the crowd, Jocelyn Diaz, senior and former HLA president, came on stage wearing a traditional quinceañera gown.

Diaz was also presented with a tiara and a ring, the former symbolizing royalty and the latter symbolizing the bond to family.

Following this scene, dancers appeared and performed the Merengue, a traditional Hispanic-LatinX dance originating in the Dominican Republic.

After the dance, Diaz’s character was presented with a pair of heels, an action symbolizing her final ascent to womanhood. After another bout of dancing, this time Cumbia, a traditional Colombian dance, Diaz’s character received one last symbolic gift: a doll, representing the last gift she will receive as a girl.

Following the gift, the dancers returned and performed the Bachata, another hugely popular dance from the Dominican Republic.

Following the Bachata, there was another short scene with the fairy godmother and the young girl; however, the dancing was not yet over. There was one more dance to be performed, the father daughter dance. This dance is especially meaningful to the quinceañera as it symbolizes the act of the father letting his daughter go to become a woman. This is meant to foreshadow the act of the father walking his daughter down the aisle to present her to her spouse in her future wedding.

Following this very special dance, the final scene of the play was performed. The young girl was finally convinced to have a quinceañera and follow her mother’s tradition.

To conclude, Rodriguez and Dr. McNichols, interim adviser for the organization, gave final remarks and wished everyone a goodnight. As usual, the HLA dinner was both an enjoyable and a meaningful night for all involved. For more information on HLA visit the McDaniel College Office of Student Engagement near Englar Dining Hall.

Eric Chung
Staff Reporter

Sheikh Faruq Post: “Islam is Life, Islam is Freedom”

“No one can deny the fact that Islam is very much in the spotlight today,” said Sheikh Faruq Post, Imam of the Islamic Society of Western Maryland.

On Tuesday, Oct. 24, the Office of Student Diversity and Inclusion (OSDI) along with the Office of Residence Life hosted “A Discussion on Islam: Fact vs. Fiction” in the Decker Forum.

Post, a resident of Hagerstown, Md., was invited to speak about Islam as a whole, as well as to address negative myths of its followers.

Post spent much of his 90-minute talk dissecting stereotypes about Islam and Muslims. He began his discourse with the hopes that the audience would be “enlightened this evening, as well as be given the ability to distinguish what is the Islam of fact and what is the Islam of fiction.”

Post put forth his truths as a follower of Islam. A recurring point of his talk was that all Muslims must maintain a standard of peace and humbleness, and exercise daily their absolute submission to Allah.

To accurately educate his crowd on the basics of Islam, Post started with the holy book of Islam, the Quran. He described the Quran as the exact word of God — the “final revelation that God sent to mankind after he sent the Torah, and the Zabur (the Psalms), and the Injeel, to Jesus, and he put the icing on the



Photo by Eric Chung.

cake of revelations with the final revelation.”

He continued with a basic definition of a Muslim: someone who submits to his Creator. Post stated that a Muslim’s religion encompasses all aspects of life.

A Muslim’s “religion is what motivates him to stand for the truth; to speak out against oppression, injustice, transgression, and evil deeds and evil acts,” said Post. He explained that his religion is one of peace and equality.

“Islam is life, Islam is freedom, Islam is liberation, Islam is peace — inner peace, outer peace — and Islam is sacrifice,” Post exclaimed, describing his faith as a way of life.

He stated that this lifestyle “involves molding a balanced way of life, suitable not only to Muslims, but

to anyone that inclines toward peace, justice, respect for human rights, and respect for human dignity.”

With the authority of an official scholar of Islam, Post not only spoke about moving beyond the negative perceptions of Islam in American society, but also relayed that followers of Islam are just regular people with a fierce love for their god. He added that Muslims are all over the globe, and not just the Middle East, which is what we often see in the media.

“Islam is the religion and way of life of about one fifth or more of the world’s total population,” Post said. “Muslims are of diverse nationalities, ethnicities, cultures, races. Some are American, such as me, born and raised in northeast United States.”

Post also addressed the stereotype that women are oppressed in Islam.

He asserted that any Muslim men who oppress women do not follow true Muslim teachings. Post stated that it is a cultural idea, rather than one of Islam, that causes the oppression of women, citing mistreatment of women in Ancient Rome and Persia.

Post asserted that Islam offers women a haven for intellectual ability and thought. He said that Islam honors women and treats them as individuals instead of property.

“Islam uplifted women. It gave them honor and equal status in the sight of God,” said Post. He included that Islam gives women the rights to education and work.

Post also spoke about his Catholic upbringing and said that it was his study of the Bible that led him to convert to Islam when he was 25 years old.

He still has a positive relationship with those of different religions. “My experience with Christians and Jews is excellent. I love having dialogues and conversations and debates with Christians and Jews, and even though we’re different in theology, it doesn’t mean we have to be disrespectful of each other. It doesn’t mean we have to be violent with one another.”

Post closed his talk by urging McDaniel students to always search for knowledge and never stop looking for the truth in all things.

“The readers of today are the leaders of tomorrow,” Post said.

Colin Lyon
Assistant Editor

Pablo Neruda is one of the most, if not *the* most, influential figures of poetry in the twentieth century. Even from a young age, his raw passion for poetry is something rarely found, even amongst literary giants.

Born Ricardo Reyes Basoalto, Neruda was raised in Temuco, Chile, after his birth mother died from illness. His father, Jose, remarried to the mother of his first child, Rodolfo. Neruda seems to have been almost completely unaffected by his birth mother's death, though this is understandable given how little time they were able to connect.

Neruda began to write at the tender age of 10. At such a formative time in his life, his father strongly opposed his poetic tendencies, but after receiving heaps of encouragement elsewhere, he went on to practice more faithfully. At only 13 years old, he published his first work in a local newspaper.

After that, he spent his teenage days furiously composing poems, becoming published in dozens of local news posts and literary magazines. His pen name at the time, Neftali Reyes, quickly became recognized as a local symbol of Temuco. At the same time, however, his education continued unhindered, and Neruda

Writer of the Week: Pablo Neruda

soon found himself studying French at the Universidad de Chile with the prospect of becoming a teacher. Instead of dedicating his time to French, however, he found himself becoming more and more immersed in the world of poetry.

With the assistance of a highly-regarded writer named Eduardo Barrios, he managed to contact and impress one of the most influential publishers in Chile at that time. His first collection of poems, "Crepusculario" (Book of Twilights), published in 1923, cemented him into the world of literary masters.

Neruda didn't spend all of his time writing poetry, however. In between creating poetry and discussing his works with other Hispanic poets, he rose to serve as one of the many diplomats Chile appointed to manage international relations and an influx of refugees from the Second World War. He quickly rose in prominence, becoming a diplomatic consul in Mexico City.

His political life, however, seemed to be fated towards hardships from the beginning. After the rise of socialist support in South America and his subsequent endorsement of it, Neruda found himself facing arrest in Chile, and he strove to escape the

country and secure his safety. During this three-year period, Neruda would give dozens of talks promoting peace and intellectualism in Europe and lower North America. His fame was such that while in exile, he was given honorary citizenship in Mexico.

After his eventual return, it came time to designate the first democratically-elected president of Chile. While he was a candidate himself, Neruda eventually swore his support to Salvador Allende. He subsequently became one of Allende's most trusted advisors, and only a year later he received a Nobel Peace Prize for his poetry and political work.

Unfortunately, his halcyon days were not to last; the coup d'état of 1973 saw dictatorial Pinochet take the presidency and eliminate Allende. A mere twelve days later, in the midst of a battle with illness, Neruda was killed by a Pinochet agent through an injection to his stomach. Until 2015, the Chilean government had denied any knowledge of this endeavor.

Neruda, while he may be dead, continues to be remembered fondly in the hearts of poets and politicians the world over. His poetry is striking in that it is exceptionally varied. There are very few connections spanning across Neruda's entire



Neruda in 1963
Image via Public Domain.

poetic encyclopedia, and even they are debated amongst readers. In one collection, he was inspired to use vivid imagery and copious metaphors from young and passionate relationships. In another, he speaks about his worries for the eventual decay of the human race, applying surrealism and vague language to illustrate the uncertain direction we, as a people, are headed towards.

McDaniel College Art Department Visits Art Galleries in New York City

Jedidiah Fowler
Arts & Culture Editor

On Nov. 4, the McDaniel College Art Department went on their biannual field trip to New York City.

Each semester, two buses pick up the attending students and faculty and make the trek to the big city. One bus heads to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, while the other drops students further downtown in Chelsea. The goal of the field trip is for students to find and observe art that reflects that which they have been studying in their classes.

This semester, one group of students decided to head to Chinatown and view the local art. It just so happened that on this particular day, Orchard Street in Chinatown was full of open galleries, including Chinatown Soup.

According to their website, "Chinatown Soup is a creative community advancing art, justice, historic preservation, and civic engagement in downtown New York." Essentially, the Chinatown Soup gallery is attempting to both cultivate and spread creativity and diversity in the Chinatown community.

This gallery was currently housing an exhibit called Freaks and Geeks by artist Hunter Potter. Freaks and Geeks contained two distinctly different styles of painting. Though both were painted with acrylic, about half of the paintings were free flowing and messy looking, while the other half were rigid and uniform.

The messier paintings featured varying paint thicknesses on the can-

vasses, as well as colors that bled into and overlapped one another. The clean paintings, however, featured tight lines, opaque colors, and a clear separation of planes.

Potter, who was present during the McDaniel students' visit, explained that the messy paintings were the "Freaks" of the show, and that the "Geeks" were the rigid and uniform paintings. He added that the exhibit represented a chronicling of his own life since graduating college.

Right after college, Potter explained that he found employment in what one would stereotypically deem as "ideal jobs" for the art world. He found himself doing what most people would think is the best way to both make money and pursue art, however, he described that he felt trapped in that space. While everything was "supposed" to be good, he felt contained, uneasy, and ultimately unhappy. Thus he decided to run from that and pursue art in his own way, free from the rigid context of his previous jobs.

To represent this contrast in Freaks and Geeks, Potter used the "Geek" paintings to represent the rigid and unsettling context of his previous employment. The subjects of these uniform paintings each contained one element in the composition that was slightly awry. For example, one of the paintings was of a sink in which someone had left the water running and plugged the drain.

Another such painting showed a bookshelf with nothing on it. These slight disturbances in the subjects of the paintings represented Potter's uneasiness with his "good" art-world jobs. Everything looked nice and uniform on the outside, but something was not quite right.

The "Freaks," however, represented Potter's feeling of freedom now that he is outside of that uniform world. Unlike the "Geeks," there was no unifying theme or consistency that tied the "Freaks" together, except for the fact that they were all painted similarly and represented

freedom.

One of the "Freaks," called "The Fruit of my Labor", showed a juice bowl with a large pile of limes around it to represent Potter's current job as a bartender. When asked about how he enjoyed his current

life compared to his previous employment, he stated that he loves his current life and that it is significantly better than what he used to do.

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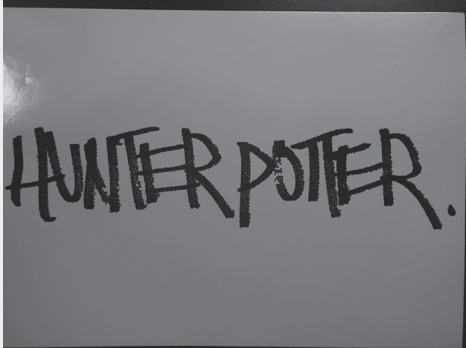


Photo by Jedidiah Fowler.

Gunnar Ward
Staff Reporter

Every Thursday night a crowd of close to 45 students surrounds two musicians in the Gazebo. Simultaneously, a brisk autumn wind dashes by, snatching up a blend of laughter, singing and instruments. While the wind may carry these sounds across the Hill, it leaves a smiling audience and two satisfied musicians named Jake Fine and Rachel Gunnerson.

The musical duo of Fine and Gunnerson has served as McDaniel’s Thursday night attraction as students of all years are drawn to the light atop the gazebo that sits quietly in the triangle of Hill Hall, Whiteford, and McDaniel Hall.

“I wanted to take a more active role in making music and spreading joy,” Fine said. “Experiencing live music and understanding the joy of music that is physically in front of you, I wanted to help others experience that.”

Although music is a passion for both Gunnerson and Fine, it was not what brought them together initially. Like many incoming students, social media was their first connection. This is especially critical seeing that Fine is from Lambertville, New Jersey and Gunnerson is from Portland, Oregon.

Despite this distance, both Fine and Gunnerson fell in love with music long before they arrived at McDaniel.

“I tried taking lessons as a kid, but it never really worked out,” Fine

Giving Back: The Power of Music

said, “Then I found a lot of self-motivation in 9th or 10th grade and I started playing drums, piano and guitar at the same time.”

With this newfound motivation for music, Fine has continued to teach himself more and more as he says he is 90 percent self-taught.

On the opposite side of the spectrum, Gunnerson handles most of the songwriting and vocals.

“I have always sung since I was a kid, and I started writing songs at 8 years old,” Gunnerson stated.

With Fine handling the instrumental aspect of the music and Gunnerson taking the lead with writing and vocals, the two make a dynamic duo. However, they have considered adding other elements to their group. Both said they have been experimenting with other genres of music including jazz and rock, and they have even considered featuring another musician. However, because the two work so well together, some fans are hesitant to see additional artists added to the mix.

“They work way too good [sic] together,” Fine’s roommate and friend Gus Gibbons said, “They don’t need another person.”

The duo has already notched quite a few performances, as they have wasted no time in playing their first song starting their first or second week since arriving on the Hill.

In addition to their music, the duo also has a comedic style that

keeps their friends and fans engaged. In fact, much of their comedy is spawned by their love for their friends and fans.

“We loved our friend, Q [Combington] so much that we decided to write a song about him, Gunnerson said, “We told Q and five of our friends to come to the gazebo and we sang it and [decided] to do it more.”

Since this original song, a newly written piece of music has been performed every Thursday at 10 p.m. in the Gazebo. Over time, their fan base has grown significantly. With more and more faces coming to see the duo of Gunnerson and Fine, their presence has not gone unnoticed.

“It’s been really weird to hear people be like ‘Oh you’re the ones that do Gazebo,’” Gunnerson said, “It’s really cool that people are talking about it.”

With support coming from many different students, the musical duo continues to set their goals high – an album featuring previously written songs and new material may soon be in the works.

Both Gunnerson and Fine agreed that if a donation jar was opened it would be for the purpose of growing their music, funding merchandise to give away, or donating to a charity.

“We just want to give back,” Gunnerson said, “We just want to show everyone we care.”

With the possibility of taking

their music to another level, fans of Gunnerson and Fine are willing to help.

“I’d help them produce it any day,” said Jill Courtney, a friend and fan of the duo.

Music is the root of the happiness that Gunnerson and Fine share with their fans. As each Thursday approaches, the duo longs to capture an opportunity to bring McDaniel students together in order to share the unique joy that is provided by live music. With the cool winds of autumn soon transitioning into winter’s whip, it may blow the group indoors, but their goal will remain the same: to take the happiness of live music and, like the wind, spread it far and wide across McDaniel’s campus.



*Gunnerson and Fine on a Thursday Night.
Photo by Gunnar Ward.*

McDaniel College Gender & Sexuality Alliance Hosts Chase Ross

Erin Pogue
Assistant Editor

On Nov. 7, the McDaniel College Gender & Sexuality Alliance brought trans activist and YouTuber Chase Ross to campus.

On his channel, uppercaseCHASE1, Ross makes videos about his experiences as a trans man, resources for trans people, and various other topics. In addition to this, he also hosts a podcast called You’re So Brave, and is one of the founding members of the channel FTMtranstastic. He also is currently a grad student pursuing his master’s degree in sociology.

The Co-president of the the McDaniel College Gender & Sexuality Alliance, Kyle Parks, who also organized the event, stated that he “wanted to try something a bit different than the standard speakers we see on campus – [he] wanted to invite someone who a lot of students already know about and look up to. Many people in our generation have found a lot of support online, particularly on platforms like YouTube in figures like Chase Ross.”

The Gender & Sexuality Alliance “wanted to make sure that [they], as an organization, were adequately representing all identities in our community, so [Parks] decided that it was time to bring a trans speaker onto campus.”

Chase Ross gives his talks in order to share information and inform people about the trans experience, as well as to build a community of support. He believes that trans people have been misrepresented in the media, and that some of the only true representations of them can be found on YouTube, as this platform allows real people to share their real experiences. His goal is to “be the person that [he] needed when [he]

was younger.”

At the beginning of his talk Ross focused on topics such as self-acceptance and understanding as well as humanizing the trans experience. He began by talking about how he learned that he was trans, and how he started to come out to people, specifically his father.

He also discussed the representation of trans men in the media. Some shows and movies such as The L Word, Boys Don’t Cry, and Deglassi were, according to Ross, problematic in their representation. Other more recent shows such as Shameless and The Fosters have greatly improved this, however, though not without a few flaws.

Ross talked about some of his research, both in undergrad and his current graduate research. For his bachelor’s degree, he discussed the importance of passing (being seen as the gender you identify as), and the problematic conceptions surrounding that concept. Passing is important to many trans people because it shows

that other people recognize them as they themselves would like to be recognized, and it allows them to feel like their true selves.

The idea of “not passing” becomes an issue for trans people in society, specifically when it comes to using the restroom. Two of the people that Ross interviewed had been assaulted in the restroom because others did not think they belonged there. Additionally, Ross and four others in his study had ended up with bladder infections caused by fear surrounding this issue.

His current graduate research focuses on trans men and tattoos, something he came up with when he was at the Philadelphia Trans Wellness Conference and realized that almost all in attendance had tattoos. His interviews with trans men and non-binary transmasculine people addressed the questions of why they got tattoos, how they related to being trans, and what that meant to them.

This research showed that people

who got tattoos related to their trans identity, whether visibly trans related symbols or for personal significance, reminds them of their journey of how they got where they are today. Other tattoos were ones they had gotten prior to discovering that they were trans, but they now see them as a representation of part of their trans identity. Ross himself has a tattoo of the line “no day but today,” which he now sees as a reminder to not focus on the past but on the present.

The most common tattoo is the date the trans men started taking testosterone, as this is a memorialization of the start of a new life. His research focuses on the reasons for tattoos, such as visibility, permanence, and storytelling. Once it is completed, his research will be available online, and accessible for people to read.

Ross ended his talk with a Q&A session, answering questions about a range of topics topics anywhere from starting on YouTube and supporting trans friends and partners, to educating other people on the topic. After his talk he stayed to meet fans and take pictures with them.

The event “had a head count of about 100, which is quite higher than I originally anticipated,” Parks said. “I’m very happy with how things turned out.” The event brought in not only McDaniel students, but also many attendees from the surrounding area.

Ross wants everyone to remember that “trans people are real and they have lives outside of being trans.”

If you missed the talk or would like to know more information about Ross, you can view his videos on his YouTube, or visit his website uppercasechase.com.



Photo by Kyle Parks.

Access Denied: Homeschoolers in Public School Sports

Anna Mondoro
Contributor

I've been playing basketball for more than a decade.

As an eight-year old, I joined the county rec-league where I spent the next seven years playing for a variety of coaches and with a wide range of players. There were wins and losses, heartbreaks and triumphs, all of which helped mold and fortify the love I have for the game.

But going into my freshman year of high school, I was faced with a dilemma. The league I had been playing for up to that point did not have teams for girls over the age of 14. Where was I supposed to play? The simple solution: try out for the high school team.

Now here's the plot twist... I was homeschooled. "So what?" you ask. I'll explain. As a homeschooler living in Prince William County in Northern Virginia, I was not permitted to try out for public school athletic teams. Luckily for me, a small private school near my house welcomed homeschoolers, and that's where I spent the next four years of my basketball career.

Although my situation worked out quite well, I still have a hard time understanding why homeschoolers are being barred from participation in athletics at their local public schools. How can people who are paying state taxes just like everyone else be told that their kid has to find somewhere else to play? That doesn't seem right.

Now, to be fair, there are quite a few states that do in fact allow homeschoolers to try out for the school teams, but many, Virginia and Maryland included, take the opposite stance on the matter. There is plenty of controversy surrounding this issue, as the number of homeschoolers across the country increases and more of them push for the inclusion of their children. While there are several arguments against it, I believe the case in favor of homeschoolers participating in public school sports is strong, and that existing concerns can be resolved.

One of the main arguments against allowing homeschoolers to play is the simple fact that they aren't



Image via Pixabay.

enrolled at a school. This can be a valid point in the case of a private school where families pay tuition to attend, but when it comes to public schools it's a different story. A large amount of states' tax revenue is put toward education and all residents of the state contribute to it. Even families whose kids aren't enrolled at a public school are paying to keep the system up and running.

In states like Virginia and Maryland, even though you're paying to support the schools, sports are off limits merely because you don't physically attend the school. States should appreciate that because of homeschooling, they have fewer kids to teach full-time and should welcome homeschoolers to try-out for sports.

However, some are concerned that if homeschoolers are allowed to participate, they'll take spots on the rosters away from the public school kids. This could be the case, but not necessarily. All the prospective athletes go through the tryout process, and the best players should get the jerseys. There is also the question of how homeschoolers would be held to the academic eligibility standards required of the school's students. This could be resolved by having homeschoolers report their grades periodically. Many homeschoolers at the high school

level are even enrolled in online academic institutions that grade the students' work and issue transcripts, making reporting grades even easier.

While roster spots and eligibility are reasonable concerns, I'd also like to address a more minor concern about the issue. It's common knowledge that many people think homeschoolers are socially awkward and struggle interacting with others. Predictably, this stereotype leaked its way into the case against their inclusion in school sports teams.

Some people believe that homeschoolers couldn't possibly fit in or feel comfortable. After all,

they aren't involved in the various other aspects of school like the other students, so how could homeschoolers possibly handle the awkwardness of not being a part of what their teammates are talking about!? Allow me to alleviate these concerns... they don't care. Strong team camaraderie can be formed even if there's a kid who doesn't spend the rest of the day in school with teammates.

Many homeschoolers participate in a variety of clubs and activities ranging from academic co-ops to drama groups. They're not counting on sports to be their only interaction with other humans. Just like public schoolers, homeschooled kids have plenty of opportunities to get involved, meet people, and make new friends.

At the end of the day, it seems pretty cut and dried to me. Homeschoolers are taxpayers; they are not guaranteed a roster spot on the team and they are capable of functioning socially outside of their own homes. The concerns addressed here are understandable as initial reactions to the issue; however, on closer examination I believe it's clear that these concerns are not valid reasons why homeschoolers should be denied access to public school sports.

To learn more about this issue and to access the state-by-state policies, visit hslida.org.

YOUR ARTICLE HERE

The Free Press accepts articles from all members of the McDaniel Community, be it a simple letter to the editor, response to another article, and much more!

Contact:
freepress@mcdaniel.edu

Hannah D'Amico
Contributor

On Feb. 4, at Penn State University, a young man died at the hands of his "brothers." Tim Piazza died after running a gauntlet of drinking stations at Penn State's Beta Theta Pi fraternity house during a pledge event, where potential members, who had just received their bids, had to chug beer, wine and hard liquor as quickly as possible before moving on to the next stop.

Later that night, Piazza fell down a flight of stairs to the basement of the fraternity mansion and lay unconscious for hours. He was later carried upstairs by fraternity members, who tried to revive him by slapping him and pouring liquids on his face. Twelve hours after his initial fall, fraternity members debated for 40 minutes about whether to call for help as Tim Piazza's life ticked away, according to police reports. Finally, an ambulance was called. His injuries included a fractured skull, ruptured spleen and a collapsed lung.

Hazing, defined as "*the imposition*

The Dangers of Hazing Culture

of strenuous, often humiliating, tasks as part of a program of rigorous physical training and initiation," is a huge issue across the United States, but has yet to be addressed by McDaniel College. Yes, we had an anti-hazing week. But how many people actually learned or participated in the activities? The anti-hazing week really only targeted Greek Life here on campus. McDaniel's Greek Life is about 16 percent of the total campus, but hazing is not only an issue within the Greek Life system. While only 16 percent of the campus is greek life, 34 percent participate in athletics, which have been known to haze as well. Our campus has yet to talk about the taboo topic of hazing as it really is.

As someone who has personal ties to Piazza, having grown up with him and been good friends with him through high school, his story needs to be shared. The members of the Beta Theta Pi fraternity took his life from him. They forced Tim and the other pledges to drink an excessive amount of alcohol on the first night after receiving a bid; they wasted no

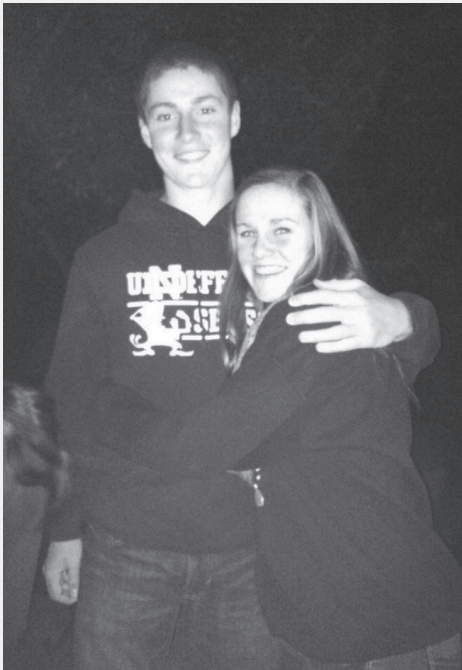
time trying to show "dominance" and "authority" to the pledges.

No person should ever be forced to do something against their will, especially one that puts them or others in danger. This topic is so serious and yet neglected, even by those it's happening to.

The most commonly cited study on this topic was conducted by researchers at the University of Maine in 2011. In a survey of 11,482 undergraduate students from 53 colleges and universities, the researchers found that 55 percent of all students involved in collegiate groups witnessed or experienced hazing. However, the study indicated that only 5 percent of the hazings were reported to college or law enforcement authorities.

Hazing across the country is being ignored and swept under the rug. We cannot let that happen here at McDaniel College. There is a distinct difference between learning traditions, rituals, and giving respect to older members of an organization and the forced obedience of hazing. Being knowledgeable and aware of

hazing will help prevent it here at McDaniel. It starts with people here on campus. If you hear something say something, so we don't have to lose another innocent life to hazing.



Piazza and D'Amico.
Photo courtesy of Hannah D'Amico.

Upton finds home on the field and in the classroom

Atticus Rice
Sports Editor

Kristen Upton wanted to be a keeper when she was younger, but she didn't want to stand still. Years later, she's made due by captaining McDaniel's renowned women's soccer defense.

The senior captain and four-year women's soccer starter has been playing soccer since she was four.

"I wanted to be like my sister and she was playing so I signed up as well," said Upton.

By second grade, Upton was playing on a travel team as her interest in the sport surged.

It took until high school, however, for the Chalfont, Pa. native to commit to playing as long as she could.

"I wanted to keep playing," said Upton. "Other girls were ready to be done, but I wasn't."

Her search to find an institution that could offer her the right kind of education and a chance to play soccer began. Upton then reached out to colleges that she expected to be at one of her tournaments, hoping to hear back from as many coaches as possible.

"Sandy was awesome and emailed me back," said Upton of women's soccer head coach Sandy Lagana. "I came here for a clinic and knew that was it."

Upton kicked off her freshman year as a starter for Lagana's team and hasn't looked back.

"She's so mentally tough so she was able to elevate her game so quickly," said Lagana.

And elevate she did.

By her sophomore year, Upton and her team found themselves in the NCAA National Tournament,



Kristen Upton.

playing on the pitch against Oneonta in Pittsburgh.

"It was super exciting but I was also nervous because we didn't know what to expect," Upton said.

A year later, they did it all again, this time hosting the first round in Westminster before travelling to Boston after a pair of wins.

"We knew what to expect," she said. "We knew what we were doing."

Despite a tough game against Brandeis, the nerves didn't have an impact like they did in Pittsburgh for Upton.

"We felt like we were supposed to be there," she said.

Soccer wasn't all that helped Upton settle on McDaniel, however.

The senior joined the college as a member of the Honors Program, which recognized her high school achievements and future success at McDaniel.

It's paid off well for both parties.

Since starting her academic and athletic careers as a Green Terror, Upton has been recognized by the

Centennial Conference as a first-team athlete, scholar athlete, and first team all-region by the NCAA, and academic all-American.

The exercise chemistry major has also found a role model in chemistry professor and women's soccer faculty mentor Dana Ferraris.

"He's been so supportive through academics and soccer," said Upton. "I've got to do research with him and present at American Chemical Society conferences."

"I can't say enough good things about her," he said. "She's exceptional."

The 5-9 defender is known for scoring goals just as she is her academic accomplishments. In her sophomore season, Upton found the back of the net seven times to score the fourth-most goals on the team. She's since scored six more and has a total of 15 next to her name, most of them as a finishing touch from a corner kick cross.

"It's just part of the job that I have on my team," said Upton. "[The backs] are supposed to be good in the air so we send the people who are known to win headers."

Fellow senior captain Abby Keen is Upton's most popular assist, taking most of the team's corner kicks.

"We all have our own thing that we're good at," said Keen, recognizing the role both she and Upton play. "Corner kicks sometimes win games, so we practice those at least once or twice a week."

Lagana sees Upton's headers as something special.

"It's something that we've done at least as long as [she's] has been here," said Lagana.

Teammates have taken note of what Upton can do and have followed suit.

"You can see the younger players emulating her, which is the biggest compliment," Lagana added. "She's able to use her leadership and voice as an example for our back line."

Ferraris has noted Upton's supportive style in her leadership.

"You see her out there and know she won't say anything negative. She's all supportive," he said.

Upton's leadership has also shown through academically.

With her eyes set on medical school, she's been the go-to person at McDaniel for underclassmen with questions about the application process.

"I learned so much from her experience [applying]," said Ferraris who now looks to her process when helping other students.

"It's been a long process of applying, but I know I want to head into the medical field," Upton said.

Upton's four years on the Hill have rounded out an impressive career with much still to come. Her teammates, classmates, coaches and professors all see her succeeding in what she'd like to do.

"She'll do great things," said Ferraris.

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Volleyball digs deep as season comes to close

Gunnar Ward
Staff Reporter

McDaniel volleyball fell short in a three-set sweep to the Bethany (W.V.) at the Gill Center in what would be the final match of the season Wednesday night.

The face-off between the Green Terror (19-9) and the Bison (23-12) was a first round match in the ECAC tournament which McDaniel received a bid to Monday after their conference semifinal loss at Johns Hopkins.

The Bethany win sends the Bison to Frostburg for the next round of the ECAC tournament.

Despite losses in the final matches of the season, the Green Terror continued to focus on improvement and their fan base was behind them bringing a significant crowd to Wednesday's match.

"Having a home game and having our fans, friends and family come out to support made a good environment for a playoff game," captain Taylor Bauman said.

The atmosphere created led to Gayle Edelstein dishing 16 assists and Marlowe Embry smashing seven kills in addition to getting on the floor with 17 digs. Bauman followed suit, racking up 19 digs.

On the Bethany side of the net, Jenna Scott, Sumayyah Muhammad, and Lindsey Llewellyn combined to form a triple threat with Scott lobbing 22 assists for Llewellyn and Muhammad to capitalize with a combined 17



Marlowe Embry finished an impressive first season with McDaniel volleyball Wednesday night.

kills.

Top play from both Embry and Bauman led to their Centennial Conference second-team recognition this season. En route to the acknowledgement, Bauman broke McDaniel's record for digs in a regular season with 561. Off the floor and continuing to dominate in the air, Embry whipped 234 regular season kills.

"I'm very pleased [with the team's performance]," head coach Jessica Wolverton said.

Strong play from McDaniel this season resulted in the Green Terror being the only team to move up in Centennial Conference ranking from their originally selected ranking.

"There is no where else to go, but up for this team," team manager and Embry's cousin Allegra Berry said. "I expect nothing but great things from them next year."

McDaniel's ECAC bid comes two years after their 2015 conference championship season, the last season the team made the postseason.

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The McDaniel Free Press

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Michael Robbins Promoted to Associate Dean of Students

**Stefan Specian
Managing Editor
Commentary Editor**

Michael Robbins, who has held the position of director of Residence Life since 2007, has recently been promoted to Associate Dean of Students. In this role, he will continue his former role, while also becoming the director of the Office of Student Engagement. The change comes after the departure of former director Christine Workman.

In this new position, Robbins notes that he's not aiming to make any immediate changes. Given the recent departures in the office, the biggest goal has been to fill any vacated positions, and bring OSE back to full working capacity.

Another of Robbins' goals is to bring some of the methods he had utilized in Residence Life to OSE, and to establish more connectivity between the two offices, given the strong impact both have on the day-to-day lives of students.

"One thing I've done already is I've just tried to get a little bit more synergy between the two departments," said Robbins, "and so we've been doing joint staff meetings."

Robbins feels that his experiences in Residence Life have prepared him well to take on this larger role.

"It's a lot of the same



Photo courtesy of Michael Robbins.

[challenges]," said Robbins, "there's still budget management, which is something that I've been doing for ten years in Residence Life, it's helping groups plan events, and make room bookings, and do advertising on campus, which is, again, kind of similar to stuff Residence Life has been doing."

However, Robbins admits that some of the new areas he is now tasked with managing in OSE will take some getting used to.

One of the biggest of these is the management of Greek Life.

He noted that a big part of confronting this challenge is reinstituting the position of Greek Life Coordinator, which had been empty since the departure of Lukas Miedreich in Spring 2017. The position was recently filled by former Area Coordinator Paige Cook.

"I think one of the points of having that position [Greek Life Coordinator] reinstituted under

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the reorganization was just the realization that there needed to be a kind of worker bee person who was going to be there and be able to go to meetings and be able to talk to the students," said Robbins.

Robbins mentioned that there had already been work by Cook to update the bylaws and position rotation system in the Inter-Fraternity Council, work to develop the formal recruitment schedule for Greek Life in the Spring, and work with the National Pan-Hellenic Council to help develop their presence on campus.

Robbins hopes that these changes will be to the benefit of OSE, and to Student Life on campus as a whole. He also hopes that students will reach out to him and others in OSE, so that he can know what issues may be present, and what successful program should be kept and built upon. He noted that nothing in OSE can succeed and survive without student involvement and work, and hopes that such involvement continues to grow.

**Tiffany Afoakwa
Staff Reporter**

"If you don't see something being done, then you'll think that you can't accomplish it. If you don't see a young black professor that's a doctor, then you may think you never have the potential to become a doctor," says senior Communication major Tiara Alston.

Dr. Erin Watley came to McDaniel College last year as the newest addition to the Communication and Cinema Department. While she boasts a Ph.D. from the University of New Mexico, at the heart of this 32-year-old African American professor lies a woman with the dream of building cultural bridges in places where they are lacking.

"I've always been really interested in culture, in general, and my own culture growing up as a black person in the suburbs," Watley says. "When I was a little kid, I would read all these books about slavery. I've always wanted to know more about people's experiences."

Watley received her bachelor's degree in American Studies at the University of Maryland, College Park, and her master's in Communication at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

After working for three years after graduation, she realized that a lack of understanding about cultural differences in the

Dr. Erin Watley: Fitting into McDaniel



Photo by Tiffany Afoakwa.

workplace negatively affects the work environment. She decided to pursue her doctorate degree in Communication with a specialization in Intercultural Communication at the University of New Mexico.

After receiving her Ph.D., the Silver Spring native decided to move from New Mexico back to her family in Maryland. "McDaniel was one of the first jobs I heard about that was closer to the area. I'm from the area, but I'd never heard of McDaniel, admittedly," Watley says. "I looked it up. Then people started telling me about it when I told them I was thinking about applying."

Right away, Watley fit in with her new peers and shared experiences with them. Her class list includes

Intercultural Communication, Qualitative Communication, Gender and Communication, and several more.

Jonathan Slade, head of the Communication and Cinema Department, says that when Watley is around, they "can have a bizarre, non-sequitur conversation about teaching that's humorous, but also honest."

This isn't the only praise she's received from colleagues.

"Erin is very easy to adjust to. She has a great personality. The number of students I see visiting her office, and the laughter I hear suggests she's somebody that students can easily connect with," says Communication professor Robert Lemieux.

Among students, Watley is known for including discussion-based activities in her classes, and challenging the norms of society represented through media. Alston says Watley is "eager to help me out no matter how the question was phrased, even if I asked it in the wrong way, she'll understand what I'm saying and be eager to help me."

From economic class to physical disabilities to pop culture references, Watley's class topics explore difficult conversations about modern social issues, and encourage students to analyze them.

"Last semester, I was the only black person in my class, and her being a black professor sets an example for the generations to come - especially with younger people," Alston says.

After being at McDaniel for a year and a half, Watley has translated her insight for cultural awareness into real conversations. As the campus community continues to grow in diversity and population, Watley believes it is important for the faculty to represent its students.

Slade says that Watley "brings so much more to us in the classes that she teaches. It's become mandatory to have somebody on campus who can help guide through this current social landscape."

James Word
Staff Reporter

In the fall of 2014, during the lunchtime rush at Englar Dining Hall, President Roger Casey and Beth Gerl, the vice president of student affairs and dean of students, signed the Real Food Challenge.

This student-led challenge prompted McDaniel to commit to obtaining 20 percent of all its food from local and environmentally- and animal-friendly food sources by 2020. Three years later, the college has seen success in moving toward its goal. As of November 2017, the college is currently at 7 percent, as measured by the Real Food Calculator.

Here's how the calculator works: there are four categories that can qualify a food product as "real." Those categories are local and community-based, fair, ecologically sound, and humane. Food that is inspected only needs to fit into one of these categories to be considered

20 Percent by 2020: Three Years In



Photo by Kyle Parks.

real. Each category has three levels. These are green light, yellow light and red light. A green light entails stricter standards than yellow, and a red light — which disqualifies a food product — means a product can't be

considered real. McDaniel students who are involved with the Real Food Challenge check in on Glar and use the Real Food Calculator criteria to compute the percentage out of the total amount of food in the dining

hall's stock to determine the real food percentage. McDaniel gets 7 percent of all its food from local sources such as ProFish in Washington D.C., Hanover Foods and H&S Bakery in Baltimore. There is a full list of food sources inside the dining hall. Rita Webster, Glar's general manager, says the biggest challenge with this initiative is "getting student interest to drive the program." "It's a lot of work to do and we are open to ideas, but they just have to help us get us to where we need to be," she says. Webster urges any students interested in becoming involved with the program to contact her via email at rwebster@mcdaniel.edu. Going forward, McDaniel will need more student involvement to reach its goal of 20 percent by 2020. It's a full-time job — however, with help from students, this program will be a huge success.

Kaylan Hutchison
Staff Reporter

On the third Thursday of every November, calendars are marked for observation of World Philosophy Day, during which people around the globe take the day to honor and celebrate shared philosophical heritage. On Nov. 16, McDaniel's philosophy department celebrated by holding an event in McDaniel Lounge exploring philosophy in action. This years theme, "Gender, Sexuality, and Romance: 21st Century Discourses," applied philosopher's discussions of gender, sexuality and sexual violence to media messages. "It's a good way to get some exposure to a lot of topics that need to be brought to light," said senior Bamasa Bailor, one of the presenters and discussion leaders. "It may be uncomfortable to talk about, but it makes our world better." United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) founded World Philosophy Day in 2002 to unleash humanity's creative potential and prompt new ideas regarding intellect, change, development, and peace. 15 years later, approximately 60 students gathered on campus to

McDaniel's take on World Philosophy Day

present videos, give lectures and/or engage in reflection. An emphasis of the three-hour event was placed on how philosophical concepts and contributions weave into daily life. Lyrics inherent in Eminem's music, the celebrity accusations of sexual assault flooding news headlines and discourse surrounding social media were just a few topics opened up for discussion on this late McDaniel afternoon. Since 2014, Vera Jakoby, associate professor and chair of the philosophy and religious studies department, has been working closely with Elizabeth Grosz, current acting chair and assistant professor of philosophy, to coordinate the day's festivities on campus. Last year's event—themed around educating millennials, and the constant technological advancements and distractions surrounding—was a hit with over 80 students. This year, as Jakoby is on sabbatical until mid-January, Grosz coordinated the event herself. "I was pleased that the presentations incited important conversations around consent, re-thinking rigid gender roles and expectations about romantic relationships," Grosz said. "I was

happy to see students' excitement about sharing their work on these topics with others." Jakoby, though not present at this event, also felt the day served an important purpose and appreciated the due attention relevant philosophical developments received. "Our discipline fosters philosophical analysis, reflection and problem-solving, as well as virtues of intellectual curiosity, courage and compassion," said Jakoby. "Philosophy is a millennial-old tradition, but addresses challenges faced by humanity today." Paige West, a philosophy and political science double major, attended the event for extra credit, but came away pleased. She said she appreciated the attitude of "openness" surrounding discussions. "The majority of the presentations were focused around gender roles and how society perceives ideal men and women," West said. "It was a great turnout." There were nine presentations, all created by students enrolled in the Philosophy of Love and Sex course. In one presentation, junior Juliette Levchenko and senior Kyle Granger offered resources for students who have been victims of sexual assault

and intimate partner violence. "My favorite part was probably just sitting back and watching the other presentations," said Levchenko, neither a philosophy major nor minor. "Everyone did their own creative thing and had their own opinions we could learn about. I felt I learned a lot more about how relevant philosophy is in our daily lives." "The topics started a lot of conversation," Granger added. Philosophy professor Thomas Falkner, proud of the "first-class" program of student scholarship, was also inspired by the conversation. "I most like the fact that it is by students, and for students," Falkner said. "Like my colleagues, I am happy to be an attentive listener at this event."



Photo courtesy of Elizabeth Grosz.

Kyle Parks
Editor-in-Chief
Multimedia Editor

House Republicans unveiled a 400-page tax reform plan in early November that would, among other changes, consider tuition waivers as taxable income for graduate students. This would mean, for example, a student receiving a tuition waiver for \$30,000 in addition to a stipend of \$20,000 would be taxed as if their income is \$50,000. For the approximately 145,000 graduate students receiving such waivers, this could make higher education much less affordable. The American Council on Higher Education estimates that this would tax college students an extra \$65 billion between 2018 and 2027. The bill applies to both private and public institutions, leading to even greater concerns to those attending out-of-state and private institutions, such as MIT, where tuition waivers would register as \$50,000 of additional taxable income, which would be deducted from stipends

GOP Tax Plan Sparks Concern Among Graduate Students

of about \$30,000, which are already taxed. According to Colleen Flaherty of Inside HigherEd, "The GOP tax plan is the first major attempt at federal tax code overhaul in decades, and the political stakes are high. Republicans want a legislative win after months of flops, most notably failed healthcare bills." As the majority of those who would be impacted by this change are studying STEM fields, many feel that this would greatly harm the U.S.' competitive edge in comparison to other highly developed nations. Chris Arnold and Emily Sullivan of NPR state that many believe this is "... to help pay for more than \$1 trillion in tax cuts for U.S. corporations." The House says that this plan represents an overall tax cut, despite the risk of students being taxed far more. Some graduate students calculate that they would be paying 300 to 400 percent the tax they currently do under this code. Other changes that could impact students, as explained by Ariana Figueroa, include a 1.4 percent tax on net investment income for well-endowed private colleges (those holding more than \$250,000 per student), an overturning of the up to \$2,500 deduction for those repaying student loans and earning less than \$80,000 per year, employers being taxed for money they use to cover employees' college costs, the consolidation of three tax credits (American opportunity, lifetime learning, and Hope scholarship) in to a single credit, the phasing out of Coverdell Education Savings Accounts, and an end to debt forgiveness due to death or disability. Based on statistics from the Digest of Education Statistics, about 1 million students completed graduate programs in 2014-2015, though many more are currently enrolled in these. A sizable portion of this population would be impacted by these changes. Note: According to The Guardian, Senate is voting on this plan on Dec. 1, just as this issue was being sent to print.



Photo courtesy of Pixabay user stevepb.

Student Clint Wright Elected as Director of South Western School Board

Spenser Secrest
Assistant Editor

On Tuesday Nov. 7, McDaniel junior Clint Wright was elected to a four-year term as Director of the South Western School District school board.

Wright, a 2015 alumnus of South Western High School in Hanover, Pennsylvania, first became interested in running nearly 11 months ago upon learning of the position's vacancy in his local newspaper. He decided to run shortly after.

Wright was heavily involved in the school during his time there, having participated in both wrestling and cross-country, as well as having been a maintenance worker for a summer. Because of his heavy involvement, Wright saw the district through a variety of perspectives, and felt that he could identify with current student base.

"It's been a wonderful journey," Wright says of his path to victory. "It took a lot of hard work and determination. Going to knock on doors and meeting people was the key to success. People remember you when you take the time to say 'hello' and learn about the issues that matter to them."

Wright was motivated to run because of his love for the district and its people. Wright looks forward most to serving and giving back to the district – he hopes to hear the fresh set of ideas and perspectives from those in the school district.

Wright, a junior Communication major and president of McDaniel's Young Americans for Liberty chapter, became interested in serving on the school board because he has always wanted to get involved and working in government. He felt that

serving on the school board would be a great foundational block.

Some of Wright's duties as head of the school board include carrying out federal and state mandates, implementing education for students, setting district-wide policies (such as the school's curriculum), and levying taxes. Wright will also be involved in appointing and hiring new employees.

Wright has several goals for the South Western school board. These include promoting fiscal responsibility, helping the district function within its means, and showing appreciation to the school employees and support staff.

In addition to these goals, Wright hopes that the school board will focus on providing students with learning techniques and teaching them real-life skills they can use to be



Photo by Kyle Parks.

successful. "I'm honored to be the voice of the people," Wright adds. "I'll give them my undivided attention, and absolute best while on the board."

Brandon Vance
Staff Reporter

Throughout the past few years, the business department has benefitted from a certain faculty member. There have been many professors that have contributed to the department's success, but especially Kerry Duvall.

Duvall has been teaching at McDaniel for the past four years. During this time, she has done a tremendous amount for not only her students but the entire business department as well. One of the biggest contributions Duvall has made was implementing Interview Day. This day allows students in the business department to interview with top companies throughout Baltimore, potentially leading to future careers.

"We have made major improvements over the last couple of years with Interview Day," said Duvall. "We work closely with the

The Success of Many Stems From One

Writing Center and CEO office to review student's résumés to prepare for their interviews. We also have RSM come in and present to our students about how to interview. I focus on Excel in my classes, which is so important to business students."

Duvall teaches accounting courses, which has drawn a lot of students to the accounting major. This gives students an opportunity to learn about her past experiences at one of the top accounting firms, KPMG. She was very successful in the business world and now strives to help students become the best they possibly can be.



Kerry Duvall.
Photo courtesy of McDaniel College.

"The best part of being a professor at McDaniel are the students," said Duvall. "They are always in my office, even when they aren't in my classes anymore."

Duvall is an advisor to a lot of students majoring in business, economics, accounting, finance, and more. A majority of the students in those majors have requested to have her as a faculty advisor. With that being said, many of her students have built a close relationship with her throughout their four years at McDaniel. They know she gives 100 percent of her attention to the success of every student and won't hesitate to accept anything

short of excellence. "I can go in her office any day or time and talk," said Shawn Macburnie, a junior majoring in accounting. "She set up mock interviews to help prepare me for Interview Day and always instills the phrase substance over form." Many of the changes to the curriculum have stemmed from Duvall and her colleagues. Duvall, as well as other professors in the department, incorporated new concentrations to give the students more experience before graduating. "The business department has undergone a big transformation this past year, but it has helped set up a future in accounting for myself," said Tom Davis, an accounting student. "The concentrations that have been added to my résumé were brought up in multiple interviews on Interview Day."

Love Your Melon aims to help cancer's youngest victims

Olivia Storer
Staff Reporter

Last year Erin Nelson, crew leader of McDaniel's Love Your Melon branch, was given the opportunity to visit Sinai hospital in Baltimore. Nelson and other members of the campus group saw first-hand the impact that their visit had on the kids.

"It was amazing," said Nelson. "The kid's faces lit up and their parents were so thankful. We were able to hang out with them and just give them the opportunity to interact with people outside of their family and the hospital staff that they see every day."

Late last month, hundreds of Love Your Melon campus crews across the county celebrated the fifth anniversary of the University of St. Thomas-born foundation. The annual celebration of the charity's establishment, which works to improve the lives of children battling cancer, is known as Love Your Melon Day. Among the groups celebrating the occasion was the one here at McDaniel College.

This year, the national organization honored the day by visiting more than 150 hospitals and Ronald McDonald Houses along with releasing a new children's book. Meanwhile, on campus, Nelson and her crew focused on creating more awareness for the charity with the

help of social media. "We set up tables outside of 'Glar (Englar Dinning Hall) to promote what Love Your Melon does, we do social media posts and try and go around campus encouraging people to purchase beanies," said Nelson. "Every time someone buys a hat from Love Your Melon they donate a hat to a kid battling cancer."

The McDaniel crew, which now has 30 members, was started last year by a group of students involved in the Alpha Sigma Tau sorority and now includes members from other organizations on campus.

"A girl in our sorority pitched the idea to us last year and we all fell in love with it straight away," recalled Nelson. "It's just one of those things that you want to be a part of. The beanies are really cute and it's such a good cause!"

As an organization, Love Your Melon arranges hospital visits where campus crews deliver the beanies to sick children and spend time with them and their families. Madi Hively, a McDaniel sophomore and member of Love Your Melon, explains how these hospital visits were one of the reasons she joined the club in her freshman year.

"I discovered Love Your Melon online and loved everything they stood for so when I found out that we had a club on campus I knew I wanted to join," said Hively. "My

favorite thing we do are the hospital visits, I'm really looking forward to going on one. They are such a great opportunity to see how much of an impact this organization can make on people's lives."

As for the future of the McDaniel branch, increased awareness is the goal, particularly when it comes to social media.

"Love Your Melon has a credit system," explained Nelson. "You get 0.25 credits for every follower your crew has on social media and that credit level builds to the opportunity to do events centred around helping kids with cancer."

These events include swab drives for bone marrow matches, hospital visits, Ronald McDonald House dinners and Make a Wish reveals.

"The more people that are aware of us and our presence on campus, the more we can do!" said Nelson.

New member Caitlin Lamm, who joined Love Your Melon to become more involved here at McDaniel, simply explained the importance of spreading awareness on campus.

"We need to get the word out so people become aware of our cause and buy more hats!" said Lamm.

In its sixth year of establishment the national Love Your Melon organization continues to positively impact the lives of children and families across the country through the work of crews and leaders like



Meg Schlesinger and Madi Hively of Love Your Melon. Photo by Olivia Storer.

Nelson and the members of the McDaniel organization.

Fueled by the knowledge that they can make a real difference in the lives of children living with cancer, the McDaniel Love Your Melon crew will continue to spread its message and promote the great work that it does.

"Childhood cancer sucks," said Nelson. "Getting to be a part of their lives and making them feel a little better during the process makes everything worth it!"

Gunnar Ward
Staff Reporter

Before even walking through the doors of Silver Linings Lavender, customers are welcomed by the scents — and sense — of being surrounded by lavender in a field of vibrant purple flowers.

However, instead of opening their eyes to glowing lavender plants, customers take in the rustic interior design of Silver Linings Lavender, which sits peacefully on 235 E. Main street in Westminster. With each customer drawn in by the lavender aroma, the shop’s roots dig deeper into the community since breaking ground earlier this year.

Soon customers and nature lovers alike really will be in a lavender field, as the current goal for owner Dawn Pritchard is to open a lavender farm in Carroll County, filling the area’s void — currently, there is a lack of public gardens.

“A few years ago I was visiting family in England, and while there we happened across a lavender farm and instantly I wanted one,” Pritchard said. “It became my job [to establish a lavender farm in Carroll County].”

With over 1,000 likes on the company Facebook page, Silver Linings Lavender has positive reviews from Westminster residents.

“The store is fun to shop in,” Westminster City Councilwoman

Westminster’s Field of Purple Flowers

Mona Becker said. “It is small and cozy with a wonderful selection of lavender products.”

Products ranging from bath bombs to body spray are available both in-store and online at www.silverliningslavender.com. With the holiday season approaching, supporting local business is more important now than ever.

“Buying local is extremely important,” Pritchard said. “When you’re buying from a local company, you know the ethics behind it are solid, you know that money is going back into the community and helping [others].”

All products at Silver Linings Lavender are made by hand, and in addition to lavender products, Pritchard is active in beekeeping. The honey and beeswax collected from her beekeeping have both been used in her formulations Pritchard said. She also plans to sell honey at Silver Linings Lavender in the future.

Actively working with real materials for her business and personal use reflects the dedication Pritchard has to her crafts.

“I’ve never met an owner more passionate about her products than Dawn, and it’s obvious from as soon as you walk in the door that these products are carefully crafted with a great deal of love and knowledge,” said Tiffany Hepding Noone, owner

of Little Cuddlebug Photography in Westminster.

Pritchard’s knowledge of her products stems from her degree in horticulture — the science of growing plants — from Temple University, where she graduated with honors.

Like any entrepreneur, Pritchard overcame obstacles in opening her business.

“I almost had the farm,” Pritchard said. “I spent months getting the mortgage and meeting all the hoops, then the very last minute [I was told] I didn’t have enough experience and [the other business party] backed out.”

Despite the lavender farm being postponed, Pritchard says, the city of Westminster has encouraged and assisted in the shop’s establishment.

Pritchard was the winner of the 2013 Carroll Biz challenge and was granted \$5,000 for outlasting 14 other companies in pitching her business to a panel. Since then, Westminster and its residents continue to assist Silver Linings Lavender. Pritchard said Tiombe Paige, owner of the Cultivated boutique in Westminster, helped her establish the store.

“The business community of Westminster has been amazing,” Pritchard said. “They have been super supportive.”



Dawn Pritchard, owner of Silver Linings Lavender. Photo by Gunnar Ward.

In addition to the ultimate goal of opening a lavender farm in Carroll County, Pritchard looks to spread the roots of Silver Linings Lavender across the country.

“The sky’s the limit [and] I am never content,” Pritchard said. “I always want more [business] and would love to have more stores.”

“Watch out, Lush,” she adds with a laugh. Lush is a handmade cosmetics retailer with chains throughout the country.

Editor’s note: In connection with McDaniel College, Silver Linings Lavender offers student discounts and are looking to hire interns for accountants/ bookkeepers and marketing.

Local coffee company providing jobs, fostering community for developmentally disabled

Atticus Rice
Sports Editor

Erin Baldwin likes to talk about her job as a coffee roaster at Furnace Hills Coffee Co. in downtown Westminster just as much as she likes the job itself.

“I like putting the labels on,” she said with a smile, sitting outside the Main Street shop that offers coffee by the cup and the pound. Working with family, creating Erin’s Breakfast blend and having fun every day also highlight her work.

A Carroll County resident with Down Syndrome, Baldwin is happy to be working at the small-batch, specialty roaster, which was founded with the mission to help employ adults with developmental disabilities.

Erin Baldwin has been working at Furnace Hills since she and her father, Dave Baldwin, opened their doors in 2010.

“We actually started in our kitchen,” said Dave Baldwin. “We moved here about six years ago.”

“She came home [from a Wisconsin group home] and needed a job,” he said of his daughter. “We were all new to Maryland and just started things up.”

Nationally, the unemployment rate for adults with mental disabilities



Erin and Dave Baldwin inside their 71 W Main St. shop. Photo by Atticus Rice.

is twice that of those without, according to a 2017 Bureau of Labor Statistics report. Furnace Hills is helping change the perception that adults with mental disabilities can’t perform in the workplace.

“It’s just wonderful that Dave and Erin are doing the business,” said Don Rowe, executive director of the ARC of Carroll County, an organization that supports people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

“It’s really refreshing to see a

person with a disability running her own business,” added Rowe. “It’s a wonderful statement for what people with disabilities can accomplish.”

Dave and Erin Baldwin are also hoping their presence at 71 W. Main St. can help revitalize the community.

“It would be great if we could get a cart with coffee on it and give out free coffee to those who need it,” Dave Baldwin said to a group of customers inside the shop as he explained their mission.

Erin Baldwin enjoys getting to know the customers, too. Expect her to introduce herself and ask for your name as you wait for your purchase.

Already, Furnace Hills has partnered with the ARC of Carroll County, helping to raise funds during their capital campaign one year.

“They made a special coffee that we sold and then the proceeds went to our campaign,” said Rowe. “They involved the people we support in the taste test. [They] picked their favorite coffee and that’s what we went with for the campaign.”

Furnace Hills also donates a portion of the sales from their Buddy Walk blend to the National Down Syndrome Society.

The roaster is also partnering with McDaniel College, putting out a McDaniel blend and Green Terror blend, both to be available at the Green and Go and Pub, according to Dave Baldwin.

“By the pound and by the cup,” he assured.

Although the Baldwins hope their downtown presence can have a positive impact on the community, they’ve extended their warm smiles well beyond Westminster—well beyond Maryland, even.

The roaster has an account in Iowa that has a weekly order of up to 60 pounds and is set to increase that number with the opening of a second location.

“We just shipped 21 pounds to Yakima, Washington,” Dave Baldwin said.

Furnace Hills also has strong relationships with the farmers who grow their beans.

“It’s all naturally grown,” added Baldwin. “All hand-picked.”

He hopes that as the business grows, so can the number of adults with developmental disabilities they hire.

The largest source of revenue for Furnace Hills comes from the Main Street shop with the website, furnacehillscoffee.com, right behind.

The Baldwins’ long-term goals include the business becoming a regional roaster.

“I want a Furnace Hills roastery in every region,” said Dave.

They already have affiliates in Pennsylvania and South Carolina.

For now, Dave and Erin Baldwin will continue to grow their Westminster business and foster community on Main Street.

“It’s just wonderful to see someone start a business and see it thriving in the community,” said Rowe. “It’s great for the community and great for the family.”



Erin Baldwin has been working at Furnace Hills Coffee Co. since she and her fathered opened their doors in 2010. Photo by Atticus Rice.

**Adrian Stanley
Staff Reporter**

Guitars line the walls, pianos sit on the floor, and the sounds of brass and woodwind instruments can be heard emanating from the teaching rooms in the back. The welcoming atmosphere of Coffey Music is apparent upon entrance, and that is just what its owner, Bob Coffey wants.

Coffey Music, located at 31 East Main Street in Westminster, is a staple of the town and a long-standing member of Main Street, opening in 1984. The fact that Coffey Music ever even opened its doors is a miracle in and of itself; Coffey would be the first to tell you that.

“I never had any aspirations of opening a music store,” said Coffey. “I was working for Mr. Christy at Christy Music, and he asked me if I wanted to manage the store, I said yes.”

Coffey is a man that loves what he does and has years of experience doing it. And while he may have gained some grey hair along with his experience, he still maintains the energy and passion of youth.

Things did not work out well for Christy, as he was forced to file for bankruptcy and close his shop.

“I was out looking for a possible new space for Mr. Christy at the time, when the leasing agent turned to me and said, ‘Bob, why are you doing this? Why not open your own store?’” Coffey recounted. “I

Music with “Staying Power”



Photo by Adrian Stanley.

didn't have any business degrees, I graduated from Towson with a music engineering degree, but the deal I got from the leasing company was too good.”

Starting with humble beginnings just a few doors down in the Winchester Exchange Building, Coffey slowly built up his business.

“When we started, it was only 800 square feet,” Coffey said. “We started small and have just grown and grown and grown.”

Though he may have started small—one employee and six teaching rooms—he now has 12 employees and 22 teaching rooms.

Recent McDaniel graduate Najee Banks now also works at Coffey Music.

“Working here is what you would expect from working at a music store,” Banks said. “You actually have a good time, and Mr. Coffey really cares about us as musicians.”

A large portion of the store's business comes from rentals, especially during “rental season,” when parents bring their kids in to rent their instruments for school.

“The store can get hectic with all the customers, but Mr. Coffey always remains calm,” Banks said. “He's always looking out for the

parents and the kids. The monthly rental payments are actually pretty moderate and we let them return at any time.”

The store is often filled with customers, all there for varying reasons. Some are just looking around, some are renting, and some are there for lessons.

William Barkowicz was stationed at a piano on the floor on a recent afternoon. He put his fingers on the keys and before you could blink the store was filled with the sound of Mötley Crüe's “Home Sweet Home.”

“I get lessons here,” Barkowicz said. “I enjoy the atmosphere and love playing the instruments. I come on all the time.”

The store also hosts events fairly regularly. Every first and third Friday of the month Coffey's hosts an “Open-Bluegrass Night” from 6-8 p.m.

“A couple years ago, a customer suggested it,” Coffey said. “We clear the floor out and it's a fun time.”

Although the store has been around for 32 years, not everything is the same.

“The internet has changed everything,” Coffey said. “We don't have a huge presence on the internet, we still conduct most of our business in the store, but advertising is entirely different. I used to buy an ad in the Carroll County Times, now it's all on Facebook or Twitter or Instagram.”

Coffey has been in this business for a long time and shows no signs of slowing down.

**Chris Anthony
Staff Reporter**

Basketball at McDaniel generally has a good turnout in terms of student support and a vocal fan base. But something was different this time. From the first women's basketball home opener against Chatham University it was evident that this may be one for the books.

Louder than ever, more fans than normal, and a team confidence in past years, everyone in the stands knew they were in for a great first game. Rolling to a 79-47 win, the women's basketball team gave the fans what they were asking for.

“Get ready for a season unlike

A New Era of Women's Basketball

any other,” said junior guard Renie Tsomos.

Since their return to campus at the beginning of the fall, the women's basketball team has not taken a break in preparation for this upcoming season. On Oct. 15, their preseason officially started.

The preseason for women's basketball was intense, according to several players from the team, ticking off conditioning, lifting, and shooting drills all intended to prepare them for what's to come.

This year, head coach Becky Martin has picked three seniors from

her team of 16 student-athletes to take charge on and off the court. Jasmine Smith, Melanie Yeomans, and Libby Bowles will share the captain duties for their final season of Division III basketball. Martin has successfully been leading the women's basketball team for over 36 seasons, and this may be one of her best squads.

“As captain, I plan to work hard every day,” said Yeomans. “I will motivate and encourage my team so we can play our best.”

Prior to the season, Martin recruited to fill her team with all

the best players. The McDaniel basketball staff has been attending local tournaments, as well as hosting some of their own, to gather players with a wide range of skills; who are interested in playing basketball in college.

“Upon the graduation of last year's seniors, the team lost a significant amount of height. Coach plans to make up for that by increasing our speed and accuracy this year,” said Tsomos. “Coach pushes us a lot harder this year. The workouts and training she puts us through helps us stay in shape and conditions us for longer and harder

-continued on page 6-

Food Sunday: Offering Carroll County a Helping Hand

**Claire Cappuccilli
Staff Reporter**

Carroll County's Food Sunday has been feeding families in our community since 1982. In recent years, they have had help from McDaniel College students.

The service fraternity Alpha Phi Omega (APO) completed volunteer work at Carroll County's Food Sunday in preparation for Thanksgiving.

“I enjoy doing volunteer work in Carroll County, it gives me a chance to get away from campus and help the members of our community,” said senior and APO member Kelsey Golias.

In past years, holiday preparation was done on campus. Students helped prepare for bag fluffing events by placing a bag within another bag so they would be ready to fill at Food Sunday. This year, students went down to Food Sunday to fill the bags.

“We had McDaniel students put the food in a bag and place them in a wire basket and set aside for distribution,” said Denis Fahey, the food bank coordinator. “We normally prepare the food packages a week



Photo by Claire Cappuccilli.

before the holiday so they have time to come and pick it up.”

“We have been mostly packing Thanksgiving foods to hand out,” Golias said. The holiday packages include goods like stuffing, green beans, sweat potatoes, corn and brownies.

Food Sunday is a non-profit organization that dedicates its time to providing food to families in need around Carroll County. They distribute weekly grocery packages, which include meat, eggs, fruit, vegetables,

bread and milk.

“We like to get themed packages,” said Fahey. “We suggest a breakfast theme or Italian. This is something that we do not normally handout.”

Food Sunday has been in operation since 1982, and is running with the efforts of volunteers and members of the community. They receive funding through community fundraisers and direct mail solicitation. They also receive donations from individuals, schools, service organizations, churches and local grocery

stores.

“Items we rarely get are foods that are kid friendly,” said Fahey. “We don't get cereals with a lot of sugar in it, Frosted Flakes, things like that. Another thing is canned fruit or meats.”

With three locations, in Westminster, Eldersburg and Taneytown, they are able to serve 400 families a week.

“One food package serves a family of two to three, two packages will go to a family of four to six and three packages will go to a family of seven or more,” said Golias. “One package is meant to last four days.”

“During the holidays is when we need volunteers the most,” Fahey said.

Volunteers typically help with food drives and inventory help. McDaniel students are able to help with holiday preparation; however, they leave campus right before Christmas.

“I look forward to Saturdays,” said Sijui Kama Bartrum, a senior and member of APO. “I have fun going to Food Sunday with my friends and putting together meals for those in need.”

Tiffany Afoakwa
Staff Reporter

“There’s tribes all across the United States, but when you walk down the streets, how many American Indians do you see? We are not extinct. For we have survived and we are here,” said Mark Tayac, 29th Generation Chief of the Piscataway Indian Nation.

On Nov. 14, McDaniel’s Office of Student Diversity and Inclusion (OSDI) celebrated Native American Heritage Month with cultural performances from Mark Tayac and the Piscataway Indian Nation Singers and Dancers. In garments made of feathers, animal skin, and more, the performers highlighted traditional song and dance to raise awareness of American Indian culture in the U.S.

The Piscataway Indian Nation is an indigenous tribe native to and presently residing in Maryland. Performing across the nation, tribe members educate American audiences by telling stories passed down through generations. “We’ve been doing this now for a little over thirty years,” Tayac said, “but one of the reasons that we started our performing group was to change images that not always portrayed American Indian Culture, or history at times, through a very positive or accurate way.”

From Western “Cowboy and Indian” films, to sports teams using tribal mascots, to cartoons like Pocahontas, the performers seek to dismantle societal representations of American Indians and replace them with the truth. “We’re able to share the beauty of our culture, but we’re able to tell the history of our people from our voices – the trials and tribulation,” Tayac said.

OSDI Director Jose Moreno believes that a program featuring culture can be an extension of what students learn in class. “People

need to understand and see the differences. Being inclusive also means not just accepting people, but learning about different cultures,” Moreno said. “Just because we may not have a large population of American Indians here, doesn’t mean we shouldn’t learn about them.”

As for students reactions, over 15 audience members volunteered to take part in acts like playing “stickball,” or modern-day lacrosse, and the rabbit dance, a social dance used to strengthen bonds in youth dating and friendships. “There were some students that came and said ‘I’m going because I have American Indian blood or heritage.’ For them to see that and take pride in it, it means a lot,” Moreno said.

Tayac agrees that students should be more involved in learning about diversity. “College students are the fiber of this country. They’re tomorrow’s politicians, lawyers, doctors, and workers,” he said. “In the Indian way of life, we’re always taught, everything that we do in our lifetime will affect the next seven generations still yet to be born.”

Sophomore Dorothee Cadet, who attended the event, stated, “I want to know more. They’ve opened up my interest in learning about different tribes and aspects of their culture.”

Throughout the show, the performers connected to the audience with both traditional and modern animal dances like the “Eagle Dance,” which signifies the birth and guidance of the eagle.

Drumming was also a key component of the show. Tayac emphasized that the drum represents the heartbeat of life. For American Indians, as long as the drum goes on, the tribe goes on.

Cadet continued, “How many dances that could come from one drum – that was symbolic for me.

Piscataway Indian Nation Gives A Tribal Tribute



Mark Tayac. Photo by Kyle Parks.



Photo by Kyle Parks.

That’s a part of history that should have been spoken about more.”

Out of the show, Mark Tayac and the performers wore regular attire, attempting to show that their people work regular jobs and live in regular homes, like everyone else.

Despite outdated images that

American Indians still live on reservations and in Teepees, Tayac believes that his culture is more than just a show and wearing buckskin clothing. He said, “It’s not something that just lives in a museum, but it lives in our hearts and it’s alive among our people.”



Photo by Kyle Parks.



Photo by Kyle Parks.

-continued from page 5-
games. Everything is so much more fast-paced this year.”

On Nov. 18, McDaniel faced off against No. 2 Christopher Newport, one of the hardest competitors McDaniel is looking at this season. The scoring throughout was fairly even, but by the fourth quarter, McDaniel began to slip, giving up a 12-0 run to Christopher Newport, allowing them a 71-61 victory.

Despite the tough loss, McDaniel proved that they could hold their own. Not only were they able to show off that they could keep up with the No. 2 team in the division, but were also able to play well enough that Christopher Newport

A New Era of Women’s Basketball (continued)

fell to fifth in the Division III poll. “The way we played against Christopher Newport gave us so much confidence going into conference play,” said Liv Storer, sophomore forward. “If we can play the way we did against them all year, we are going to be able to compete against the best Centennial Conference teams. It was such an awesome team win; everyone contributed and we never gave up.”

The team has practice almost every day, generally lasting about two and a half hours. While practicing, the team runs through defensive sets, shooting drills, and real game scenarios. Using the full court allows

players to work on their stamina and prepare for actual games.

They also go through a breakdown of the teams that they are going up against each week. This helps give the coaches and players an insight into planning defensive sets each game.

“I recommend that the fans get ready,” said Tsomos. “It is going to be a really loud and intense season with lots of excitement.”



The women’s basketball team during warmups.

Lelia Vetter
Staff Reporter

On Thursday Nov. 16, Africa’s Legacy held their eighth annual dinner, a night of fun, food, and performances. There was an enthusiastic energy to the room the entire night, with the members of Africa’s Legacy celebrating their cultures and educating those in attendance.

This year the dinner was entitled “Clash of the African Regions,” and it was a fight of champions between three of the regions of Africa: East, South, and West Africa.

A skit at the beginning introduced the regions and the battle between them, and dinner-goers were told that at the end of the night it would be up to them—they would vote and choose which region of Africa had performed the best.

The dinner also tied in a donation event—Africa’s Legacy is working with a student, Manaal Moussa, who is collecting toiletries for women in Togo. Music was played as members of Africa’s Legacy went around the room collecting money for the cause.

Each of the regions were introduced—East, South, and then West—and each region put on performances. Each of the performances were a combination of traditional dance, modern dance,



Photo by Lelia Vetter.

informative facts about the region, and more.

The East began with a skit with three football players, portraying the three regions, and the East was described as small, but mighty. Their section went on to give facts about the East, such as having the largest lake and the largest mountain—Lake Victoria and Mount Kilimanjaro.

The South opened by entering with drum beats and filing onto the stage. Their performances included two dances and a spoken word piece in which student Allysa Mpofu talked about leaders of the South including Nelson Mandela, Desmond Tutu, and Sir Seretse Khama. Additionally, the audience learned that there are

twelve official languages in South Africa, and that it is the Land of Diamonds.

The West put on a skit taking place in a village. Dancers performed both modern and traditional dances for the king of the village. Throughout the West’s performances, they had informational segments where they asked “did you know?” and included information about the West and Africa in general.

It was then time for the final decision. Attendees of the dinner voted on which region was the best, and after drum rolls the third, second and first place winners were announced—with the South coming in first. All of those in the

South regions came up on stage to celebrate, and the Legacy dance team came up to perform.

The Legacy dance team performed twice during the night, before and after the introduction to and performances by each of the African regions. They were bookends to the performance, bringing Africa’s Legacy and the African regions together.

After the dance team, each member of Africa’s Legacy came up onstage for the fashion show segment, portraying different African clothing and styles. Every member got to have a small moment where they showcased their clothing.

The event concluded with closing remarks from one of the Africa’s Legacy advisors, Ambi Shannon. She praised Africa’s Legacy on their dedication. She detailed the efforts of the members of Legacy and repeatedly asked the audience to say the word “initiative” in response, emphasizing how much initiative and drive that Africa’s Legacy has and how they will continue to excel because of those qualities.

Africa’s Legacy meets in Hill Hall 017 on Thursdays at 9 p.m. Their next big event is United, which will take place the Friday before Spring Fling.



Photo by Lelia Vetter.



Photo by Lelia Vetter.

McDaniel Theater Performs “Carrie: The Musical”

Laurel Pogue
Staff Reporter

McDaniel’s Theater Arts Department is back for the second show of the semester, “Carrie: The Musical.” The show was directed by Josh Selzer, an alumnus and art director of McDaniel College, and ran from Nov. 15 to 18.

Based on Steven King’s bestselling 1974 horror novel, “Carrie,” the original 1988 musical was written by Lawrence D. Cohen with lyrics by Dean Pitchford and music by Michael Gore. It had a very short run that gained it a cult following, and became more popular after its 2012 Off-Broadway revival.

The musical is told within a frame narrative of Sue Snell (Megan Smith) being interrogated about the fateful events that took place during her senior prom in Chamberlain, Maine.

Her story follows Carrie White (Emma Bartels-Jones), an unpopular high schooler who struggles with bullies at school and abuse from her highly religious mother Margaret (Elizabeth Van Den Berg) at home.

Sue pities Carrie and regrets



Photo courtesy of McDaniel College.

bullying her, so she asks her boyfriend Tommy Ross (Brian Bowen) to take Carrie to the prom. Meanwhile, the worst of the bullies, Chris Hargensen (Danielle Taylor) and her boyfriend Billy Nolan (Brandon Richards) plot horrific revenge upon her.

The stresses of Carrie’s life are only compounded by the fact that

her latent telekinetic powers are beginning to surface, following her first period and the bullying that arose because of it. The powers were depicted in a unique way, being portrayed by an ensemble (Allisa Baker, Wesley Brown, Karly Congero, Torreke Evans, and Olivia Michel) dressed all in black who moved props and set pieces when

Carrie became agitated and started to lash out.

The cast was comprised of current students Allisa Baker, Emma Bartels-Jones, Vanessa Bliss, Bryan Bowen, Mikayla Braswell, Karly Congero, Ethan Cortes, Torreke Evans, Matt Foley, Joseph Fox, Jonathan Halberstam, Trevor Haupt, Veronica Johns, Valerie Lamb, Lauren McKenna, Olivia Michel, Brandon Richards, Chris Shatzer, Megan Smith, Danielle Taylor, Corey Van Huff, and Patsy Zetkulic.

Additionally, these students were joined for the first time by both alumni and a member of the faculty. These cast members were alumni Brooke Hain and Wesley Brown and Elizabeth Van Den Berg, professor and head of the theater department.

The theater department is presenting one more event this semester, a Ten Minute Play Festival, featuring five short plays by student directors on Dec. 5 at 7:30 p.m. Performances will resume in the spring and will include The Student Directed One-Act Play Festival and “Bakkhai.”

Local Artists Host Annual Carroll County Artists’ Studio Tour

Marya Topina
Staff Reporter

Past and current McDaniel students, faculty, and professors, as well as Carroll County community members and residents came together to celebrate the joys of art and the inspirations that come with it.

On Dec. 2 and 3 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., local artists opened their studio doors to the public for the 11th Annual Carroll County Artists’ Studio Tour. This self-guided event is free and family friendly.

“The studio tour is a great time to meet artists in their own environment,” said Virginia Sperry,



Art by Carolyn Seabolt.

one of the participating artists. “You can see how they go through the creative process. Ask them questions, find out what tools they can’t live without, how they problem solve, what are their inspirations. [It’s also] a great place to find treasures for gifts or for yourself!”

With 13 stops, the Studio Tour is a great opportunity for people of all ages to explore their inner artist. According to Sharon Schaeffer, a McDaniel alumna and educator, the Studio Tour has had a long history, spanning back to the 1990s when the Carroll County Crafts Guild first began inviting the public into personal studios. In 2006, the tour was reborn as the Carroll County Artists’ Studio Tour.

Other McDaniel educators, such as Linda Van Hart and Ken Hankins, have also been involved with the tour since its creation. Schaeffer showcased her woven baskets with Carolyn Seabolt at her studio Cat Tracks.

Trista Fedoruk, specializing in fiber art, has also participated in the tour for several years. She first became interested four years ago

when fellow artist Laura Wailes of Thistledown Farm Pottery and her daughter Kelsey Wailes of The Kelsey Wailes Company asked her to be a guest artist.

“I spent two amazing days chatting with people and demonstrating my fiber art techniques, while offering them a wide variety of crocheted items to choose from,” said Fedoruk. “The experience was wonderful and I was delighted to become an official member the following year.”

Many artists mentioned that they looked forward to the relaxed atmosphere and the friendly people that stop by. Lori Baker, another participating artist, is excited to join the tour for the first time this year.

“I hope that visitors, no matter what studios they visit, will gain a better understanding of what goes into the making of art,” said Baker. “Also, I hope that the tour inspires everyone to take a class or dabble in some form of art.”

Charlie Maiorana, a newcomer to Carroll County, joined the tour for the first time. He plans to teach classes in his newly constructed



Art by Virginia Sperry.

studio in Manchester and hopes that the tour will inspire visitors to come back in the future to take a class.

The various stops on the tour gave visitors the chance to meet artists, view live demonstrations, purchase artwork, and even make some art of their own – all at their own pace.

For more information on the tour, go to www.ccartists.com or stop by Off Track Art Studio, located just off of West Main Street, across from O’Lordan’s Pub. You can also learn more on their Facebook page.

Weston Funk
Contributor

“Justice League” is the comic-bookest comic book movie I’ve ever seen. There are boomtubes and motherboxes and parademons, beautiful Jack Kirby nonsense.

There’s Aquaman, chugging whiskey in slow motion while “Icky Thump” blasts through the speakers of your local multiplex. What I’m trying to say is, this movie is *cool*. Zack Snyder has outdone himself in his uber-macho, speed-ramped way.

The story still doesn’t matter, the villain is still a dumb CGI mess, but it’s an absolute blast. Whenever

20,000 Leagues Above my Expectations

movies have been compared to video games, it has been meant in a derogatory way. This is like the most fun video game I’ve ever played. It’s “Injustice meets Shadow of Mordor,” and it’s a big, dumb, awesome experience.

That said, it is incredibly dumb. This is a movie where the decision was made to remove an actor’s mustache in postproduction with CGI. The CGI is not very good, and there’s a whole lot of it. The entire movie looks green-screened. However, this gives every shot a comic book panel look. The movie

very obviously apes the marvel formula. The Flash is essentially Spider-Man, Batman is Iron Man. Joss Whedon, the man who brought “The Avengers” together, fixed the movie.

Fortunately, depending on your tolerance for spectacle without substance, it works incredibly well. The characters are able to play off of each other. Flash is adorkable, Aquaman is a beast, and it is just plain fun to spend two hours with these characters.

The movie is not overly long like BvS was, but unfortunately that

leads to a lack of time for character development, and plot points in general. There is, of course, some forced exposition. None of the “science” is explained particularly well, and that includes the character of Cyborg, who is super cool, but not very developed. We need a Teen Titans movie for that, I guess.

There are plenty of treats for DC fans, including two credits scenes, both of which would solidly fit in Marvel’s now-plentiful library of stingers. This movie is just fun.

Note: I didn’t like Wonder Woman, so take this all with a grain of salt.

Matthew Danis
Staff Reporter

Currently, there are about 25 McDaniel students studying abroad in places like Hungary, Germany, France, and many more countries—and they’ve got the pictures to show for it.

The winners of the 2017 McDaniel photo contest were announced Nov. 6, at the Hungarian Dinner in Englar dining hall. Contestants were judged in three different categories, “people’s choice,” “best nature” photograph, and “best city” photograph, which were awarded to students Devyn Voorheis, Erik Yanisko, and Samantha Wilson, respectively.

Elizabeth Davis, the director of International and Off-Campus Programs, started the photo contest for this fall. “I help organize, oversee, and administer anything that has to do with going abroad,” said Davis.

“I thought the photo contest would help promote the study abroad program visually and encourage people to participate in studying abroad.”

Zac Sheaffer, a student who studied abroad in Budapest last semester, entered two photos into the contest, one of the Swiss Alps and another of the “The Shoes on the Danube Promenade.”

“I selected this photo because I completed a video project on the memorial and it also became one of my favorite places in the city due its emotional power and historical importance,” said Sheaffer. “It commemorates the Hungarian Jews who were shot at this location by members of the Arrow Cross Party, Hungarian Nazis, in the winter of 1944-1945.”

Scheaffer added that he hopes more students take advantage of the

opportunity to study abroad.

“[It was] an incredible and life-changing experience that I had during my time in Budapest,” he said.

Another participant, Daniel Smith, is currently abroad in Heidelberg, Germany. Smith is living in a single apartment owned by McDaniel that’s just outside the city. “I am enjoying living abroad and having the ability to travel a lot,” said Smith.

“My photo is at the Königssee at the Berchtesgaden National Park, located in Southern Bavaria. The mountains in the background are the border between Germany and Austria.”

Berchtesgaden National Park is one of the most popular tourist destinations in Germany. It’s well known for breathtaking vistas, great hiking trails, active wildlife, and cable car trips.

Junior Erik Yanisko, winner of the best nature photo, has been taking photos for a good portion of his life. He took a photography class in high school, and has learned a lot from his mother who has done freelance photography.

“This spot caught my eye because the Chain Bridge is an iconic spot in Budapest, so I wanted to capture that, and I had been experimenting with long exposure photos,” Yanisko said. “I just figured that I could combine the two and it worked out pretty well.”

Though not all entrants could win, they still took with them the study abroad experiences that will impact them for a lifetime.

Check out the McDaniel College Study Abroad page on Facebook to see all of the photo entries.



Königssee, Berchtesgaden National Park. Photo courtesy of Daniel Smith.



Budapest Chain Bridge. Photo courtesy of Erik Yanisko.



The Shoes on the Danube Promenade. Photo courtesy of Zac Sheaffer.

Kyle Parks
Editor-in-Chief
Multimedia Editor

Finals week is almost among us once again. This week is rightfully dreaded by students – even those of us who stay on top of tasks throughout the semester can expect sleep deprivation, extreme busyness and greatly heightened stress levels.

But it doesn't have to be so bad. There are ways to prevent this week from being harder than it has to be while still emerging successful.

The following pieces of advice have been tremendously helpful to me (and hopefully you):

Make an action plan.

When you know everything that's due and what times your exams are, it is best to decide what to work on

and when. If you're anything like me, it is nearly impossible to multitask, so essays and other assignments will need to be broken into portions.

Be realistic.

Be realistic when estimating how much time each step will take, and assume you'll take longer than you'd prefer to – at the very least, you can be pleasantly surprised by being ahead of schedule. If possible, studying should not be all done at once, and it is often best to begin a few days before an exam. In your action plan, also take into consideration that not studying for an exam until the day before is sometimes the best option based on time constraints. (Also, I attribute last minute cramming to several exam successes. Just saying).

No all-nighters.

Please don't do this to yourself. This should be a last resort. While these affect everyone differently, staying up all night will leave you exhausted and confused for days, something already widely experienced even among the more well-rested during finals. From my experience, it is much better to find a good stopping

point during the night and sleep for a couple of hours before finishing up an assignment and/or studying. Oftentimes, a brief rest can increase productivity and ultimately make tasks less time-consuming.

Prioritize.

You need to decide which aspects of course content you need to really study and which you are pretty proficient in. It is also best avoid switching between the content for multiple classes too frequently – this can become confusing and overwhelming. If you have multiple exams in one day (I'm so sorry) then it will be good to break studying into chunks (part of your action plan). Nonetheless, everyone is different: some benefit from periodically switching between classes, while others do better studying for an exam in its entirety and then moving on to another. Figure out which is best for you.

Accept that your social life will take a hit.

Unfortunately, you'll most likely have to cut back on social life. This can be hard, especially when your friends will be leaving for the se-

mester. Try to combine socialization with other tasks, like eating (side note: skipping meals to save time will quickly become counterproductive). Take a bit longer than you have to at dinner and chat with friends. This will help preserve your mental health, which often suffers during this time of the semester.

Minimize social media use.

Log yourself out of social media accounts. These platforms are designed to get you to spend as much time on them as possible, so it's easy to unintentionally throw away 15 to 20 minutes even when you thought you'd give your newsfeed "a quick look." Only let yourself use social media during occasional breaks. If you need to, consider even turning your phone off while studying.

Keep your eyes on the prize.

Remember that, while life is horrible during this week, you'll be glad you worked so hard when final grades appear on the Archway, after you've had time to relax. And yes, I know it's hard to think about this when it's 5 a.m. and all you want to do is give up.



Image by Kyle Parks.

Michael Cozzi
Staff Reporter

Throughout the news, you often hear various political commentators and publications discuss how the left-right divide is ruining the United States.

What if I were to tell you that there was no such thing as a left-right divide in the United States, but instead there was only a right-wing party and a further right-wing party?

This might sound strange, but in reality we are divided mostly by identity politics and economic class instead of the true meanings of the political philosophies of the left and right.

Many Democratic presidents can be seen as moderately right-wing. For example, during the 1990s, President Clinton was to the right of most Democrats. He balanced the budget through conservative spending and enacted the "Don't ask don't tell" policy.

Another example is President Barack Obama. Instead of implementing radical change during the Great Recession, President Obama continued Bush-era economic stimulus plans. President Obama also deported millions of illegal immigrants, more than any other president, often viewed as a right-wing position. Obama's conservatism is last seen in his Affordable Care Act, taken from the Heritage Foundation, a right-wing think tank.

Ronald Reagan and George W. Bush demonstrate the Republican Party's even farther right-wing stances on economic and social issues.

President Reagan's policies led to the rise of neoliberalism. Neoliberalism purports that economic growth

can be attained through lowering taxes, easing trade barriers, deregulating the economy, and decreasing government spending. Under both Reagan and Bush, civil rights were almost completely eliminated. For example, President Reagan tried to repeal the Civil Rights Act Of 1965, while Bush passed the Patriot Act.

European politics, on the other hand, display much more typically left-wing positions, as seen in the United Kingdom's Labour Party, which is much further to the left than Democrats.

For example, the Labour Party supports staying in the European Union, free university, and the abolition of unpaid internships. Labour is also to the left of Democrats on social policy – they are in favor of stricter environmental protection, a ban on hunting, and more relaxation of immigration policies.

There is some agreement between the two parties, however. Democrats and Labour both support universal healthcare, strong financial regulation, and higher taxes on the wealthy. They also both promote LGBTQ rights, gun control, and environmental protection.

Nevertheless, the UK Conservative Party is still to the left of the Republican Party. The Tories are noticeably to the left when it comes to social issues. Much of the GOP supports tougher immigration regulations, and opposes marriage equality and abortion. Meanwhile, much of the Conservative Party takes a moderate stance of immigration, and supports gay marriage and abortion (with certain limits).

When it comes to economic

issues, the Tories want public spending to be controlled, believe in some market regulation, and support the United Kingdom's National Health Service. This is in contrast to the Republican Party, which supports lowering taxes for the top income brackets, is against a single-payer healthcare system, and is for deregulation of certain sectors of the market.

Let us listen to both sides of the argument, and see which one is the right choice for the problem at hand. As President John F. Kennedy once said, "Let us not seek the Republican answer or the Democratic answer, but the right answer. Let us not seek to fix the blame for the past. Let us accept our own responsibility for the future."

There is No Left-Right Divide in The United States



Photo via Pixabay.

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Sophia Senge
Contributor

My journey with anxiety, like many others, started at a young age. I remember hearing stories from my parents that I now laugh at, about the doctors telling them they’ve got an anxious kid on their hands. The earliest I remember experiencing anxiety was when I was about 5 years old, when I would cry every time someone left my house or wherever I was, thinking I would never see them again.

From then on, adding school and the grueling toll of growing up into the mix, my anxiety only increased and spread into every single aspect of my life. I found myself waking up with awful stomachaches and shaking throughout the day from constant nerves. I went to a child psychologist who taught me all about my anxiety through playing different games with her horses and cool toys. At the time, I was a big horseback rider so I was more than okay with this.

However, I only ever started to understand my anxiety and myself when I actually just had someone to talk to without distraction. I continued therapy for years but eventually stopped because I felt it was no longer working with my particular counselor. As I continued to grow older, my anxiety grew with me. I had a rough time getting bullied in school and was eventually transferred to another school.

I always worried about my parent’s financial situation sending

Anxiety Through One Person’s Eyes



Photo via Pixabay.

me to a private school and also taking care of my sister with multiple disabilities. I recall feeling out of place with my classmates. I would come home and panic to my parents that I hated it and people were rich and snotty and I griped about how I couldn’t handle the new fast paced curriculum that the other kids were already used to. In hindsight – It was no big deal. Everyone learns at their own pace.

When I got to college it was a whole new story. Instead of gaining the freshman 15, I lost 15 pounds. I couldn’t sleep or eat, and I worried and cried about every single thing under the sun. I tried going home every weekend to visit family to try to calm me down, but I eventually realized this was something I had to take on myself.

I decided to accept treatment from my new psychiatrist and take certain medications to help calm my anxiety. I am happy to say that in my case, this treatment was slightly effective and to have even slight relief was a colossal improvement for me. I am in no way saying that medication works for everyone because everyone truly is different, but that is one of many options that can ease the burden of anxiety.

It is still a major struggle and nothing will ever be perfect, but I am

willing to share my story so others may find peace in it and keep trying everything they possibly can without giving up. The stigma around anxiety is that it is for the weak, but this is simply not true. Sure, it may seem weak to cry over not knowing an answer in class, but its important to understand the build up. Anxiety can come in waves or it can stick with you for long periods of time.

There are several treatment options for people dealing with all levels of anxiety that are not just centered on medication. In Westminster alone, there are over 40 private practice psychologists/psychiatrists and about 4 bigger counseling practices that include a variety of therapists and new strategies to managing anxiety. An on-campus option is the Wellness Center, located in the Winslow Center on the second floor.

An off campus option that is available only three minutes away; at 250 Englar Road, Suite 3, Westminster, Maryland, is New Path Counseling Center, which is a center that focuses on a wide range of anxiety and many other disorders.

There are several options only a few minutes away from campus. So many people struggle with anxiety that makes them feel out of control. Sometimes you have to try everything before something finally helps, but it’s without a doubt worth the work.

Robert Arroyo
Contributor

When I was seven I lost my father to colon cancer. My goal for telling his story is one, to establish my father as a real person and two, to raise awareness on cancer prevention in hopes of preventing other families from experiencing my loss.

My recollection of my dad is that he was strong, funny, and even corny at times. As mom tells it, he was charming, charismatic, confident, very suave and quite romantic. His motto, “live life to the fullest, don’t deny yourself the simple pleasures.”

My parents met in late summer 1987 in New York City. One of mom’s coworkers had tried to introduce them over the course of three months. Since my mom was recently divorced, she was too busy raising my sister and had no interest in meeting anyone. Unbeknownst to my mom, the coworker had described my mom to my dad.

One day as she ran to grab an opened elevator, he immediately recognized her. Dad proceeded to introduce himself. Mom noticed his voice right away. He had a deep, relaxing voice that grabbed her attention. When she turned to look at him she felt so small, as my mom is relatively tiny compared to my dad. Needless to say, dad became immediately infatuated with her and made it a point to get to know her better.

That day he would ride her train all the way to her stop. It turns out that he did not live in her area but commuted an hour in the opposite direction from where he lived to have more time with her. The following day, he would ride her train again. This time he gave her a Walkman and a cassette. He had been up all night creating a compilation of his favorite songs, and that’s when she knew

A Man Who Could Have Lived

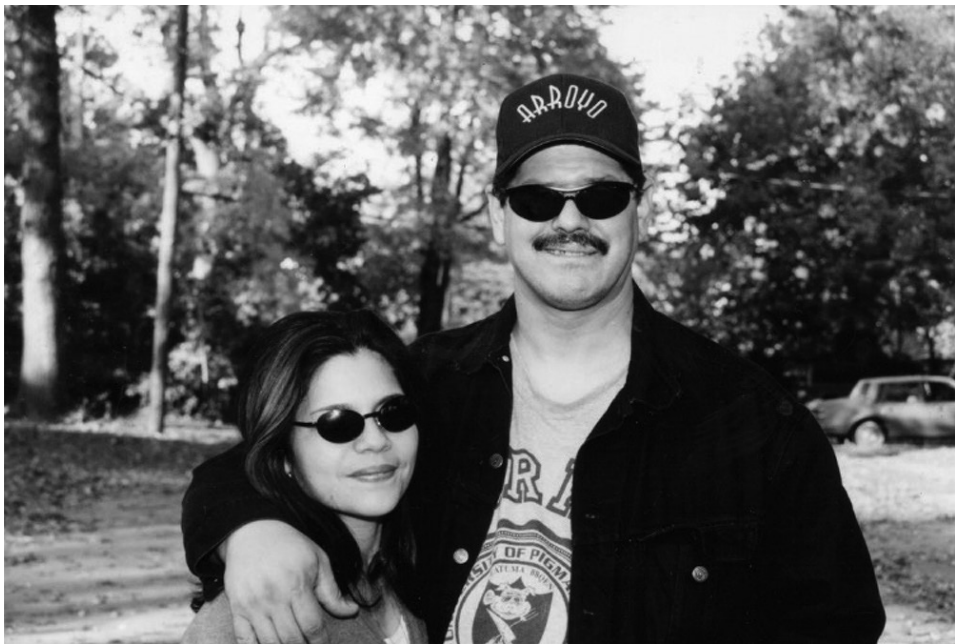


Photo courtesy of Robert Arroyo.

something could develop.

Fast-forward ahead, my dad had already proven that he was a great father. He had a son of his own and had taken it upon himself to provide for Mom and help raise my sister while she finished school. It did not take long before they married. Not long after my brother was born and several years later I too became a part of the happy family. I wish it could have stayed that way.

While I have painted a great picture of my father, he was not perfect. In fact, he battled many demons. Much like his many brothers and sisters, he had bad habits. They smoked, drank, and ate in excess whenever possible as poor families do when fear of not having enough to eat is a possibility. Ultimately, while these were bad traits, it is not the worst thing he did. Since my dad was surprisingly very athletic, doing bike tours with my mom or playing racquetball, his biggest vice was believing he was invincible.

He was in fact not invincible. My dad’s family would later learn after his death that they had a high risk for colon cancer, which is known as familial polyposis. Statistically speaking most people should not have to deal with colon cancer concerns until their 50’s. But in some cases, like my father who was in his 40’s, bad habits can lead to early development.

In my father’s case, no one would have been able to tell externally what was happening to him internally. There were no signs. The only reason we found out that he had cancer was because he sustained a serious leg injury that required surgery. After surgery, he developed a staph infection in the hospital. Once the infection was gone, he continued to deteriorate. Further tests revealed he had stage-five colon cancer. I’ll reiterate: he had stage five cancer and there were no previous signs.

To speak plainly my dad had no chance. Statistically, radiation does not help in any capacity for people with that stage of cancer. We tried

anyway. Being so young in the early 2000’s, I saw his body shrivel up; people had to carry him from room to room, and in the end, he was not strong like he used to be. In November 2004 my dad succumbed to cancer. I remember I had fallen asleep next to him unaware of the seriousness of the situation. I never got a chance to say goodbye.

Things could have been different. Today many people do not seem to place enough importance on themselves and their health. It is a fact that colon cancer is preventable. My message today is to bring colon cancer awareness to the forefront. I want to urge people to take their health seriously. According to an article from The Guardian, from studies in the UK over 46 percent of people have their cancer diagnosed too late. Research suggests that only five percent of cancers are hereditary.

That means the non-inherited causes of cancer, the lifestyle choices we make, the foods we eat, and our physical activity have a direct impact on our overall cancer risk. DO NOT treat your body like it’s invincible; eventually our bodies will retaliate against us. Live your life with a healthy balance. Listen to the signs and symptoms of your body. Talk to your doctor and get checked. I turned 20 this past May, and I made sure to get checked because of my family history. Don’t be a statistic.

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Women’s Lacrosse Raises Awareness for Suicide Prevention

Hannah Maxwell
Contributor

For young adults between the ages of 15 and 24, suicide is one of the leading causes of death — and most college students fall into this age group.

In order to combat this epidemic, McDaniel’s women’s lacrosse team has been participating in a Savers FUNDrive to help prevent suicide. Savers, a thrift store that purchases gently used items to sell back to the community, aims to recycle goods and keep them from going to landfills.

The Savers FUNDrive is a way for organizations to generate profit for a cause important to them, while at the same time assisting Savers in their goal of gathering these goods and reusing them. McDaniel’s FUNDrive is a semester long drive to raise money, goods, and awareness for suicide prevention.

This is not the first time McDaniel women’s lacrosse assistant coach Keirsten MacLellan has been an advocate for this cause. MacLellan has

a role in the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention’s (AFSP) Out of the Darkness Walk, which raises funds for suicide prevention.

“I am the Baltimore Out of the Darkness Walk Chair, so I organize the whole Baltimore Walk Chapter. I also happen to be an Assistant Women’s Lacrosse Coach here at McDaniel, so I was able to get my team involved in one aspect,” MacLellan says.

The team members collect old or gently used hard and soft goods from the McDaniel community. The items are donated to the FUNDrive, where workers at Savers weigh the amount and give the team 10 cents per pound for hard goods such as books and kitchen supplies. 5 cents per pound is given for soft goods such as clothes or towels. The proceeds are then donated to the AFSP.

The women’s lacrosse team has organized two trips to Savers to turn in the donations this semester and has collected over two hundred dollars for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. The team will be

accepting donations until the end of this semester.

Senior lacrosse team member Emily Brownawell says the FUNDrive is “a great way for our team to get involved with the campus for a good cause.”

Brownawell also appreciates the FUNDrive community. “We had the opportunity to meet and interact with other coaches, teams and students we had never collaborated with before.”

Savers FUNDrives not only help raise awareness about various causes, but also are environmentally friendly. Savers sells the donated items for affordable prices in their stores. The items that aren’t sold, instead of being dumped in a landfill, are donated to charity partners such as animal shelters, non-profits, and refugee settlements.

The FUNDrives last year saved 650 million pounds of these items from going into landfills.

McDaniel’s women’s lacrosse team is contributing to the Savers inventory. “We will be accepting clothes, shoes, sporting goods, kitchen items,

toys, games, books, throw pillows, towels, blankets, bed sheets (no bed pillows), bags/purses, belts, and kick-knacks, vases, decor, phone cases, etc,” says MacLellan.

To get involved with American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, you can either create your own FUNDrive by contacting Alli Baldwin at abaldwin@savers.com, or you can help the women’s lacrosse team by bringing your donations to their office in Gill, room 104.



A donation box for the Women’s Lacrosse fundraiser in Gill Gym. Photo by Hannah Maxwell.

Dance Marathon comes to McDaniel College

Alexandra Pepper
Contributor

McDaniel College has a new organization making its way to campus.

Dance Marathon is a nationwide philanthropic event with the purpose of fundraising for the Children’s Miracle Network (CMN). This organization supports children who have health concerns as minimal as broken bones and asthma to children with cancer and birth defects.

CMN’s mission is to save and improve the lives of as many children as possible. The marathon is going to be a year-long campaign, and all of the proceeds will go to the local CMN host hospital, Johns Hopkins.

McDaniel junior Miranda Jacobs

is proud to be bringing this organization to campus. Jacobs had never heard about Dance Marathon until she saw it on social media through one of her friends who attends another school. She started doing some research on the organization and its purpose.

Jacobs learned about Dance Marathon and quickly became interested; she has a passion for working with children and is a frequent dancer. Ultimately, she figures, “there is no better way to bring about awareness and funds for such a great cause than celebrating Dance Marathon style.”

Jacobs has had some struggles bringing this organization to campus.

At first, her start was smooth; the national and local representatives contacted her immediately and they began having weekly phone conferences to discuss the beginning steps of bringing the marathon to McDaniel. Currently, she is having difficulty spreading the word and getting people involved.

In order to move forward, she needs enough students involved so the Dance Marathon can be finalized and have leadership positions filled for the organization. Jacobs hopes that once this bump is taken care of, things will be up and running in no time.

Students who are interested in

being a part of planning the event or holding a leadership position can contact her directly (mlj009@mcDaniel.edu). However, for those who don’t want a leadership role can still get involved. Existing McDaniel organizations and individuals are eligible to make a team, put on a performance, fundraise, and make a positive impact.

The event will be approximately a six-hour dance party to celebrate the funds raised and the individuals being supported. Effected families will give speeches, there will be games, additional fundraisers during the event, a variety of activities, and different organizations doing performances.

Colin Lyon
Assistant Editor

The winter Olympics are fast approaching, and nowhere can this be felt more than in Korea. Anticipation runs in the air as PyeongChang holds the first Winter Games since 1998’s Nagano Games. All in all, two weeks and a staggering one hundred and two events across fifteen sports will bring about the most watched event in winter-sports history.

However, we at the McDaniel Free Press feel the Olympics this year aren’t capturing the true spirit of Olympia. There are certain competitions that should be in the Games this year, but aren’t, and we feel it necessary to spread the word that the Olympics could be so much greater than they are as-is.

1. Cheese Rolling

Cheese Rolling has been one of the major pastimes of the once-sleepy town of Gloucester, England. While it remains traditionally practiced only in England, winners from the United States, Australia, New Zealand, Nepal, and Wales have all entered the competition.

The premise for cheese rolling is simple: a wheel of cheese (traditionally double Gloucester, though it can occasionally stray into parmesan territory) is nudged off the top of a steep, bumpy hill. From there, the competitors race to the bottom, with the winner receiving the cheese wheel as a prize. Generally, it is assumed that the competitors are racing to catch the cheese, but often this



Image courtesy of Pixabay user michaelwedermann.

is impossible, since a 9 pound cheese wheel can reach speeds in excess of seventy miles per hour when rolling down such a steep hill.

This is an excellent competition to add to the Winter Olympics; not only does it exemplify the physical prowess that an athlete must possess to compete (really, how many people can keep their balance on a steep downhill incline over two hundred yards?), but it also provides an exceptional opportunity to replace gold medals with something much more valuable: cheese.

2. Extreme Exam Failing

For too long, the Olympic Games

have been centered on the physical aspect of the human condition. In the original Olympic games, culture and mental exercises were also emphasized; poets composed, speakers orated, and artists created grand paintings and sculptures – all of them standing on equal terms with the pankriatists and wrestlers of Greek antiquity.

With a modern emphasis placed on education, it is the perfect time to re-introduce to the Olympics battles of intelligence; or rather, a lack of intelligence. Given our excellent track record, McDaniel itself can offer some stellar competitors in this field.

3. Bullfighting

Bullfighting has long been a traditional sport of the Spanish people, and in recent years it has gained popularity because of the romanticized notion of a matador expertly dodging a raging bull. We see no reason why this should be limited to only Spain, however.

When cultural events like luge have spread into the Winter Sports, why shouldn’t bullfighting? Besides, the chill will be just enough to cool that raging temper off. Or, if things don’t quite go as planned, it’ll really help to preserve the body until the embalmers reach the scene.

4. Shotgunning

Shotgunning is another longtime tradition held dear to the hearts of many college students. It might not be the most meticulous art, but there’s a certain magnificence to seeing a person go through a half-dozen cans of Natty Lite and roar their triumph to the skies.

Obviously, this comes with a few caveats. A medic would need to be on scene since, you know, alcohol is technically a drug. Drinking too much would either goad the competitors into performing even better or leave them a ruined mess on the ground. Points would also be given based on the quality of the beer. Low-quality products, like Natural Lite and Coors, would be given a higher score due to the sheer foulness of their taste.



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The McDaniel Free Press

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Naumov Case Resolved with Judgment in Favor of McDaniel College

Aidan Finnerty
Staff Reporter

On Jan. 30, 2018, the U.S. District Court for the State of Maryland ruled in favor of McDaniel College in a suit alleging claims including gender discrimination and “intentional infliction of emotional distress,” despite the college’s botching of its own procedures. In suing the school, former professor Dr. Pavel Naumov sought to recover 3 million dollars in lost wages and tuition costs, a decision ultimately ending in McDaniel being awarded \$6355.31 in lost legal fees.

The case, which was brought to the attention of school officials in April of 2014, revealed that a tenured math and computer science professor Dr. Naumov, now teaching courses at Vassar College, had, for a period of eight years beginning in 2006, engaged in behavior President Casey characterized as “consistent with moral turpitude...” that is, sexual harassment creating a hostile workplace.

According to court documents, an internal investigation led by Campus Safety Detective Eric Immler yielded results that, when seen by President



Photo by Kyle Parks.

Casey and then-school Provost Jeanine Stewart, triggered them to file a Title IX complaint against Professor Naumov. Simultaneous to the complaint being filed, Dr. Stewart and at least one other high-ranking school official met with Naumov to discuss his future at the College and to inform him that he might want to hire an attorney, according to the original complaint filed in court against the College. The school did not directly deny this in its response.

It was at this point that the school, by way of Dr. Stewart, filed the Title IX complaint against Professor Naumov; however, Dr. Stewart was not the one Dr. Naumov was accused of perpetrating acts of sexual harassment against. The professor who had come forward with the allegations had resigned her tenured post in April of 2014, having found an untenured position elsewhere, and agreed to be the subject of the case on the condition

of anonymity, according to court documents. With the alleged victim unwilling to testify, school officials had Dr. Stewart stand in the role of complainant for the duration of the Title IX process.

This was an issue during the court case. McDaniel’s self-instituted, opaque Title IX policy from 2014 stated that only the victim of sexual harassment him/herself could file the Complaint to the Title IX coordinator, imperiling all the findings of the school as inconceivable in the light of the school’s contract with its employees, fruit of the poisonous tree as it were. This procedural confusion came concomitant with Dr. Stewart’s resignation of her post as Provost with information tying the two events as reported by the Carroll County Times in 2015.

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Historical Society of Carroll County: Looking to the Future

Emma Carter
Features Editor

On Westminster’s Main Street, three brick buildings — each a former upper-class home at least two centuries old — house the Historical Society of Carroll County.

Inside, staff at the organization work to preserve and teach the county’s history: they plan full calendars of events, gather historical Carroll County artifacts for their exhibits and research library, and stock the museum shop with books and items from local consignors. Right now, one item on the Historical Society’s agenda is receiving extra attention: getting young people involved.

In particular, the Historical Society staff and volunteers are reaching out to the college-aged audience of Carroll County, including, of course, students at McDaniel.

“Everybody says, ‘How come we have nobody in this age group?’” said Gainor Davis, executive director of the organization. Davis, who has served as head of the society for three years, sees gaining involvement from college-aged members of the community as a priority for the Historical Society.

An overwhelming majority of the Historical Society’s membership are baby boomers; only a handful are millennials. Davis suspects the younger generation already has a lot on its plate: going through school, starting careers.

Davis also guesses that a lack of participation from this age group stems from history in school classrooms — where most learning



The Historical Society’s main building on Main Street in Westminster.

Photo by Emma Carter.

comes from books rather than from interactive activities.

One key to gaining a following of college students in the future, Davis believes, is to compensate for this gap in interactivity with children at an even younger age.

“Part of our strategy is to try to make our school adventures more proactive,” she said. In addition to Past Times for Children, a monthly class where children learn about life in Carroll County during the 19th century, Davis and her colleagues are developing more interactive activities for young children, such as traveling trunks.

These are cases of artifacts that Historical Society staff bring to Carroll County elementary schools: each contains items relating to historical themes, like

industrialization, that students can pick up and look at.

“That’s outreach,” said James Lightner, Ph.D., McDaniel College’s historian, who is a former chairman and current member of the Historical Society’s board of trustees. “We’re trying to reach a whole other facet of the community through the visits.”

Last year, the Historical Society invited Carroll County fifth-graders to hand-pick historical artifacts and create exhibits for third-graders. Lightner served as a docent for these exhibits, and he expects this year’s fifth- and third-grade classes to be invited again.

Current older students are a focus at the Historical Society as well.

“One of the things we have

been doing is working with interns,” Davis said. Over Davis’s three years at the Historical Society, she has hired a number of high school and college students, two of whom have been from McDaniel.

Lightner also likes the prospect of having more college interns at the organization, even if they are not majoring in history. He noted that dramatic arts majors, or even computer science majors, could benefit the Historical Society and learn about how management works in this type of organization.

Students will also see a discounted price for membership soon.

“It’s a little expensive for a student to pay the regular membership fees,” Lightner said, “so we’re going to create a special almost half-price membership.” The regular membership fee of \$50 will be split in half for students as well as for teachers.

Davis also plans to hold membership surveys and focus groups to find out what might bring more people to the Historical Society. “We shouldn’t be telling people what they want; we should be listening to them,” she said.

Several McDaniel students have already worked with the organization.

In 2015, students in one of the college’s theater classes wrote and performed scripts for a historical walking tour of downtown Westminster, where they played the roles of Westminster citizens during Corbit’s Charge, a Civil War skirmish that took place in the town in 1863.

-continued on page 3-

New Software Seeks to Simplify Course Registration, Advising

Kyle Parks
Editor-in-Chief
Multimedia Editor

When advising and registration for the Spring 2018 semester came, many students began doing so through a new application. This software, Student Planning, is McDaniel's replacement for WebAdvisor – better known as Archway – which the school hopes will simplify the registration and advising processes for students.

Student Planning is provided by Ellucian, a Virginia-based higher education tech company which also currently provides McDaniel with Archway. According to Registrar Sandra Clark, part of McDaniel's shift to the new software is largely because Ellucian will soon no longer maintain WebAdvisor. "Their focus is on their new software and we've been informed that, at a certain point in time ... they will no longer maintain WebAdvisor, so we don't truly have a choice," Clark said. "We want to stay as up-to-date as possible ... and we certainly don't want to use a software package that is no longer maintained."

Pilot testing of this program began last spring, involving both undergraduate and graduate students. "We got a lot of valuable feedback through those pilots," Clark added. "It was well over 100 students total that participated."

The program rolled out for all students, with the exception of members of the class of 2018, in the fall,

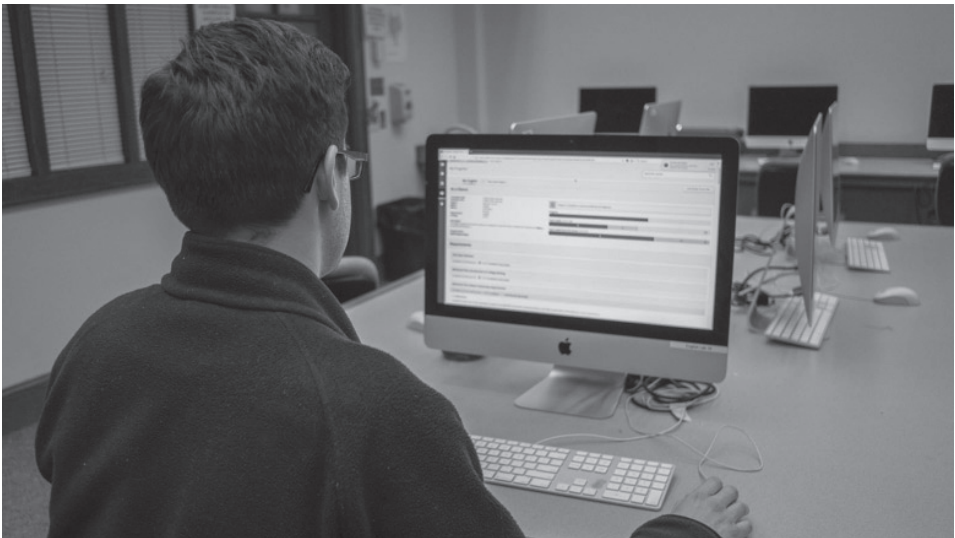


Photo by Kyle Parks.

with many students using the new software application as their main means of registration.

Wendy Morris, associate professor of psychology and associate dean of faculty development, believes the new software simplifies both the student registration and advising processes.

A major component of this is the replacement of Program Evaluations with My Progress. "The progress bar actually allows students to search for courses within the particular requirements that they're looking for," Morris said. In the Archway, this has to be done separately from the Program Evaluation.

Another advantage, says Morris, pertains to student advising. "Advisors can leave notes in the system for their advisees ... and students can go

back and refer to those notes so they won't misremember advice they were given."

Clark affirms that registering for classes will be faster. Students will identify specific sections of desired courses and "when [their] registration priority time comes up [they're] all set up ... literally it's the touch of one button, and you're instantly registered for all your planned sections."

Student Planning also allows students to plan out their four years at McDaniel in advance. "You can plan out all four years," said Executive Director of the Center for Experience and Opportunity Josh Ambrose. "I understand that not a lot of students are thinking that way just yet, but you can ... go through and add planned courses far in advance."

Students are, of course, able to

change their plan at any given time. "You can select a new major and it can tell you how far you've progressed towards that new major, and what classes you're missing," Ambrose added.

This pre-planning by students will have the added advantage of allowing academic departments to see the demand on certain courses for any given semester. "Being able to see what students are interested in taking far in advance can allow the college to offer those courses," Morris said. "Whereas with Archway we didn't find out until the registration period."

The system, however, isn't quite perfect yet. Clark asserts that the college gets an updated version every three months and "while it's not a perfect tool at the moment, it is the tool that we will be using moving forward, knowing that we're going to have to work with the company to identify things we want to see in the software and to address defects."

While switching to a new system can be frustrating at first, both Ambrose and Morris - who piloted it with their classes - report that their students quickly figured out and came to prefer the new program.

Clark hopes to hold a tutorial session for students in late March to clear up any remaining student unease. "I think students are going to be happy that they don't have to use WebAdvisor anymore because it is an antiquated system," Clark said.

"I Love the Hill" Month Kicks off Annual Campaign

Atticus Rice
Sports Editor

McDaniel's fourth annual I Love the Hill celebration kicked off the start of February outside Englar Dining Hall with students, faculty, and staff writing love notes to the college in exchange for this year's edition of the "I Love the Hill" T-shirt.

Once filled out, the green hearts containing the mash notes to McDaniel get posted throughout the campus for everyone to enjoy.

The campaign, which lasts through the end of the month, aims to bring together students, alumni, parents, faculty, staff, and friends of the college by sharing why they love the Hill and support the campus community.

"We all love the Hill for various reasons, and these reasons unite us as one community," said Executive Director of Advancement

Engagement Christina Steinbrenner. "We ask everyone to share their love for the Hill by filling out a heart to be displayed on campus."

Efforts with the hearts have proven to be one of the college's most successful engagement campaigns: more than 800 hearts have come in after just two events this year. Last year, over 600 were received in the first six days, and more than 1,100 were collected in 2016.

"Over the last several years, we've received thousands of heartfelt messages," said Steinbrenner. "Alumni have written about meeting spouses, lifelong friendships, and faculty who changed their lives."

Many alumni who cannot make it to campus or to one of many regional alumni events with hearts throughout the month will mail them in or share them on social media using the hashtag #ilovethehill.

But it's not just alumni who can appreciate their time on the Hill, explained Steinbrenner.

Students can write about their transformative experiences here on the Hill, friendships with roommates and teammates, and their love of things like chicken tender Thursdays, she said.

"I love how it brings everyone together," said junior Lacey Utz. "It brings to light what we love about the school and the opportunities we get which is why alumni give more money."

According to Steinbrenner, the College has raised nearly \$1 million during every February since the campaign was launched in 2015.

"Each year we ask alumni and friends of the College to show some love to the Hill through gifts to the Fund for McDaniel, which supports areas of greatest need at the College," she said.

Mutual involvement from students and alumni allows for all members of the community to connect with one another.

"Alumni get to see how we view the school and they get to remember what they loved to see the continuation of it," said Utz.

The support for the College extends beyond cash donations. As was true last year, several Westminster businesses are offering discounts to students, which will be distributed over email in the coming days.

I Love the Hill month comes with a special twist this year that separates it from the first three years.

"This year's I Love the Hill materials were designed in McDaniel's new branding," said Steinbrenner. "This includes the colors and fonts, and even the heart on the T-shirt."

The school's new branding has yet to be officially released, but the Communications and Marketing Department used the Feb. 1 kickoff event to advertise the Feb. 14 launch date that would give students the opportunity to "fall in love with McDaniel again."

Students, faculty, and staff interested in getting involved still have two more opportunities. Remaining dates to fill out a heart and get a T-shirt include Feb. 13 and 21 outside of Englar Dining Hall from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Naumov Case Resolved with Judgment in Favor of McDaniel (continued)

-continued from page 1-

So when the school's grievance committee, a professor's single blind trial by peers, the appeals board, as well as the Faculty Affairs Committee, the latter two of which Provost would have ordinarily been a part of but recused herself from, all returned verdicts of gross distaste for Naumov's actions, the attorney handling Naumov's restitution suit was still able to mount a "genuine dispute of material fact" according to the District Judge, George J. Hazel.

The Judge, in his memorandum opinion, seemed to consider Naumov's complaint of unfair process the only one worthwhile. Giving little consideration to several of Naumov's unsubstantiated claims, such as Dr. Stewart's feminist ideals being the catalyst for his removal to the college's creation of a system which heavily favors the alleged victim, ruled summary judgement in effect tossing out the counts against the College.



The annual fundraising and spirit campaign kicked off Feb. 1 outside of Englar Dining Hall to engage students, faculty, and staff. Photo courtesy of McDaniel College.

Dana Ferraris, Teacher and Entrepreneur

Katie Clawson
Staff Reporter

Dana Ferraris, professor at McDaniel College, spends his Sunday mornings running the Kismet Café, alongside his wife, Lana.

Ferraris and his wife opened their café on March 2014. “Kismet” means “destiny” or “meant to be,” which was why they named their café the Kismet Café. “It was named after the relationship between my wife and I,” said Dana Ferraris.

Kismet Café is not your usual chain restaurant. Located in Eldersburg, Maryland, at the Kismet, you can get açai bowls, fresh pressed juices, locally roasted coffee and New York Style bagels, which all make it hard for other businesses to compete. Entering their fourth year of business soon, seemingly always busy, they have established themselves in the community. “On an average weekend day, we sell around 1,000 bagels,” said Ferraris. “We tend to go through 45 pounds of coffee a week.”

“I love to get the açai bowls at the Kismet because they remind me of the ones we get when we go to our favorite place at home in Jersey,” said Jackie Fahrenholz, McDaniel student. “They taste so good and are healthy, too.”

Fahrenholz visits Dana Ferraris at his café every Sunday morning along with other McDaniel students. “Both the customers and staff that I’ve met and have had conversations with at



Photo by Katie Clawson.

the café are always super friendly,” she said. “They make you want to keep going back.”

Ferraris’ sons, nieces, nephews, family friends and friends of friends are all employees at the café. The 25 employees consist of teenagers and young adults who are local Eldersburg high school students and college students who attend Carroll Community College, Towson University and Howard Community College.

“The Kismet Café is full of high energetic and hardworking employees,” said Ferraris.

Dana Ferraris, being both a professor and business owner, is kept quite busy. Ferraris has just started his third year as a professor at McDaniel College. He teaches organic chemistry (lecture and lab), chemical literature, senior seminar and med chemistry.

At the café, Ferraris oversees behind-the-scenes logistics, including baking, making sure all the equipment is running smoothly and maintained, checking that all machines are working, maintenance, paying the bills, and accounting. “I usually am in the café every Sunday

morning and on holidays,” he says. “I also spend 5-6 hours a week at home taking care of the bills and the accounting side of things for the business.”

Ferraris says his favorite part is chatting with all the customers at the Kismet. “You kind of have to love being social when you own a local business,” said Ferraris. He says that about 85 percent of his customers are loyal customers and are regulars. “We have over 2,000 customers with loyalty cards.”

“Dr. Ferraris is always working the register making conversation with his customers that are regulars whenever me and my friends go,” says Fahrenholz. “He is a very personable man and he seems to genuinely care about all of his customers.”

Dana Ferraris is also like this is the classroom. “Dr. Ferraris is an excellent teacher and mentor,” says Alyssa Johnston, one of his organic chemistry students. “He really wants to get to know his students and strives to help his students succeed in any way possible.”

Ferraris loves to bring his café to McDaniel. In the Fall, he would bring in bagels for the women’s soccer team on game days and provided bagels to Alpha Sigma Tau sorority for their bid day this year. Every semester he brings in bagels and coffee for his students on exam review days.

Historical Society of Carroll County: Looking to the Future (continued)

-continued from page 1-

Last year, the president of the college’s history club, Matthew Hopson, along with several club members, volunteered as extra hands moving artifacts and books while the Historical Society reorganized its space.

“I wanted to have the club do service that would be benefiting another organization with similar goals to ours — like an organization who promotes the

study and interest in history that our club tries to promote as well,” Hopson said.

The junior would like to see more young people become involved in historical organizations as well.

“If more people realize the impact that history has had on contemporary events,” he said, “I think that would be a way for more and more younger people to become interested in it.”

Davis looks forward to fostering

this interest.

“We need to give young people the opportunity to learn how exciting history can be.”

The Historical Society of Carroll County is located at 210 E. Main St. and is open Monday through Saturday. Davis can be contacted at 410-848-6494 or via bsccmd.org.

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Fall 2017 Statistics

122 Articles on www.mcdanielfreepress.com

103 Articles in 5 print issues

About 37 students who created content for the paper.

Could McDaniel Student Workers Unionize?

Stefan Specian
Managing Editor
Commentary Editor

Given the number of students working on campus, and recent unionization efforts by adjunct professors and workers in Englar Dining Hall, the question must be asked: can student workers on campus, both work study and non-work study, potentially unionize? And what are the reasons they might do so, and the potential drawbacks?

The answer to the first question is complex, and dives into what it means to be both a student and a worker, along with the natural differences between public institutions and private ones, such as McDaniel.

While public institutions have clearly set out collective bargaining guidelines, on private campuses the line has been blurrier. However, a decision in August, 2016 by the National Labor Relations Board regarding the unionization of Graduate and Undergraduate student assistants at Columbia University stated that such workers did qualify as “statutory employees,” and as such qualified for protection under the National Labor Relations Act.



Members of Progressive Student Union and campus Sodexo workers on the day of their unionization vote. Photo courtesy of Caroline Unger.

Furthermore, smaller liberal arts schools such as McDaniel have seen unionization efforts succeed over the past few years. At Grinnell University in Iowa, dining workers unionized during the 2016 Spring Semester. The group then negotiated for a raise in wages and a formal grievance process and expanded further into the student worker community.

In regards to the unionization rights work-study students who make up the majority of McDaniel student workers, the jury is still out.

Some have argued, both positively and negatively, that the decision could very well extend to work-study students; however, no such move has been made, and so such a theory has not been tested.

As to the reasons for unionization, the general goal would be to have collective bargaining rights for student workers, in a manner that would allow them to debate with the administration everything from pay raises to how many hours a week students are offered. It also

would potentially help students from different departments discuss their working conditions on campus, and how they are a collective could make changes.

From a drawback perspective, of course, there is the potential that any changes made by the union would cause the administration to tighten the purse strings, or drastically change the way student employment operates on campus in a way that hurt the larger student body. These are both concerns that any unionization effort on campus would have to take seriously.

But as private colleges across the country see the slow and steady push towards greater student rights, and greater protections for student employees, imagining such a push at McDaniel is not beyond the realm of possibility. And while such a move would be a challenge, and is not without drawbacks, it could potentially also serve to provide student workers with major advantages, and more freedom to negotiate with the administration.

From the Archives: Salty and Sweet on the Hill

**Hannah Krauss
News Editor**

In years past, the newspapers on the Hill have published articles and commentary that some might describe as both “salty” or “sweet.” While McDaniel doesn’t host Valentine’s Day dances anymore, some of the things that students cared about or dealt with in the past still affect students today, such as the yearly outbreak of the flu. Read excerpts here:

September 30, 1999, “Internet services in vast need of improvement.”

Technology has changed significantly since 1999, but early on in the history of the internet, writer Philip Vogt wanted IT services to be better at WMC. He laments the internet speed while acknowledging that he realizes that the costs for improving it would most likely require the yearly tuition to be raised to around \$23,000, which at the time he felt was “ridiculously high.”

Internet services in vast need of improvement

Philip Vogt describes the laughable internet services at WMC.

Western Maryland College is the Yugo of online services. While it can potentially get you where you need to go, a four-year-old on a two-wheeled tricycle will probably get there faster.

When compared to the dazzling advances made in Internet connection speeds, and more importantly to the technology available on many other college campuses, our connection speeds are beyond pitiful.

They would be downright laughable if not for the spirit-breaking frustration of waiting hours to complete a download (that’s assuming it actually works right) that could be done in minutes with a more advanced system.

The connection here, however, is far from advanced.

With 56k modems quickly becoming the standard, and with such gaudy advances as Ethernet connections and cable modems, the technology here can be called old-fashioned at best.

undertaking that could potentially tie up your computer for weeks if it weren’t for the life saving fact that you can rarely maintain a connection for more than an hour without being abruptly disconnected.

In all fairness, though, this is a Liberal Arts school. This means we have the wonderful (not to mention mandatory) privilege of taking a wide variety of classes dealing with all sorts of intellectual and cultural studies.

Let’s see my brother try to take a class on the philosophy of friendship and love at his tech school; boy is he missing out.

This also means that we really don’t need to have the latest (or even remotely close to the latest) Internet technology in our dorms.

Additionally, the cost of trying to re-wire the campus for increased speed seems incredibly daunting. In fact, it would probably require that tuition be raised to the range of \$23,000 or so, which is obviously ridiculously high.

Still, the school will probably eventually be forced to make the necessary changes when the current system is



The 1950 Gold Bug staff. Photo courtesy of McDaniel Archives.

Feb 19, 1924, No Title.

In the past, when the College had a Home Economics Department, that department would host a banquet for Valentine’s Day, in which Sophomores in the cooking class would prepare the meal, while Freshmen, Juniors, and Seniors in the department would make the decorations. The president of the College at the time, Dr. Ward, and his wife were guests of honor.

October 11, 1979, “Library hours attacked.”

Something that the Free Press has written about in the past year that students still care about was just as important in 1979. At that time, students were upset that the library did not open until 2pm on Sundays, causing any students who had energy and enthusiasm for getting their homework done in the morning, according to the anonymous author.

One of the most interesting of the many events that celebrated ‘St. Valentine Day’ was the Home Economic Department banquet. A delicious menu was prepared and served by the Soph. Cookery class in the sewing laboratory, which was artistically decorated in red and white with many hearts. The credit for the decoration goes to the Freshman, Junior, and Senior students in the department.

Dr. and Mrs. Ward were guests of honor, and Miss Elizabeth Ward was toastmistress. Many interesting speeches, explaining the work of the department, were made by the Misses Richmond, Devilbiss, Hughlett, Owens, Richards, Conan, Chambers, and Duley. Miss Troy, head instructor in the department, and Dr. Ward spoke in appreciation of the efforts put forth, and expressed a desire that greater things would be accomplished in the future.

February 19, 1976, “WMC students bitten by flu bug.”

In 1976, similar to 2017, students at WMC experienced a particularly nasty outbreak of the flu that swept across campus, leading writer Cathie Citro to muse that the question wasn’t who was sick, but rather who wasn’t sick on campus. The strain at the time was apparently the A-Victorian, with outbreaks across the country and even in Austria, where some of Olympic participants even caught it. It is to be hoped that the flu does not spread to this year’s Winter Olympics.

Council Lists Tips to Help Dining Plan

The Student Life Council held a meeting Monday, the 7th of October. Its purpose was to draw up a list of recommendations concerning the cafeteria.

After these recommendations were passed by the Council, they were sent to President Ensor for his immediate consideration along with a statement stressing the urgency of the situation.

Included among these recommendations are the following:

1. Clocks should be installed in the cafeteria.
2. Milk or an imitation flavored fruit drink should be served at dinner.
3. Breakfast hours should be extended to 9:00, though only a cold meal be served after 8:00.
4. There should be an extended over-all reduction in rates of at least 50¢ per meal.
5. Coat hangers should be provided at the far end of the cafeteria.
6. Two entrees should be offered at dinner.
7. The cafeteria serving line should be better organized. Appetizers, salads and desserts should be separated and labeled.

Library hours attacked

“On the seventh day He rested.” That was easy for Him to do, He didn’t have an Econ test the following week. For the student, Sunday in the most important study time. The weekend’s playing is done with, and the day is not broken up by classes and meetings. The student can wake up fairly early, eat breakfast, and start the week’s work.

Unfortunately, this is possible only if the student lives in a quiet room furnished in Early American Resource Material.

The library does not open until 2 p.m. on Sundays. The early energy and enthusiasm that the student started with is worn off by the time the library opens. Attempts to fill time until then often lead to all day distractions. Dinner opens in two hours, and the day is half way over.

Saturdays are a lesser version of the same problem. The student who gets up for breakfast before studying faces an empty hour before the library opens at 10 a.m.

Scrimshaw has tried to understand the rationale behind these hours. We have analyzed the problem

Thursday, February 19, 1976

Scrimshaw

Page 3

WMC students bitten by flu bug

Cathie Citro

It's no secret that we, here at Western Maryland College, have been bugged. The bug won't be found concealed in pens or hidden under phones—it exists within those who have been unlucky enough to catch it. Attempts have been made to protect oneself against this bug, but there doesn't seem to be any fool-proof combatant. At this point, everyone is considered fair play in its game.

This particular bug, officially known as the A-Victorian strain of influenza, is the cousin to the Hong Kong and Port Chambers varieties. What doctors know and sufferers are unaware of, is that this new strain of flu virus is immune to the flu shots that are available to us. A flu virus has the ability to change its immunology and although the symptoms may be no different, its antigenic components are, and people may

The A-Victorian influenza has had universal victims. What Western Maryland students have experienced is representative of what the surrounding community and state have encountered. In fact, the citizens of the community are “still cresting” the effects of the virus and I have been told that, due to the virus, an eastern shore college was closed down.

Not only have those in Maryland been affected, but there have been outbreaks of flu in Arizona, Washington state, Iowa, New Jersey, Minnesota, Massachusetts, New York, and Illinois. It has even travelled as far as Innsbruck, Austria, where approximately 20 percent of the Olympic participants are battling against the flu. Here, the non-Europeans seemed to have fared better in the battle of the bug, with the worst cases among the Austrians, the

affects the upper respiratory area. Its symptoms can include a dry cough, high fever, respiratory distress, shortage of breath, and a

version as you walked down a hall or sat in the cafeteria...only 30 more students have to get sick before they close down the

had been sick, the question wasn't “who was sick” but rather, “who wasn't sick”?! Many of the players on the Men's Varsity Basketball

Alumni: McDaniel’s Legacy, History, and Future

**Rachel Bier
Staff Reporter**

Through McDaniel College’s Student Alumni Council, the school’s graduates come back to work with students who share their interests and former majors. Now, the Class of 2015’s Erin Giles hopes to create the same interactions for current students.

As a student, the SAC was one of Giles’ favorite organizations.

“It allowed [me] to make alumni connections and forge alumni relationships,” she said.

Giles started working for the First Stop Office — a support service for first-year and transfer students — soon after she graduated, and she donates both time and money to the school. Giles appreciates that she can direct her donations to a cause close to her heart: the students.

The SAC educates current McDaniel students about post-graduation opportunities and works to prepare them for their roles as

alumni. Through the organization, students connect with people who were once in similar positions.

“My fiance was a student athlete at McDaniel and he loves connecting

with current baseball players,” Giles said.

By hosting events like Pumpkin Smash and the Holiday Light Show during the fall semester, the SAC

works to maintain McDaniel’s legacy. This April, the SAC will host an event called Thank-A-Giver Day, which aims to raise awareness of alumni and donor influence on education at McDaniel.

Deborah Cameron, Class of 1975, has donated funds almost every year since she graduated. She said she is proud of where she comes from and thankful for McDaniel’s strong influence on who she is today.

“I hope my donations help McDaniel’s legacy to continue,” she said.

The SAC is committed to ensuring that students remember and honor McDaniel’s history, and it is determined to secure McDaniel’s future for generations to come.

“One day, we’ll all be alumni,” said Kyle Wolfrey, the SAC’s programming chair. “Alumni give back so much to this college, and I aspire to give back as well after I graduate.”



Photo courtesy of Yessica Rodriguez.

Fraternities Look to Rebound in Numbers

Gunnar Ward
Assistant Editor

The tolling of bells atop Big Baker Chapel rings in a new semester on the Hill. From the steeple, vehicles appear to be miniature toy cars cruising in and out of campus as hundreds of feet shuffle into McDaniel’s various residential buildings. As the alma mater chimes above, students return for the spring semester with opportunities available in study, athletics, art, and for some, brotherhood.

Along with academic studies, the spring semester beckons back formal recruitment for both fraternities and sororities. As formal recruitment approaches, Greek organizations look to draw in new recruits to the brotherhoods that McDaniel offers. Tallying at seven total social fraternities, the choice to commit to one brotherhood is a decision some have turned away from.

Highlighted in an article published last spring, Greek life at McDaniel experienced a decline in interest among incoming students, as over 50 percent of Greek life was upperclassmen. With low numbers across Greek life, a fear of a void being created was in the works.

However, fraternities on campus feel secure in interest returning in part due to McDaniel welcoming the second biggest class in school history with the class of 2021.

“It’s a really big class this year and we did a really good job recruiting,” Phi Delta Theta recruiter Frankie Kratovil said.

The incoming class arrived with



McDaniel College Greek organizations pose for a photo outside Hoover Library during Greek Week 2016. Photo courtesy McDaniel College Office of Student Engagement.

a staggering total of 452 students. Since move-in day in August, incoming freshman have been involved with other organizations on campus as well.

With numbers spread across various clubs and organizations, one towering outlier of freshman involvement stands in athletics. No matter the sport, freshman involvement dominates in athletics in comparison to other on-campus organizations and has led some down a path to Greek life.

“It is interesting to see more athletes coming in and I think that correlates with the amount of people who join Greek life,” Will Giles of Alpha Sigma Phi said. “It is like a pipeline that funnels into [Greek life].”

For those who are involved with any organization on campus, a GPA requirement is upheld: GPAs must

be kept over 2.0 - 2.5 depending on the organization. For Greek life, the GPA stretches to 2.5. The enforced GPA requirements pose issues for some to go Greek. In addition, other policies limit interested students to take the pledge going Greek.

“Our school makes it hard for Greek life to function on campus,” Kratovil said. “There is a strict GPA requirement and freshman aren’t permitted to join until the spring.”

Deferred recruitment may be an obstacle for Greek organizations, but the decision for incoming students to defer from fraternities until the spring semester has been implemented at McDaniel for quite some time. The policy is in effect with McDaniel students’ best interest as the first priority.

“A lot of it is making sure that students aren’t overcommitting and get to know the institution more

to make an informed decision on if fraternities are right for [them],” Assistant Director of the Office of Student Engagement, Paige Cook, said.

Despite McDaniel’s policy, there is an evident interest in helping those who wish to go Greek from an academic viewpoint.

“We reach out to interested guys and say, ‘If you need help you can come do scholarship hours and we will help you study,’” Sigma Alpha Epsilon recruitment chairman, Wade Bishop, said.

Perhaps one of the most unique aspects of fraternity life is brotherhood that stretches beyond borders. While in Europe together, Giles and Bishop crossed paths by chance with students from fellow Centennial Conference school, Gettysburg College.

“One of the guys zipped down his jacket and showed us his SAE letters,” Giles said.

Whether abroad or on the local campus, McDaniel’s Greek life has established a welcoming culture in which coexistence among organizations is of little issue in comparison to feuds that are active on other campuses.

Those who pledge into brotherhood at McDaniel are given what is expected. To commit to an organization offers common themes of friendship and support in a way unique to fraternity life.

“I did not want it to be something that I was paying for friends,” Giles said. “I wanted that group that I could always go to no matter what.”

Spenser Secrest
Assistant Editor

Executive Director of the CEO Josh Ambrose has been named as the new head of the Encompass Distinction.

The Encompass Distinction is an entrepreneur program that is open to all sophomores in any major, and is made possible with the financial support of The Sisco Fund for Enterprise Management.

Ambrose has replaced Professor Bryn Upton, who had been in charge of the Encompass Distinction since the program’s inception in 2015. According to Ambrose, Upton wanted “to focus and work on other projects.” However, Ambrose notes that Upton, “is still on the Steering Committee and is still actively involved with Encompass.”

As head of the Encompass

Ambrose Named Head of Encompass

Distinction, Ambrose’s new duties include meeting biweekly with the Encompass Committee, as well as helping set up the Encompass agenda. Ambrose is also in charge of student outreach, and design publicity. This means that Ambrose is in charge of posters, special events, and speakers on campus. As a member of the committee, Ambrose also has a role in the big picture of where Encompass is going.

Despite these new duties, Ambrose is not in charge of any new changes, and states that any new plans that are to be implemented are done through the committee.

Ambrose currently teaches two courses, Writing for Main Street in the fall and Writing for the Nonprofit in the spring, both of which have an internship component. Interestingly, both of these courses are tied into the new minors that were developed by Encompass. Writing for Nonprofits fulfils requirements in both the marketing and entrepreneurship minors. Additionally, Writing for Main Street fulfills a requirement for the entrepreneurship minor.

Recently, Encompass has developed two new minors, entrepreneurship and marketing. “The entrepreneurship and marketing minors were developed by the encompass committee and faculty,” Ambrose explains. “The faculty will teach the majority of the classes, which are all part of the Encompass umbrella.”

Ambrose has ambitious goals for the future of Encompass. Ambrose would like to see an Encompass student club about entrepreneurship and hopes that he will continue to see more students

apply to the Innovation Challenge. The Innovation Challenge is a competition that is open to all students. The Students in the Innovation Challenge compete for the best plans for business or social innovation. Finally, Ambrose states that he would “hope to

see them graduate and become entrepreneurs.”

If you would like to learn more about the Encompass Distinction contact Josh Ambrose at JAmbrose@mcdaniel.edu.

www.mcdanielfreepress.com



Photo by Spenser Secrest.



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Jan Term Photos



A monkey takes a break from lunch to peek through a palm leaf at the Las Piedras Amazon Center. *Photo by Atticus Rice.*



Fungi, of which all types in the Amazon have yet to be identified, grows on a hollowed log. *Photo by Atticus Rice.*



View from a boat on the Las Piedras River, one of the many rivers in the Amazon River Basin. *Photo by Atticus Rice.*



An ant enjoys a flower bud. *Photo by Atticus Rice.*



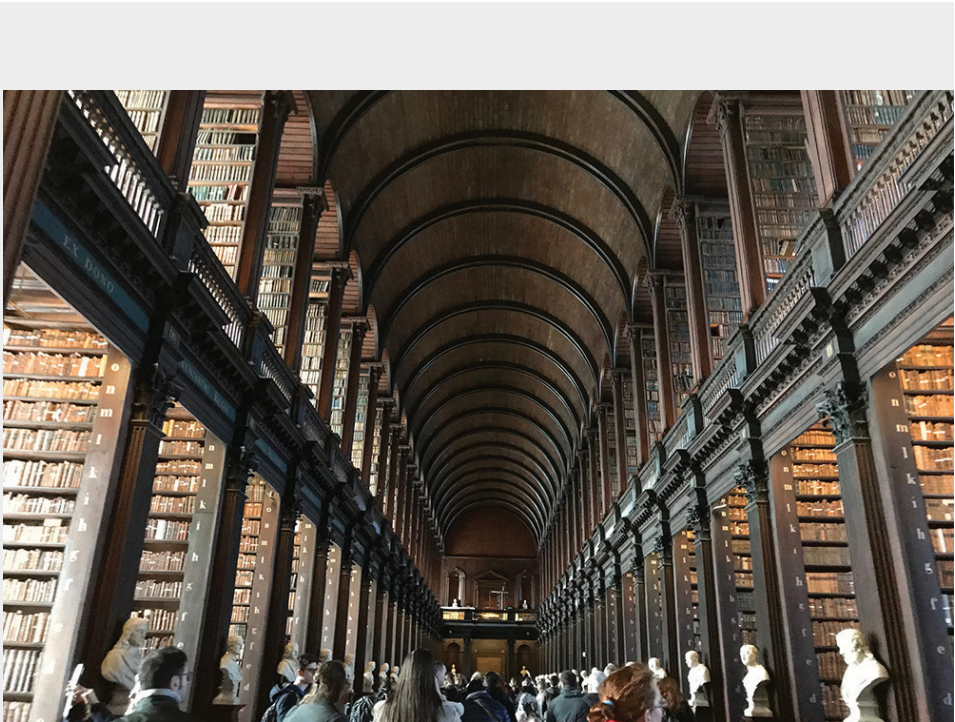
A snake on the Amazon floor. *Photo by Atticus Rice.*



A butterfly rests on the arm of a McDaniel student. *Photo by Atticus Rice.*



Warwick Castle. *Photo by Lelia Vetter.*



The library of Trinity College Dublin. *Photo by Lelia Vetter.*

Jan Term Photos



The Pavillion of Rain and Mist on Mid-Lake Island in Jiaxing South Lake.
Photo by Kyle Parks.



A traditional market in Zhenjiang, Jiangsu Province.
Photo by Kyle Parks.



A view of Shanghai's financial district from the Shanghai Tower.
Photo by Kyle Parks.



Taking a traditional boat ride in Zhouzhuang.
Photo by Kyle Parks.



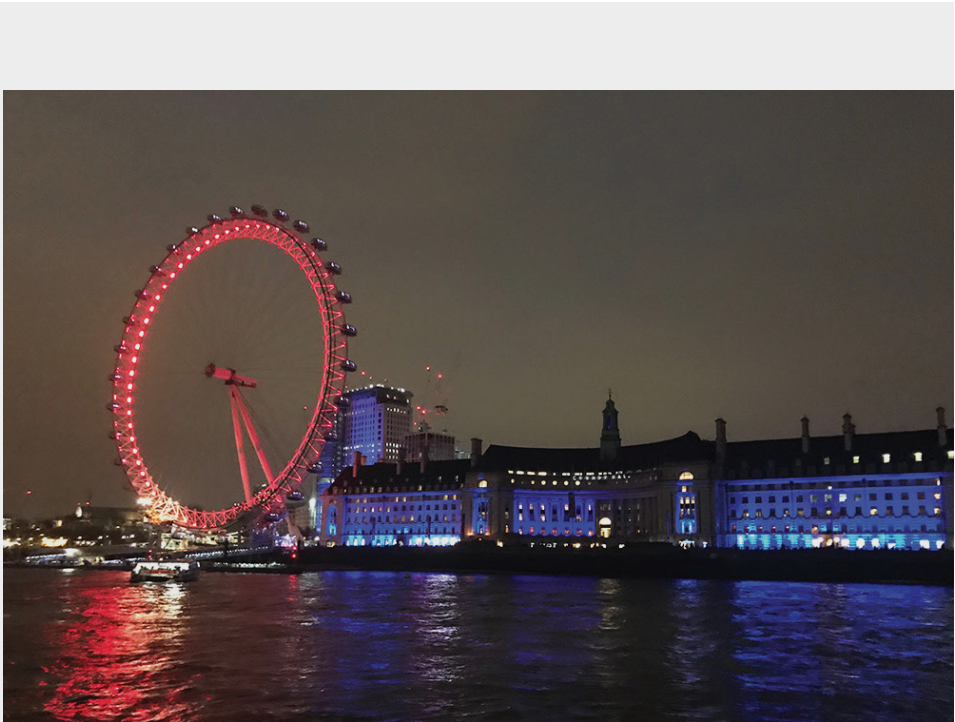
Student wishes for good grades at Wansong Academy in Hangzhou.
Photo by Kyle Parks.



A man paints with water in a public square in Hangzhou.
Photo by Kyle Parks.



A street in Stratford-upon-Avon. *Photo by Lelia Vetter.*



The London Eye at night, seen from the River Thames.
Photo by Lelia Vetter.

Siriki Diabate: Life of A Former Refugee

Tiffany Afoakwa
Staff Reporter

“One spring 2005, I was arrested by three unidentified persons who beat me and left me unconscious. I was saved by an American friend. He said ‘Leave, Siriki, because the next time, it’ll be your dead body,’” former refugee Siriki Diabate said.

On Jan. 30, McDaniel College’s Office of Student Diversity and Inclusion (OSDI) hosted a talk in McDaniel Lounge by former refugee Siriki Diabate on the run from his homeland of Ivory Coast to the United States. Diabate highlighted the process behind becoming a U.S. citizen, and his struggles with the Ivorian government system that inspired his escape.

Diabate worked in fall 2002 as a freelancer for a bi-weekly newspaper in Abidjan, Ivory Coast in West Africa. He wrote an article about the plight of Ivorian cocoa farmers and the confiscation of the National ID of government opposition members. “Those cocoa farmers had one big union where, as the premier world-wide producer of cocoa, they’d bargain prices and sell exports to Europe. Unfortunately, the government dismantled that big union. So, the cocoa farmers were no longer



Moreno, Diabate, and Fon Tendo. Photo by Tiffany Afoakwa.

benefiting from their price,” Diabate said.

Additionally, a prominent candidate of the opposition party was from the northern region of the country. Due to this, the government issued a confiscation of National IDs in the north to prevent northerners from voting. “The government would do whatever it wanted – that was frustrating. Unable to make ends meet, most of those cocoa farmers were unable to pay for their kids to go to school, and that was alarming,” he said.

Diabate brought these issues to light through the local newspaper. However, he soon became a government target and was forced to run away to Ghana after being arrested and nearly killed. “Everything was scattered in my apartment. I couldn’t get access to my bank account or to my brother and sister’s family,” he said. For five days, the former refugee was sheltered by American

Robert Walbridge and ran through the bushes to cross the border. One night in Accra, Ghana, he was found and attacked again by Ivorian government authorities. He finally decided to move to the United States, with the help of runaway-journalist support organizations like the Media Foundation for West Africa and the Canadian Journalists for Free Expression.

Junior Fifi Moussa, Vice President of the Africa’s Legacy club said, “His story is a sad one. I can’t even imagine having to hide from a government that’s trying to kill you.”

According to Diabate, the refugee process took nearly a year. He finally immigrated to the United States in 2006 and became a citizen four years later, taking English language exams and undergoing various investigations. He is now in the second year of his doctorate and recently brought his daughter to the U.S. after losing contact with her for over ten years. Oftentimes, he said, other runaways are not as lucky. Many refugees he

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McDaniel Dance Company Prepares for Annual Recital

Jessica Thomas
Staff Reporter

As the lights fade for the last time and the audience roars with applause, the dancers on stage know that the months of preparation for this day have paid off.

Each year, the McDaniel Dance Company holds an annual recital to showcase their talent and dedication for their craft. Preparation begins months in advance, and the recital for this year is quickly approaching.

“Organizing choreographers, that starts over the summer,” said Connor Klotzbach, Dance Company vice president. “Also booking practice time in the dance studio so we have a place to meet...and then booking the stage not just for the show, but for the week before the show so we can practice dancing on the stage.”

The Dance Company also must ensure that a technical crew is in place for the performance. “Besides choreography, money goes into the show because we also have to pay for lights and sound,” said Lyndsay Batson, Dance Company president.

“First you have to pick a song, which is a lot harder than it seems,” said Anna Odell, a Dance Company member. “Then, you kinda just have to get on your feet and see what feels good.”

Different choreographers will approach their dances differently, so the process is never the same. “For me, I don’t super plan out formations and I also don’t super plan out choreography for words,” Klotzbach said. “It’s really just what that person needs.”

Dances require more than just choreography and formations. “We have to decide on things like costumes and how we want their hair and makeup and if we have any specific props we need, or set pieces like chairs or benches,” Odell said.

Different dances include different elements that make each dance unique. “You have to make sure to...match the vision you’re trying to present, especially if it’s story based,” Batson said. “Sometimes it’s just ‘Hey, I heard this on the radio, I really like it, I see a dance with it,’ but sometimes it’s ‘This song means

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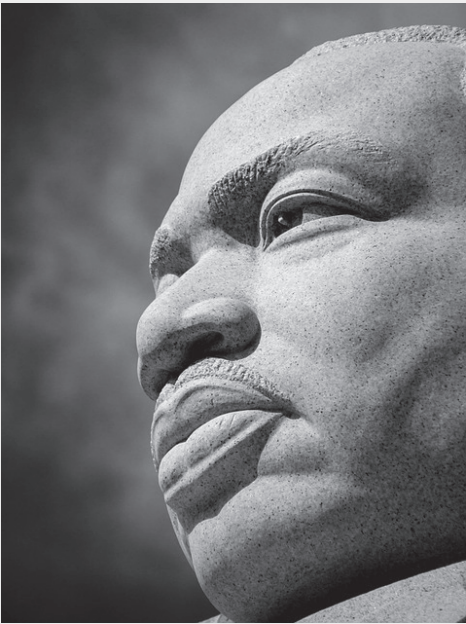
Black History Month

Erin Pogue
Assistant Editor

February is Black History Month, a month-long celebration of Black history and accomplishments.

It began in 1926 as a week-long celebration during the second week of February, coinciding with the birthdays of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln. Carter G. Woodson, a historian and the founder of the week, thought that it was important to recognize African-American history and educate the public. This led to a rise in Black History clubs, teaching in schools, and support for the movement. Due to its popularity and success, the week became Black History Month in 1970.

Celebrations of this month continue at McDaniel College. The Office of Student Diversity and Inclusion is hosting “King’s Dream”, a performance and presentation celebrating Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



A sculpture of Martin Luther King, Jr. Photo via Pixabay.

This event will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 13 at 7:00 p.m. in McDaniel Lounge.

Danger Sauce Performs “First Show, Worst Show”

Marya Topina
Assistant Editor

McDaniel’s improv comedy group, Danger Sauce, kicked off the semester last Friday night with “First Show, Worst Show” in Big Baker. Hosted by Camden Ostrander, Danger Sauce entertained a full audience with a variety of improv games and skits.

A few popular scenes included “Two-Headed Expert,” performed by Ellie Davis and Rachel Gunnerson where the girls answered questions about vodka and potatoes, “Evil Twin,” where Matt Ulrick struggled to teach Steven Alford about “To Kill a Mockingbird” due to the interference of his evil twin, Darby Bortz, and “Cut To,” where the entire group offered a hilarious interpretation of “The Little Mermaid.”

The night ended with a game called “World’s Worst,” where Sauce members stepped forward to perform one-liners and mini-scenes based on a topic the audience suggested. The troupe acted out awkward situations of walking in on their parents, followed by various scenari-



Photo by Kyle Parks.

os of “World’s Worst Job Interview.” Danger Sauce invites all interested McDaniel students to audition for the chance to join the team. Come to Big Baker at 8 p.m. on Feb. 6 for an open rehearsal and at 8 p.m. on Feb. 11 and 13 for new member auditions. Danger Sauce will also hold a “Sauce on Ice” show on the next snow day, so keep an eye out for more information!

Editor’s Note: On Feb. 7, Danger Sauce held “Sauce on Ice” in Ensor Lounge.



Members of the Dance Company during rehearsal in the dance studio. Photo by Jessica Thomas.

The Twenty First Century’s Watergate?

Michael Cozzi
Staff Reporter

After special counsel Robert Mueller was appointed to the Russia Investigation on May 17, 2017, President Donald Trump attempted to fire him. However, the president backed off in response to White House lawyer Don McGahn’s threat to resign.

According to a report by the New York Times, President Trump demanded that Mueller should be fired after a few weeks. He was blocked by White House Counsel Don McGahn, according to Associated Press reporter Tom LoBianco. “Fake news, folks. Fake news,” Trump commented as he was about to enter the World Economic Forum.

Some scholars have raised the question as to whether or not Trump has attempted to obstruct justice. McDaniel Political Science professor Francis Grice feels that Trump was not aware of the legal implications. Grice states, “[Trump] doesn’t really know what is legal and illegal and doesn’t much care, meaning that he may have strayed into the territory of breaking the law on several occasions, but probably without the explicit intent of doing so each time.”

Grice continues, “It all depends upon the related question of whether or not the President of the United States can actually obstruct justice, given their position as the executive of the state and the various immunities that the Constitution provides that station. That ties into the broader conundrum of—if the President is immune from prosecution for breaking the law—then is the United States truly a state governed by the rule of law or is it actually rule by law.”

While there is no clear consensus among scholars as to whether or not President Trump had obstructed justice with intent, many experts are concerned about whether or not the United States is still governed by rule



Photo courtesy of Gage Skidmore.

of law.

Rule of law is when the same laws apply to everyone regardless of rank and station, whereas rule by law is where the government creates and uses laws to govern but is not bound by them.

A similar crisis occurred during Nixon’s second term in the 1970s, in which he believed that the President had executive privilege and could not obstruct justice.

As the investigation continues to intensify, President Trump should no longer try to interfere with the investigation, especially since papers were revealed about Trump’s attempt to fire Mueller in June 2017.

McGahn threatening to resign echoes Attorney General Elliot Richardson and Deputy Attorney General William French Smith on Oct. 20, 1973. But if President Trump does proceed to fire Robert Mueller, this will lead to an even darker cloud of suspicion on his head. This would promote opposition from the Democratic Party and American public, who would likely see it as an obstruction of justice, and likely an impeachment process if Democrats gain

control of the House and Senate.

Trump should also be watching the mid-term elections of 2018. If there are more Democrats in the House and Senate than Republicans, he will have a tough impeachment battle. The Senate would then have to give President Trump a fair trial, and convict him based on the evidence at hand.

Siriki Diabate: Life of A Former Refugee (continued)

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knew were denied entrance to the U.S. and are still battling their way to freedom.

Junior Larissa Fon Tendo, Public Relations Assistant of Africa’s Legacy, said “I didn’t know refugees had to go through so much. I personally immigrated to the U.S. through the legal process. So, I too understand the difficulties of immigration. However, after visualizing his story, that’s something that I don’t think any human being should have to go through. These refugees - these are human lives we’re dealing with.”

“Hearing a firsthand account

Eventually, the investigation will spread to President Trump’s entire cabinet, including Vice-President Pence. Pence was a part of the transition team, and knew about the shady dealings involving Mike Flynn and Jeff Sessions’ communications with Russia, as the head of the team. If the bi-partisan commission thinks that Vice-President Pence is an important part of the investigation, then they should subpoena him to appear before the commission.

The two most important parts of this investigation that nobody is talking about are the potential tapes of the conversations between President Trump and Comey and President Trump’s tax returns. This is because the tapes, if they exist, could confirm whether or not Trump attempted to obstruct justice by using the FBI to end an investigation involving Mike Flynn. President Trump’s tax returns would also be essential because they could show whether or not he is compromised by foreign powers, such as Saudi Arabia or Russia.

But for now, we will have to wait and see where the wind blows.

opens students’ eyes to the refugee experience. You read stories about refugees, but to hear someone actually come and talk to you about it gives me a better understanding,” Fon Tendo said.

Siriki Diabate agrees that students need to learn more about what is going in their world. “Young folks, please don’t take for granted the freedom you have here,” he said, “Get to know the world. Understand that there is more to know out there. Because there are some places today, you wake up and don’t know if you’ll see tomorrow.”

Marya Topina
Assistant Editor

With Valentine’s Day upon us and love on the Hill warming the chilly winter air, students may want to consider picking up a box of condoms. But standing in the “family planning” drugstore aisle, do you simply grab the first brand you see, or have you ever stopped to consider which type is best?

According to Sustain Natural, a company focused on producing sexual and feminine hygiene products that are safer for vaginas, most condom brands contain many harmful substances that can irritate an already sensitive area. Currently, three publicly traded companies – LifeStyles, Durex, and Trojan – control the condom market and none of them are required to provide a detailed list of ingredients. This includes harmful chemicals and toxins that are bad for your health.

The father-daughter co-owners of Sustain Natural, Jeffrey and Meika Hollender, explain that “some chemicals added during the [traditional condom] manufacturing process are highly toxic and some carcinogenic chemicals are formed during the process.” This is especially concerning because during sex, bodily fluids can cause these chemicals to be released from the condom, and consequently, absorbed into the body.

The Food and Drug Administra-

Sex on the Hill: Natural Condoms



Traditional condoms from popular brand Trojan.

Photo by Marya Topina.

tion recognizes condoms as medical devices and therefore monitors the presence of any harmful chemicals in them, but this does not necessarily make them safe, according to some experts. For example, the FDA does not completely ban all harmful chemicals, such as nitrosamines. This means small amounts of the chemical are found in many products, including condoms. The World Health Organization has recommended that

condom manufacturers minimize the presence of nitrosamines in their products.

As a result, several companies focused on natural condoms have sprung up in recent years. Sustain Natural prides itself on creating vegan condoms from fair-trade rubber latex that are free of toxic chemicals and environmentally friendly. There are no detectable levels of nitrosamines in Sustain Condoms. Their

products claim to be safer for women and sustainable, meaning they are manufactured in a process less harmful to the earth and to their workers in Southern India.

The Hollenders say they are “trying to do for the contraceptive industry what brands like Honest Company, Mrs. Meyer’s and Seventh Generation have done for cleaning products — introduce all-natural alternatives to household staples.” And that comes as no surprise: Jeffrey Hollender is one of the founders of Seventh Generation.

Another natural condom company, GLYDE, offers ethically sourced vegan condoms for similar reasons. According to their website, “GLYDE is the first certified ethical, vegan and fair-trade premium condom brand. Crafted with patented technology and a clean plant-based formula, our products deliver a more satisfying experience while eliminating concerns about harmful additives, animal products and testing.”

GLYDE sells packs through their website, in stores, and on third party sites like Amazon. Sustain offers subscription boxes through their website and is also available on Amazon.

So this Valentine’s Day, get safe protection that you and your partner will feel good about. Best of all, your (or your partner’s) vagina will thank you!

Men’s Lacrosse Looks to Improve Upon Past Seasons

Brennan Hare
Staff Reporter

The past couple of years have been a struggle for the McDaniel men’s lacrosse team. However, things do seem to be getting better.

The team finished the 2016 season only 3-12, the program’s worst season in McDaniel history. Improving, but hardly to great heights, the team bounced back to finish 6-10 last year.

To continue with the upward progression, the men have put together objectives for themselves to accomplish in order to be successful this upcoming 2018 season. First and foremost is making sure its relatively small roster remains healthy and fit.

“We are rebuilding the culture of McDaniel lacrosse,” said head coach Keith Euker. “We are finding new ways to keep the guys on the team in shape and have fun while also doing our best to prevent injuries on the team.”

Many lacrosse programs have a roster of 40-50 players. McDaniel has just about 30.

“We have low numbers on our



Jakob Katzen (c) 2017 David Sinclair / McDaniel College.

roster,” said Jared Jayne, a junior team captain. “Because of these low numbers, we need to make sure our guys are staying healthy and do our best to prevent injuries.”

So, the team is focusing more intently on the well-being of the individual players in and out of practice. The team has made sure the student athletes take care of their bodies so they can stay in shape and avoid injuries. They do this by encouraging the team to stay hydrated, eat well, take ice baths, and stretch as much as possible so the players are not stiff, which often leads to a higher chance of injury.

Many people also are apprehensive that the team will not have as much of an edge to this season due to seven of their starters graduating last year. The Baltimore Sun’s season preview predicted that the 2018 season will be “stormy” for McDaniel’s defense because of the loss of three main assets of their starting defense:

Will Kroppe, Bob Breed, and Bryan Ruygrok.

“Every graduating class has an impact on the team,” Euker said. “However, there’s a difference between having a great team and a great program. A great team is great at a point at a time, but a great program can reload with new, younger guys on the team and still compete against their competitors each year. And I believe that’s exactly what we have: a great program.”

Another reason people are doubtful of the program being successful this year is because of the majority of the team being underclassmen.

“We’re going to still have that edge against our opponents in games,” said Cole Ostendarp, also a junior team captain. “Our youth will help us win games. There’s great talent in our freshmen as well as our returning guys.”

McDaniel opens their season at home on Feb. 21 against Immaculata at 7 p.m. Centennial Conference play commences against Haverford on the Hill on March 24 at 3 p.m.

Women’s Lacrosse Doesn’t Want to Drop the Ball Again

Olivia Storer
Staff Reporter

“All in” is the team motto for women’s lacrosse this season, which aims to improve upon their 5-11 record from the 2017 season.

After starting last season with a commendable 4-2 record, tough conference battles in the later part of the season tested the McDaniel team. Following the initial six games, the Green Terrors only recorded one more win — in their final clash of the year against Bryn Mawr,

where they came out with a dominating 18-0 victory.

Sophomore Kelly Novak, who is a member of the team’s leadership council for the 2018 season, believes that the “all in” approach will lead to a better season for her and her teammates. More than anything, Novak does not want to see the team drop the ball again once the tougher schedule begins.

“As a leadership group we hope that our motto, all in, will remind the team that each day the players should be 100 percent present, whether it be at a team lift, during practice, or game day when it’s especially important,” said Novak.

The official season begins for the Green Terror team on Feb. 21 with a contest at Stevenson College. Centennial Conference play commences a month later with a home game against Haverford College.

With a bigger roster than they have seen in a while, the McDaniel women are hoping that more bodies and a stronger offensive game will help improve their 8.5 goals per conference game average and secure more wins this season.

“We’re really looking to improve on producing goals. This is something we have really struggled with in the past and it’s hard to win a lacrosse game scoring only eight goals,” said Novak. “We will also focus a lot on controlling the controllables, like our attitude, body language, and communication.”

Junior Megan Kotelchuck, who scored 15 goals in the 2017 season with a shooting percentage of 40.5, will be one of the Green Terrors hoping to find the net more often. Kotelchuck also highlighted offensive cohesion and leadership as areas on which the team would be focusing on for the upcoming season.

“This year we are trying to improve on working as a team offensively and finding each other quicker on the field,” said Kotelchuck. “And now that I’m an upperclassman I

have to be ready for underclassmen to come to me when they need help or advice.”

Freshmen, like midfielder Abby Blakenship, under the leadership of the likes of Novak and Kotelchuck, are buying into the “all in” approach and aiming to make an impact in their first year.

“I bring another body to the midfield, which will help the team because it’s a very physically demanding position,” said Blakenship, “I’m also very committed to the team and will always have everyone’s backs for whatever they need.”

While focusing on becoming a stronger offensive unit and maintaining strong commitment throughout the season, both Kotelchuck and Novak feel that in terms of team cohesion and unity, the McDaniel women are unbeatable.

“That’s my favorite thing about the McDaniel women’s lacrosse team,” said Novak. “We are very unified on and off the field, working hard every day — I love it!”

www.mcdanielfreepress.com



Photo courtesy of Lindsey Farrell.

Men’s Golf Looks to Get Back to National Tournament after Five-Year Drought

Ryan Sember
Staff Reporter

Five years ago, the McDaniel men’s golf team peaked with a trip to the Division III National Championships. Since then, they haven’t been able to make it back. This season, however, they look to return to the most prestigious stage in DIII golf.

With a new assistant coach, two-time all-American Corey Haas, the team appears ready to roll for another shot at a national championship.

The team is additionally poised for a good year after bringing in six first year students. After losing only two seniors last year, there are many wondering if these first years can perform.

“We all had one goal at the start of the year and that was to get back to the national championships,” said head coach Scott Moyer.

In the fall season, the team won two tournaments.

“We had a lot of momentum coming off the fall season into this [spring] season and I feel really confident in our boys,” Moyer said.

With 11 players, there isn’t room for errors when it comes to making the starting lineup.

“We have a lot of good guys and young talent in the freshmen this year and we all put in 100 percent at practice to try and get better and beat each other out to get in the tournaments,” said senior captain Brandon Vance.

With only a few tournaments remaining and the spring season just beginning, the players and coaches know it will be a grind from here on out to get where they want to be.

“Coming here was a great decision,” freshman Charlie Csejka said. “I like it a lot and we are all a group of guys who are close off the course. But on the course, we knot it’s a battle and we have to try and beat and push the guy in front of us to get where we need to be.”

Moyer spent time heavily recruiting this past summer to get the new class.

“I knew we were only losing two players and I brought in six kids who I fell can help us get to where we need to be and that’s getting to another national championship,” he said.

The players and coaching staff have a lot of confidence in their freshman class entering this upcoming season after the performance by them in the fall. They are also led by Vance who feels he and his team can make a run this spring.

“In my last season here, I really want to make a run for nationals and with this group of guys and all the talent we have I see that being possible,” Vance said.

With the first tournament just a few weeks away in South Carolina, the team has been back in action practicing indoors to get ready for

what the spring season has in store.

“Going to the national championship is an unreal experience and would be one of, if not the best, times of these boys’ lives,” Moyer said. “Winning our conference to get an automatic bid to go there will be a great way to make a statement for our upcoming years and knowing we are able to get there.”



Freshmen Collin MacDonald and Jack Onellette hitting indoors in the first spring season practice.

Paradise in January: Bahamas Jan Term

Matthew Danis
Staff Reporter

From December 2017

The semester is almost over, and soon, students will be packing up and heading home for winter break.

But not everyone—16 McDaniel students will be packing their swimsuits and sunscreen in the heart of winter, flying to the Bahamas in late December for two weeks as part of McDaniel's Tropical Marine Biology January Term.

The trip is headed by both Dr. Randall Morrison, department chair of biology, and Dr. Jeff Marx, physics department chair.

"I really love the outdoors and natural history; I started talking with Dr. Morrison and found that we work well together, and he had been doing the Bahama January term for a while," says Marx. "It was something that I would like to do, and Professor Morrison and I both get along well, so it was a good fit."

On this trip to the Bahamas, the students will be on the islands San Salvador and Andros. They are well known for their pristine waters, famous blue holes—large underwater sinkholes—and one of the largest barrier reefs in the world.

Students will spend the first week on San Salvador snorkeling and seeing the local ecosystems, as well



A scene from the Bahamas.
Photo courtesy of Pixabay user yrolle.

as visiting important archaeological sites like Christopher Columbus's landing site. The second week will be on Andros, where students will get to snorkel and view blue holes, shipwrecks, reefs, and interact with the island's citizens.

TJ Rigg, a sophomore student looking to attend the Jan term next year, is excited for what the trip could bring.

"I've never done anything like this before," says Rigg. "I want to try new things, and go outside my comfort zone. Going snorkeling in open water and potentially being around sharks and other predators definitely makes me uncomfortable."

And while the Bahamas may still be paradise, the living arrangements aren't quite resort style.

"There are beds, there are

showers, flush toilets, and three meals a day," says Morrison. "It's all you really need, but the field stations there are really well-equipped to deal with students. There's not a lot of down time, we always tend to be doing something to stay busy."

Students' lodging is dorm style, and the food is primarily cafeteria food—but the group will go to a local restaurant for authentic Bahamian cuisine once while on their escapade.

The trip doesn't come cheap; it costs around \$3,000 for the entire program, but despite this, Morrison says "all the students love it. I have kids this year on their second trip to the Bahamas."

Dr. Marx believes there are important lessons to learn along with snapping photos and snorkeling.

"[The students] get to take a lot of photos to show to people and learn a lot about this place," he says. "What I want them to understand is that a lot of this may not be here soon with the reefs dying, and they may have to show their kids what the coral reefs looked like through photos. I want them to be environmentally aware so that hopefully in the future it pushes them to take action to help preserve the planet."

McDaniel Dance Company Prepares for Annual Recital (continued)

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a lot to me, I have a story behind it, I want the dance to convey through that story."

Of course, there are struggles with organizing an event like a recital. "Sometimes you know what you want it to look like, and it's really hard to get people to do what you want them to do," Odell said. "That's really hard sometimes, but you kinda just have to push through it."

Logistical elements are also a

struggle to organize as well. "Making sure we get the theater space...has proved to be a little bit difficult," Batson said. "Also making sure that it works with people's schedules, make sure that people can be there for rehearsals for the week so that we're on the stage for dress rehearsals...because we need people to be there for that, and we need to spend our time wisely there as well."

Regardless of the struggles, the Dance Company members love the work they put out each year. "It means so much to me, for my story

as well," Batson said. "I think it's just a good way to get out of your room or the library for an hour and a half to just dance and keep your mind off all your work you have to do."

Choreographers are full of pride once they see their creative vision come together. "Oh my gosh, I love it," Odell said. "Personally, my dance, I'm so proud of everyone in it."

Many dancers believe that the stress they face while they prepare for a recital is well worth it. "I love dancing, I love performing, I think

we put on good shows," Klotzbach said. "The point of it is that we all get to share our talent and our creative vision with the world. I think it's definitely worth it."

The date and time of the recital have not yet been confirmed.

Follow the McDaniel Dance Company's Instagram account (@mcdanieldanceco) for information about the year end recital and any other performances they will be holding throughout the semester.

www.mcdanielfreepress.com

Meghan Callis
Staff Reporter

Have you ever thought about joining a sorority, but recruitment seemed too intimidating? Well — recruitment is not as scary as it may seem.

Spring recruitment is a long process that each sorority's recruitment committee plans and works on months in advance, making sure their rounds are fun for potential new members.

"It's a lot of work. It takes a lot of planning, a lot of shopping, and a lot of making things by hand," said Alex Tolle, recruitment chair of Phi Alpha Mu. "You have to plan outfits, nametags, decorations, and food."

Recruitment is a four-day process. The first two days consist of women visiting each sorority. They get to know the sisters, and the sisters get to know them. At the end of the second day, sisters and potential new members start ranking each other.

The morning of day three, the prospective new members will go to their top three picks. That night, they will visit their top two picks.

On Bid Day morning, if it's a match, they will get a bid from one sorority. If they choose to accept, they will run to their new Greek family.

"Bid Day, no matter how many girls you get, is always really fun and



Photo courtesy of Meghan Callis.

really exciting," said Connor Klotzbach, current member of Phi Alpha Mu. "There's such an energy in Red Square the day of that makes it all worth it."

If you're nervous about going through recruitment, don't be, sorority sisters say, adding that while recruitment may be stressful, it's fun and worth it in the end. When meeting the sisters, they suggest you be yourself.

"There are all these people who are genuinely interested in meeting you and getting to know you so you can find your home," said Megan Smith, member of Alpha Sigma Tau. "There's no point in putting up these false fronts or pretending to be anyone that you're not to make people happy."

Recruitment is not always as intimidating as it seems. Most of the time, those who are already members are more nervous than those going through rounds. Each sorority wants the potential new members to be comfortable and excited about them.

"We're not judging based off of looks," said Valerie Lamb, member

of Phi Mu. "We're not judging based off of previous history. We just want to get to know you."

Going Greek can be beneficial to people, especially at McDaniel. It can open up leadership, service, and networking opportunities.

"You're not only gaining leadership experience, but you're gaining lifelong friendships," said Tolle. "You're gaining an empowered sense of self. There's a lot more to gain than there is to lose when going through rounds."

Being involved in Greek life also creates new bonds between women, ones people may not always expect.

"The women I've met in my sorority are some of the most brilliant, compelling, and talented people I have ever gotten to meet," said Smith. "It's an automatic family and friend group where you have of people who are supporting you and rooting for you always."

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College issues statement on 'Englar Dining issue'

**Atticus Rice
Sports Editor**

The McDaniel College administration released a 'Response to Englar Dining issue' memo to all undergraduate students Wednesday night, one day after a Facebook post published by a student demanding change received over 300 shares from the College community.

"McDaniel has a longstanding relationship with our food service partner Sodexo and has always held them to the highest level of accountability," the memo, emailed to students, reads. "The College has been made aware of posts circulating on social media that include photos of past incidents that occurred in Englar Dining Hall and were addressed at the time by Dining Services. Nonetheless, these issues are concerning."

The statement outlines the following requirements the College has put in place for Sodexo:

Provide a comprehensive report, including investigation and resolution steps that were taken on all recent food-related incidents

Discontinuation of products from any vendor that has come into question by the campus community



Photo by Kyle Parks.

In addition to the ongoing monthly "Dinner on Us" student feedback program, create a new initiative that allows for immediate feedback when an issue or concern arises

Also announced was the arrival of members from Sodexo headquarters to campus Wednesday to begin an examination of the food services on campus and address the above demands.

When contacted for comment, Sodexo General Manager Rita Web-

ster said she was "also under audit" and unable to speak to the College's statement or the alleged food services issues.

Other Sodexo officials were unavailable for comment Thursday.

Multiple McDaniel-monitored Facebook groups show a storied history of food service issues and complaints at the College.

Some posts date back to early September of this academic year, with monthly discussions garnering

double digit comments from frustrated parents.

One Feb. 4 post in a parent-focused group featured a picture of allegedly raw chicken that a student had sent to their mother after discovering it on their plate in Englar Dining Hall.

"My daughter has consistently informed me that whenever there is chicken on a bone served, it is undercooked," said Jamie Honick, author of the post, in a message to the writer. "She has also told me that the rice, pasta, and vegetables are also undercooked, and most of the food is bland."

When tagged in a comment on the post, Webster offered few words that satisfied the disappointed parents.

"The fried chicken we serve is precooked," the post writes. "The piece looks like a leg which is darker meat. The color can appear pink from being frozen. We follow all food safety guidelines and cook food to the correct temperature. Any student or parent may contact me directly at rwebster@mcDaniel.edu to discuss our procedures."

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Engendering Gender Inclusive Housing for First-Year Students

**Kyle Parks
Editor-in-Chief
Multimedia Editor**

The roommate pairing and room assignment process can be a stressful, uncertain experience for incoming students.

But for transgender, non-binary, and gender non-conforming students in particular, finding a comfortable living situation is often a great challenge.

Many colleges and universities have designated gender inclusive, or gender neutral, housing, which allows for two or more students to live in the same room regardless of gender identity or legal sex. Regional institutions, such as Towson University, University of Maryland, Goucher College, and Gettysburg College have done so. McDaniel has not.

However, while McDaniel lacks a formal policy, gender inclusive options do exist. The most evident examples include those with only private bathrooms – like North Village, Garden Apartments, DMC, and Pennsylvania Avenue houses.

Traditional dormitories for upperclassmen can also be gender inclusive, as Blanche and McDaniel Hall each have a private bathroom on their first floors, and ANW has multiple bathrooms per floor, encompassing male and female.

"I chose Blanche my junior year knowing it had a gender neutral bathroom and purposely chose the floor it was on," said Jay Heinzen, a senior transgender student.

A major struggle is accommodating incoming first-year students who are mostly limited to Rouzer Hall and Whiteford Hall, which lack private



A private bathroom in Blanche.

Photo by Kyle Parks.

bathrooms.

A recent attempt by Residence Life to designate a small floor in Whiteford as gender-neutral fell through due to Carroll County's addition onto the Standard Plumbing Code, which requires bathrooms to be designated as male or female. The floor in question has only one communal bathroom. "We could give [students] permission to go use the men's room, but there still has to be a men's room and there has to be a women's room," said Michael Robbins, the director of ResLife on campus.

"The county has no problem with the men [and] women's counts, but they were concerned that we did not have private shower and toilet facilities," added Ed Sell, director of facilities planning at the college. "If there was one private shower and

toilet, then that would take care of the concern."

However, Robbins acknowledges that renovating a facility to add an extra bathroom can be costly: there's the cost of adding the bathroom itself, then the possible loss of room in which to house students, and finally the loss of revenue from summer camps, as many renovations take place in the summer.

Internally, the school was concerned with space. During the planning process, Robbins wanted to know, "Will I be able to fill it?" Rouzer and Whiteford are the only two halls large enough to accommodate sizable first-year classes, and the school wants to keep these students together.

Some parents' preferences towards housing also pose an obstacle. "During admitted students day, I still

get questions from parents [asking], 'Is there an option to live in an all single-gender building?'" Robbins said.

First-year student Matt Pelletier lives on the male wing of his floor in Rouzer. "Michael Robbins found someone who was transgender [to room with me], but then their parents made them live on the female wing and I wasn't comfortable with that, so now I just have a super single," Pelletier said.

Student attitudes can also be a hurdle. Junior Tyler Karl recalls unpleasant experiences in Whiteford.

"I was placed on an all-female floor and was required to walk down to the floor below my room to use the bathroom and shower," Karl said. "I would get weird looks and comments by the females that lived on the same floor as I."

ResLife, however, continues to work with students on a case-by-case basis to place each student in a comfortable environment.

"It was fairly easy to get a single for myself this year, and for the most part my dorm situation has been pleasant as a result of it," said first-year transgender student Erin Leonard.

"They made sure I had a single and lived on a less crowded floor because I lived on the floor of my sex, not gender as requested," said Heinzen.

There aren't easy solutions for providing first-year students with as comfortable options. Even at schools with formal policies, such as Gettysburg College, first-year and transfer students will still need to

-contined on page 3-

Carroll County Moves To Ban Confederate Clothing In Schools

Rachel Bier
Staff Reporter

Carroll County Public Schools are moving forward with banning students from wearing clothing and accessories depicting the Confederate flag to school.

After a Feb. 14 board meeting in which the district’s legal team confirmed that the ban on Confederate attire is legal, CCPS Superintendent Stephen Guthrie and the Board of Education began working to add the ban, which will also include the swastika, into the dress code. The language of the ban will be discussed at the next board meeting in March.

If the school district passes the ban, Carroll County will be one of the few in the country to do so, the most recent being Orange County in North Carolina, who made the decision to ban clothing depicting the Confederate flag, swastikas, and any Ku Klux Klan related symbols or language.

According to William Reinhard, spokesperson for the Maryland State Department of Education, the matter “is a local issue, with standards set by local board of education” and the state department will have no involvement in the decision made by the Carroll County Board of Education.

Superintendent Guthrie stated that he would advocate for the ban as long as it was in the parameters of the law. But as a former history teacher, he wants to make it clear that



Photo via the Public Domain.

the ban would not exclude the flag from instruction, as it is a large part of American history. Carroll NAACP President Jean Lewis is one of the most outspoken proponents of the ban, claiming the flag causes the minority students in schools deep pain.

“With so few minority students in the schools... [the flag] is offensive because of what it stands for- slavery,” Lewis said.

As of 2017, only 15 percent of the students in Carroll County were minorities. Lewis says that when minority students see the flag on other students’ shirts in the hallway, they become uncomfortable and the thought of the symbol distracts them

from their learning.

“I have had students come to me...telling me when they see the Confederate flag it gives them anxiety... and makes them not want to come to school,” added Guthrie.

One such student, Briana Gales, started a minority student union at Westminster High School. At the school board meeting, she testified to the board that she has been harassed multiple times by students wearing the flag.

“Me and other minority students are very uncomfortable about the Confederate flag,” Gale told WBAL-TV after the meeting. “And seeing other students upsets us, makes us

angry and distracts us from learning.”

Although the school system has yet to experience any major issues regarding the flag, Carroll County residents are eager to take preventative actions considering the county’s history of white supremacy and racist behavior. Guthrie recalls several instances where he had to take action after a school board member used the “n-word” in public, and in August 2006, an apparent hate crime was reported after a racial slur was painted over a black candidate’s campaign sign.

As a result of these incidents, the superintendent believes they can reasonably predict that the flag will cause a disruption in schools. Citing the 1969 Supreme Court case Tinker vs. Des Moines, Guthrie explained, “Freedom of expression can be limited by the school if there is just cause.”

The latest incident concerning the nationwide debate occurred in Indiana last September after several students chose to wear Confederate attire to school two days in a row, offending minority students and disrupting classes.

Lewis attributes the recent prominence of hate symbols in the United States to the xenophobic philosophy of the new presidential administration. “America has always been counted as the melting pot of the world and we’re not now.”

New Software Seeks to Simplify Course Registration, Advising

Kyle Parks
Editor-in-Chief
Multimedia Editor

When advising and registration for the Spring 2018 semester came, many students began doing so through a new application. This software, Student Planning, is McDaniel’s replacement for WebAdvisor – better known as Archway – which the school hopes will simplify the registration and advising processes for students.

Student Planning is provided by Ellucian, a Virginia-based higher education tech company which also currently provides McDaniel with Archway. According to Registrar Sandra Clark, part of McDaniel’s shift to the new software is largely because Ellucian will soon no longer maintain WebAdvisor. “Their focus is on their new software and we’ve been informed that, at a certain point in time ... they will no longer maintain WebAdvisor, so we don’t truly have a choice,” Clark said. “We want to stay as up-to-date as possible ... and we certainly don’t want to use a software package that is no longer maintained.”

Pilot testing of this program began last spring, involving both undergraduate and graduate students. “We got a lot of valuable feedback through those pilots,” Clark added. “It was well over 100 students total that participated.”

The program rolled out for all students, with the exception of members of the class of 2018, in the fall, with many students using the new software application as their main means of registration.

Wendy Morris, associate professor of psychology and associate dean of faculty development, believes the new software simplifies both the student registration and advising processes.



Photo by Kyle Parks.

A major component of this is the replacement of Program Evaluations with My Progress. “The progress bar actually allows students to search for courses within the particular requirements that they’re looking for,” Morris said. In the Archway, this has to be done separately from the Program Evaluation.

Another advantage, says Morris, pertains to student advising. “Advisors can leave notes in the system for their advisees ... and students can go back and refer to those notes so they won’t misremember advice they were given.”

With fall 2018 course registration beginning on April 2, many students can expect to see a very simplified process.

Clark affirms that registering for classes will be faster. Students will identify specific sections of desired courses and “when [their] registration priority time comes up [they’re] all set up ... literally it’s the touch of one button, and you’re instantly registered for all your planned sections.”

Student Planning also allows students to plan out their four years at McDaniel in advance. “You can plan out all four years,” said Executive Director of the Center for Experience and Opportunity Josh Ambrose. “I understand that not a lot of students are thinking that way just yet, but you can... go through and add planned courses far in advance.”

Students are, of course, able to change their plan at any given

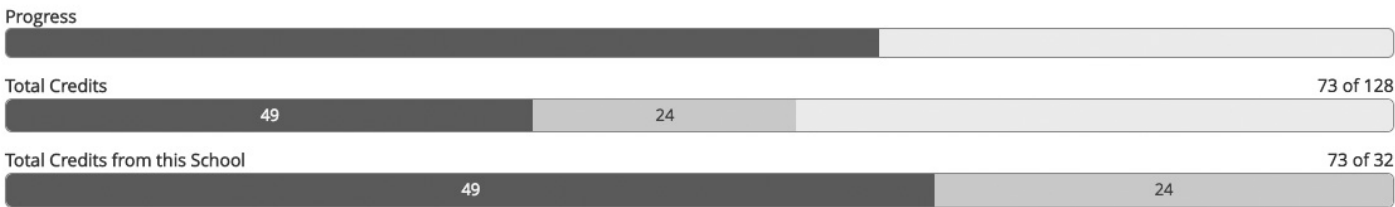
time. “You can select a new major and it can tell you how far you’ve progressed towards that new major, and what classes you’re missing,” Ambrose added.

This pre-planning by students will have the added advantage of allowing academic departments to see the demand on certain courses for any given semester. “Being able to see what students are interested in taking far in advance can allow the college to offer those courses,” Morris said. “Whereas with Archway we didn’t find out until the registration period.”

The system, however, isn’t quite perfect yet. Clark asserts that the college gets an updated version every three months and “while it’s not a perfect tool at the moment, it is the tool that we will be using moving forward, knowing that we’re going to have to work with the company to identify things we want to see in the software and to address defects.”

While switching to a new system can be frustrating at first, both Ambrose and Morris – who piloted it with their classes – report that their students quickly figured out and came to prefer the new program.

Clark hopes to hold a tutorial session for students in late March to clear up any remaining student unease. “I think students are going to be happy that they don’t have to use WebAdvisor anymore because it is an antiquated system,” Clark said.



The My Progress bar in Student Planning visually indicates credit completion.

STEM Degrees Displacing World Language Degrees

Spenser Secrest
Assistant Editor

As more colleges and universities in the United States focus on STEM majors, a number of students is embracing the potential benefits that a world language and STEM double major offers. The number of students with STEM degrees — that is, degrees in science, technology, engineering and math — has been growing in the past few years.

According to a 2017 article in Economic Modeling, “since the Great Recession the number of STEM majors in bachelor’s degree-and-above programs has mushroomed, going from 388,000 graduates in 2009-10 to 550,000 in 2015-16 — 43% growth.” Degrees in humanities programs, such as world languages, have declined by -0.4 percent.

The rise in STEM degrees seems easy enough to explain. U.S. News & World Report claims that “computer-related jobs hold the top seven positions in STEM fields for highest

number of workers.”

The article notes that for the first time since 1995, students’ interest in world languages has declined and that higher education enrollment in foreign languages dropped by 111,000 between 2009 and 2013.

McDaniel has seen lower numbers of students studying world languages as well.

“There has been a decrease in the last year or so that also matched the lowering of the second language [requirement] on campus, and that’s across all languages,” said French professor Martine Motard-Noar, the chair of the World Languages, Literatures and Cultures department.

However, it is “very common to see a lot of majors in STEM with a minor in French; from time to time you’ll see a double major, but it is much more of a major-minor combination,” she added.

Motard-Noar also said that the study of a world language paired with a STEM major can be complementary when combined. Proficiency in a world language is useful in a variety of fields — Spanish professor Thomas Deveny elaborated on how the two degrees complement each other.

“STEM and world languages can certainly complement each other, especially in the life sciences. For anyone interested in a career in public health, such as becoming a medical doctor or nurse, knowing a second language can be a big plus,” Deveny said. “Dr. Scullion’s [McDaniel’s environmental studies department chair] Jan-term trips to Peru are a perfect example of how knowing Spanish is very helpful for those interested in Environmental Science.”

Deveny also said that he has had students who are minors in a world language and majors in STEM, especially in biology.

Devyn Voorheis, a senior Spanish and Communication major, also shares Deveny and Motard-Noar’s views.



Voorheis in Córdoba, Spain.
Photo courtesy of Devyn Voorheis.

“World languages are important for everyone to study, especially in our society where globalization is important in our everyday life,” she said.

While it is possible to major in a STEM subject and in a world language, minors in world languages are far more common.

Engendering Gender Inclusive Housing for First-Year Students (continued)

-continued from page 1-

have a conversation with Residence Life to figure out a housing situation in which they’d be comfortable, although the college doesn’t require that students state why they want gender-neutral housing.

Goucher College allows new students to identify as transgender or non-binary on their housing application, then works with those students. Meanwhile, at New York University, students have the ability

to opt in to gender-neutral options in the initial roommate survey.

Smaller colleges like McDaniel typically have a harder time providing gender inclusive housing to first-years. A school would need first-year housing with multiple public bathrooms per floor and/or private bathrooms. University of Maryland, College Park, a much larger public institution, has gender inclusive rooms with private bathrooms within traditional dorm halls; however, renovating halls to accommodate this would be hard to fund at smaller colleges.

Students on campus continue to hope for a gender inclusive option for new students. “I think it would be neat if we set up one suite in DMC as a designated gender inclusive suite, for example,” said McDaniel College Gender & Sexuality Alliance treasurer Lindsey Franks.

“The best bet might even be having a floor or a house for

individuals that are LGBTQ+.

This would provide a safe and comfortable placement and housing for individuals that start attending McDaniel,” Karl added. “I know that personally if this was an option that I would take place in it and help to make this a better school.”

The school, however, will act if students more actively advocate for more gender inclusive options, Robbins said. Time will tell if this happens in the near future.

Marya Topina
Assistant Editor

This February, in honor of National Teen Dating Violence Prevention and Awareness month, McDaniel is joining together to fight back against sexual violence on campus.

At the beginning of the month, McDaniel’s Title IX Team sent out a survey about the sexual climate on campus. Headed by Cathy Orzolek-Kronner, the team hopes to gain an understanding of violence on campus in order to implement changes in how McDaniel reacts to these incidents/crimes. According to the team, in order to do so, they “need to know from students themselves what your experiences have been thus far at McDaniel.” The survey will run for a whole month — until March 1.

Because McDaniel is a member of the Higher Education Data Sharing consortium, the survey is the same one used for all small liberal arts colleges and universities. According to Orzolek-Kronner, “this is favorable because not only will HEDS analyze our data and send a report, but we can compare the findings from McDaniel College to other schools.”

This is the second year that the college has administered the campus climate survey, and it will continue to be a bi-annual event, in compliance with a precedent set by the Maryland Higher Education Administration in 2015.

Once the results of the survey are collected, the team will present their findings to the McDaniel community in an open presentation. “After achieving a better understanding of the campus climate as it pertains to

McDaniel’s Fight to End Sexual Violence



The Wellness Center is a resource on campus.
Photo by Marya Topina.

gender based violence for all students, we will re-examine the current programs used on campus” said Orzolek-Kronner.

“We also know that this issue is near and dear to many of our campus members, and thus there is much student interest in starting a student advocacy, education, and prevention

team which will ideally also be available to students who feel at risk or have been sexually violated in some way,” added Orzolek-Kronner. “We are working with Amanda Greenwood from Rape Crisis Intervention Services around this initiative.”

And that’s not all. The Title IX Team has been running focus groups

with an emphasis on hearing from students of color and the LGBTQ community. Additionally, OSE is sponsoring Consent Week at the end of February. The educational events will serve to share resources with students. Monday, Feb. 26, will start off the week with a program in the Forum with a variety of stations with activities and information presented by representatives from the Wellness Center, Campus Safety, Human Resources, Active Minds, Rape Crisis Intervention Services, and others.

The rest of the week will feature information about consent from the Wellness Center, a speech from outside speaker Tim Mousseau on Reframing the Sexual Assault Conversation, and bystander intervention methods taught by the Unbreakable Bystanders.

Finally, on Tuesday, March 6, Alpha Kappa Alpha and the Black Student Union will host the Defenders Against Sexual Assault program. According to Associate Dean of Students Michael Robbins, “they will be providing information on consent in relationships and reminding students that consent is still needed even within committed relationships and that assault can still occur within a couple.”

More events are being planned in April, which is Sexual Assault Awareness month. These include Take Back the Night, a vigil honoring the resiliency of women who have come together in solidarity to stop sexual violence.

The Free Press will cover the results of the sexual climate survey, once they become available to the public.

If you are a victim of a sexual crime, there are many resources available on campus and in the community. Feel free to contact:

- Campus Safety in person or at 410-857-2202
- The Wellness Center in person or at 410-857-2535
- RCIS 24-hour hotline at 410-857-7322
- National Sexual Assault 24/7 hotline at 800-656-HOPE (4673)
- RAINN 24/7 online chat hotline [hotline.rainn.org](https://www.rainn.org)
- Love is Respect phone, text, and chat hotlines for young adults: 866-331-9474, text “campus” to 22522, or go to loveisrespect.org

Historical Society of Carroll County: Looking to the Future

Emma Carter
Features Editor

On Westminster’s Main Street, three brick buildings — each a former upper-class home at least two centuries old — house the Historical Society of Carroll County.

Inside, staff at the organization work to preserve and teach the county’s history: they plan full calendars of events, gather historical Carroll County artifacts for their exhibits and research library, and stock the museum shop with books and items from local consignors. Right now, one item on the Historical Society’s agenda is receiving extra attention: getting young people involved.

In particular, the Historical Society staff and volunteers are reaching out to the college-aged audience of Carroll County, including, of course, students at McDaniel.



The Historical Society’s main building on Main Street in Westminster.
Photo by Emma Carter.

“Everybody says, ‘How come we have nobody in this age group?’” said Gainor Davis, executive director of the organization. Davis, who has served as head of the society for three years, sees gaining involvement from college-aged members of the community as a priority for the Historical Society.

An overwhelming majority of the Historical Society’s membership are baby boomers; only a handful are millennials. Davis suspects the younger generation already has a lot on its plate: going through school, starting careers.

Davis also guesses that a lack of participation from this age group stems from history in school classrooms — where most learning comes from books rather than from interactive activities.

One key to gaining a following of college students in the future, Davis believes, is to compensate for this gap in interactivity with children at an even younger age.

“Part of our strategy is to try to

make our school adventures more proactive,” she said. In addition to Past Times for Children, a monthly class where children learn about life in Carroll County during the 19th century, Davis and her colleagues are developing more interactive activities for young children, such as traveling trunks.

These are cases of artifacts that Historical Society staff bring to Carroll County elementary schools: each contains items relating to historical themes, like industrialization, that students can pick up and look at.

“That’s outreach,” said James Lightner, Ph.D., McDaniel College’s historian, who is a former chairman and current member of the Historical Society’s board of trustees. “We’re trying to reach a whole other facet of the community through the visits.”

Last year, the Historical Society invited Carroll County fifth-graders to hand-pick historical artifacts and create exhibits for third-graders. Lightner served as a docent for these exhibits, and he expects this year’s

fifth- and third-grade classes to be invited again.

Current older students are a focus at the Historical Society as well.

“One of the things we have been doing is working with interns,” Davis said. Over Davis’s three years at the Historical Society, she has hired a number of high school and college students, two of whom have been from McDaniel.

Lightner also likes the prospect of having more college interns at the organization, even if they are not majoring in history. He noted that dramatic arts majors, or even computer science majors, could benefit the Historical Society and learn about how management works in this type of organization.

Students will also see a discounted price for membership soon.

“It’s a little expensive for a student to pay the regular membership fees,” Lightner said, “so we’re going to create a special almost half-price membership.” The regular membership fee of \$50 will be split in half

for students as well as for teachers.

Davis also plans to hold membership surveys and focus groups to find out what might bring more people to the Historical Society. “We shouldn’t be telling people what they want; we should be listening to them,” she said.

Several McDaniel students have already worked with the organization.

In 2015, students in one of the college’s theater classes wrote and performed scripts for a historical walking tour of downtown Westminster, where they played the roles of Westminster citizens during Corbit’s Charge, a Civil War skirmish that took place in the town in 1863.

Last year, the president of the college’s history club, Matthew Hopson, along with several club members, volunteered as extra hands moving artifacts and books while the Historical Society reorganized its space.

“I wanted to have the club do service that would be benefiting another organization with similar goals to ours — like an organization who promotes the study and interest in history that our club tries to promote as well,” Hopson said.

The junior would like to see more young people become involved in historical organizations as well.

“If more people realize the impact that history has had on contemporary events,” he said, “I think that would be a way for more and more younger people to become interested in it.”

Davis looks forward to fostering this interest.

“We need to give young people the opportunity to learn how exciting history can be.”

The Historical Society of Carroll County is located at 210 E. Main St. and is open Monday through Saturday. Davis can be contacted at 410-848-6494 or via hsccmd.org.

Megan Coyle
Staff Reporter

What is love? According to Merriam-Webster, the definition of love is “strong affection for another arising out of kinship or personal ties.”

While this is true, Love also happens to be the last name of a girl who embodied what the word love truly meant. Last week at the One Night with One Love event, students at McDaniel College were given the opportunity to learn about the story of Yeardley Love, a former lacrosse player at the University of Virginia.

In May 2010, Love was beaten to death by her ex-boyfriend three weeks before she was set to graduate. In September of that same year, Love’s family officially announced the creation of the One Love Foundation in honor of her memory. The foundation teaches young people about the difference between healthy and unhealthy relationships so they are able to prevent situations like Love’s in the future.

“One Love is creating a platform for people to feel that they can have a voice and to help them put vocabulary to certain behaviors, so that they can be a supportive friend or family member in an abusive relationship,” said Grace Carmichael, the One Love engagement coordinator in Maryland and Washington. Carmichael, along with representatives from Family and Children’s Services and from the Maryland State’s District Attorney’s Office, hosted the event at McDaniel.

“Yeardley’s death was 100 percent

One Night with One Love



Photo by Megan Coyle.

avoidable, so we are giving people the tools and the chance to see how that could have been avoided,” Carmichael said.

The event, which was held in Decker Auditorium, involved a seven minute video from One Love’s “Behind the Post” series followed by an open discussion of the film. The discussion was facilitated by Carmichael and the women from Family and Children’s Services, including Chelsea Nelson-Dorsey, violence intervention program facilitator and prevention educator.

“High school and college students are who we are targeting because they are the most susceptible to teen

dating violence,” Nelson-Dorsey said. “Typically, when we are coming into colleges, people have already been exposed [to relationship violence], so we just want to let them know that they do have resources available.”

This is not the first time an event like this has been held at McDaniel. In the fall semester, students in McDaniel’s Student Athletic Advisory Council were given the opportunity to become facilitators of One Love. They went through a more in-depth seminar during which they watched a 90 minute film — “Escalation,” which follows a college-aged couple through an abusive relationship —

and had a guided discussion.

The athletes took what they learned to their respective teams and taught it to their teammates. Alicia Wagner was one of two softball players who facilitated their seminar.

“I thought the experience was very informative,” Wagner said. “It showed my team different warning signs in a relationship whether it is with a friend or a significant other.”

Wagner also said the softball team’s seminar was a positive experience.

“The One Love Foundation is a great organization and I think all teams and organizations should go through some form of this seminar,” she said.

The turnout for the One Night with One Love event was small. However, both Carmichael and Nelson-Dorsey want to continue working with McDaniel and give students more opportunities to become involved.

“When I have more time, my goal for McDaniel is to have a peer support group for teen dating violence. That way you have counselors available to help you or your friends,” Nelson-Dorsey said.

“We [One Love] would definitely love to come back and do more events here at McDaniel,” said Carmichael.

For more information about One Love and their work, such as the #ThatsNotLove campaign, go to www.joinonelove.org. For more information about Family and Children’s Services, go to www.fcsmd.org.

Dwight Watkins Talks Literacy, Equality at Ridington Lecture

Aidan Finnerty
Staff Reporter

Dwight Watkins, published author and writer, presented his case as to why there needs to be an exchanging of skills at the very core of our society in a lecture entitled, “Beyond the Internet: Why Quantifiable Goals Trump Hashtags,” in McDaniel’s annual Ridington Lecture on Feb. 27.

Tuesday’s lecture began with Watkins’ story of rise, one that started on the streets of East Baltimore and catapulted him to be one of the leading voices of reporting on the “crack epidemic” and neglect of the urban poor as well as a role model for city kids of similar upbringings.

For Watkins, the problem starts with schools. Speaking from his own life experiences, he says that neither he nor his friends read any of the books they were offered before seventh grade. He continues, almost coyly laughing, “None of my friends and I were interested in reading Mark Twain.” According to Watkins, oftentimes for kids that are growing

up, being exposed to an informal slang-filled dictionary, books with familiar ideas, words, and plots should be used to foster an early love of reading.

Watkins offered serious and pointed statistics: “Black people make up 13.3 percent of the population of this country, but are only represented in 1 percent of literature.” Given to him by a nurse while he spent a stint in the hospital, the first book he read that really ignited his passion for reading was “The Coldest Winter Ever” by Sister Souljah.

From there, Watkins went on to talk about his writing career and how that afforded a healthy way to express himself and work proactively with disadvantaged fellow members of his community. Over the past few years, Watkins has worked to get his books into city schools and has written articles like rapper profiles, stories that are culturally relevant to the youth in the community, giving back in more ways than one.

In a segment pertaining to act



Photo by Aidan Finnerty.

of protests perpetrated by activists, Watkins made the comment that the days of a movement led by a Martin Luther King type figure are over, and instead people should be directing their goals towards jobs within the



Photo by Aidan Finnerty.

city that have long lasting effects on the well-being of the community. Watkins recommends his book “The Beast Side” to first-time readers of his.

College issues statement on ‘Englar Dining issue’ (continued)

-continued from page 1-

“If that is the quality of correctly cooked chicken,” said Honick, “it is time to find better food.”

While the USDA does note that color isn’t always the best indicator of cooked poultry, the incidences of allegedly raw meat at the College highlight a bigger issue.

Sodexo has come under fire in recent years on allegations of health violations, contract complications, bypassing competitive bidding processes, and investments in the privatized prison industry.

Other colleges across the nation have also reported issues with Sodexo and the quality of food available to students under Sodexo’s control.

According to the Stony Brook University student newspaper, The Press, the University voted in January to commence “a bidding process that could prematurely end current campus food supplier Sodexo’s five year contract.”

“Unfortunately our partner (Sodexo) continued to fall short of expectations as demonstrated by quality assurance reports and customer satisfaction data,” a Jan. 9 email to Stony Brook students read.

Like McDaniel, The Press reports

multiple Facebook posts showing pictures of raw meat and student complaints.

“Food service at McDaniel has been an issue since the second I stepped foot on campus,” said English major Kyle Granger, author of the McDaniel-viral Facebook post. “One of my housemates hasn’t had a meal plan here since 2015 because of it.”

Granger hopes that the recent recognition of student and parent complaints and the College’s emailed statement mean that change is coming.

“It was a good start that the administration [is] taking this seriously enough to address the entire undergraduate population and multiple parent pages,” he said.

But Granger also feels as though the email felt hollow.

“The email felt as if it [was] just a carefully worded version of ‘we will look into it but then do absolutely nothing,’” he said. “Not three hours after the email was sent out, there was already people commenting on my original post with a picture of unclean utensils and reports of having to throw out or return inedible food.”

Reports of unclean utensils were

addressed in a Facebook comment by Operations Manager Michael Greczy to the tune of what Granger called “blaming of the problems on the employees.”

Greczy’s comment, since deleted but saved by a student, highlights Sodexo’s employment program for developmentally disabled individuals.

“In order to supply opportunities to people with developmental disabilities,” it reads, “we provide them with jobs in our dish room. Unfortunately they don’t always catch food residue left on the plates and silverware.”

Greczy could not be contacted for comment.

Other students commented on Granger’s post with pictures of their own encounters with poor food in Englar Dining Hall.

“I had a person reach out with a photo of a bolt in her salad,” said Granger.

He reports the student was given \$50 in McDaniel Bucks by the College and told to not make a big deal about it.

Other students messaged Granger in whatever way they could with their contributions to the growing collection of evidence.

“It all just serves as tangible proof that I’m not alone in the senti-

ments I expressed through my post,” he said.

The College said in their statement that incidents that occurred in Englar Dining Hall have been addressed, but students and parents are yet to be satisfied.

“This is such a disappointment because she loves the school and is thriving,” said Honick.

Reportedly, some parents are sending hundreds of extra dollars to their students so they can afford to shop at grocery stores to make sure they eat enough.

“It is sad that she is paying a huge portion for inedible food,” said Honick of her daughter’s financial situation.

Despite the College’s longstanding relationship with Sodexo, they claim to have begun reviewing alternative vendors that serve colleges and universities, a sign of progress that Granger likes to see.

“If I could make something clear to the administration on behalf of the student body,” Granger said, “it’s that until actual change occurs, words mean nothing. The administration’s actions need to be so loud that we are deaf to their words.”

Erin Pogue
Assistant Editor

Last fall, the McDaniel College IT Department implemented a new requirement concerning password complexity and expiration dates, with all students, faculty, and staff being required to change their passwords in a global password reset at the beginning of this semester.

“Many rules and regulations governing the use of sensitive and personal data requires that passwords expire,” said Andrew Lawlor, CIO of McDaniel’s IT Department.

Changing passwords regularly also prevents criminal logins through McDaniel accounts. The password change keeps information secure by expiring at a certain time: 90 days for faculty and staff and 180 days for students.

Faculty and staff passwords require more changes due to the sensitive nature of some information they could have, while students

IT Requires New Password Changes

are less likely to have access to sensitive information. Students are still encouraged to change their passwords as frequently as they would like.

Passwords are now also required to have a minimum of 10 characters and at least three of the four categories of number, symbol, upper-case, and lower-case letters. By making passwords more complex, it makes them much harder for others to guess.

“One tip is to create a password as a pass phrase so it is easier to remember and will use up to 10, or more, characters by nature of it being a phrase rather than a word,” said Lawlor.

Due to the new expiration dates on passwords, it is unlikely that there will be need for another global password reset. Students can easily access the ‘Manage Password’ page



Photo courtesy of Pexels.

through the My McDaniel login page to change their passwords at any time.

Further information can be found on the website it.mcdaniel.edu.

Laurel Pogue
Assistant Editor

Taste of Asia, hosted by the Asian Community Coalition (ACC), returned to campus again this year on Feb. 22. The theme of the night was “Asia Through the Ages,” and it included music, song, dance, food, and more, featuring countries all around Asia. Abigail Rose-Craver (the President of ACC) and Phuc Truong were the hosts.

The night began with a Lion Dance, courtesy of Tai Yim Kung Fu. The Lion Dance is a traditional part of Chinese Lunar New Year celebrations, and tells the tale of a fearsome beast that used to terrorize Chinese villages every new year, until they poisoned it with magic lettuce and turned it into an ally. After the performance, volunteers were welcomed up to the stage to try the dance themselves, and to take photographs with the lion.

Meanwhile, the buffet of food was opened, with a variety of foods provided by Ying Thai Cuisine of Westminster. These buffets, located on either side of the Forum, contained vegetarian green curry, white rice, pad thai (with both chicken and tofu options), and fried chicken, with a variety of sauces and toppings available.

Following the Lion Dance, a TED video was shown about the Chinese Zodiac, both in the context of ancient beliefs, as well as how it plays an important role in Chinese culture today.

Continuing, Rose-Craver and Truong read a poem, “Ong Do” or “The Calligrapher” by Vu Dinh Lien, a Vietnamese poem about traditions and passing them on to future gener-

ations.

Following the poem was a demonstration of the traditional Korean game “Dibidibidip,” which is basically a full-body version of rock-paper-scissors. Eight volunteers were then brought up to the stage to compete in a brief tournament.

There was then another short break in the programming for dessert: cupcakes and coconut ice cream.

The next performance was by the Intermediate Chinese class, which performed a Chinese version of “I Want It That Way” by the Backstreet Boys, as arranged by Jill Chen. Following the song, the Belly Dance Club performed a selection of pieces.

A game of Kahoot trivia followed, with 10 questions about Asian culture, geography, and entertainment. Each table competed as a team, and the winning group received coupons to Ying Thai Cuisine.

The last of the performances was a series of dances set to modern music, choreographed by Jacqueline Yarwaye.

The night ended with closing remarks and a surprise giveaway, as guests were invited to look under their chairs, where one person at each table would find a card telling them that they were the winner, and would be able to take home the table’s sand garden centerpiece.

ACC will be hosting a few more events this semester, including Calligraphy Cupcakes and Asia Café, and will be co-hosting United with some of the other cultural groups on campus. They also welcome new members and hold meetings in Hill 104 at 7 p.m. every Monday.

Taste of Asia: “Asia Through the Ages”



Photo by Kyle Parks.



Tai Yim Kung Fu performing the Lion Dance.

Photo by Kyle Parks.



Abigail Rose-Craver and Phuc Truong. *Photo by Kyle Parks.*



Intermediate Chinese students performing. *Photo by Kyle Parks.*

Tiffany Afoakwa
Staff Reporter

The room buzzed with “oohs” and “aahs” as the student-led choir sang gospel songs. Dancers swayed their bodies to classical and contemporary hits prominent within black culture. A poet trotted across the stage and discussed her longing to return home to the continent Africa.

On Feb. 27, McDaniel’s Voices of Praise club (VOP) collaborated with the Black Student Union (BSU) to form the Soulful Music Festival, a night of cultural celebration in the Forum. To culminate Black History Month, students across campus gathered to explore African American music through its various art forms, its roots, and its impact on American society from generation to generation.

“This event is really big. There are people who listen to music all

Soulful Music Festival Hits McDaniel



Photo by Tiffany Afoakwa.

the time and don’t realize that without African influences, this music

right here would not exist.” Sophomore Jamar White, President of BSU

said. “Jazz, Rock and roll – they all have pieces and influences from African and black music.”

At the show, audience members had an opportunity to experience instrument-based compositions, a cappella songs, and a music style typically heard at black church services.

From hot dogs to chips to desserts, BSU funded food platters and beverages for the festival. However, the majority of the event planning came from Senior Akira Westbrook, President of Voices of Praise and Secretary of BSU. “This was Voices of Praise’s first event. We really just became established this year,” Westbrook said, “but be on the lookout because this is the first of many and we’ll have other activities to come!”

“This is an idea that Akira had, and she brought it up to BSU during

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Vagina Monologues Performed at McDaniel College

Stefan Specian
Managing Editor

On Feb. 23 and 24, McDaniel College hosted its fifteenth annual performance of the Vagina Monologues in Alumni Hall. The play, written by Eve Ensler, was directed this year by senior Megan Smith and featured sixteen female McDaniel students, along with adviser Dr. Becky Carpenter. The play touches on issues of feminine expression, cultural misogyny, and sexual violence, making it a sometimes tough, but also essential viewing, especially as movements confronting these issues seem to be a major aspect of the national political zeitgeist.

The lineup for the show featured a selection of various pieces, including “They Beat the Girl out of My Boy,” performed by Becky Carpenter, Colleen Clark, Jennifer Willard, and Sylvan Greyson, “Hair,” performed by Jill Betchel, and “The Woman Who Loved to Make Vaginas Happy,” performed by Bailey Rose



Photo by Kyle Parks.

Boyle. During each monologue, the rest of the cast not performing would often yell out callbacks as a form of expressing their thoughts and solidarity. These ranged from jokes to supportive affirmations towards those performing.

The show also featured personal narratives at the end where members of the cast recounted personal

tales surviving sexual violence. The stories allowed cast members to open up about past experiences in a supportive and safe environment and fit with the theme of the show.

Around this same time, audience members were called upon to stand if they had been victims of, knew someone who had been a victim of, or would be allies in the fight against sexual assault. By the end of this,

the entire theater was standing in solidarity.

Many of those who performed expressed that they were positively affected by their participation.

“Vagina Monologues is a show that will make you laugh, cry, and think. Some pieces will move you to tears, others will make you laugh so hard you cry,” said Gianna D’Avella, who performed “The ‘Wear and Say’ Lists,” and “Not-so-Happy Fact.”

“It is a show that at its most basic form is about female empowerment, it is about sharing stories from women that others can relate to and feel,” she added.

It was also announced that next year’s director of the show would be Patsy Zetkulis.

As the show touched on issues of sexual assault, representatives from the Rape Crisis Intervention Service of Carroll County were outside of the theater, available to speak with attendees.

www.mcdanielfreepress.com



Flannery Bendel-Simso and Olivia Michel. Photo by Kyle Parks.



Dr. Becky Carpenter and Colleen Clark. Photo by Kyle Parks.



Megan Smith. Photo by Kyle Parks.



Sylvan Greyson. Photo by Kyle Parks.

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one of our e-board meetings in early February. We talked about it, liked it, and decided to collaborate.” White said. “This honestly came together quickly. We saw that the Forum was open during Black History Month, so we booked it. After that, it was getting members of Voices of Praise and others to perform.”

The list of performers included students from numerous class years and talents. Whether singing or spoken word, audience members shouted out words of praise during performances and collectively encouraged entertainers to showcase their abilities.

One performer in particular, Senior Dionna Newsome said, “Normally, I write my own poetry down, but don’t perform it as much as I want to. It was good to be able to perform and receive support on what I spoke about.”

Westbrook agrees that the event was not only a platform to unify minority students, but also an outlet for students like Newsome to share their own culture and experiences.

“I think it’s very difficult being a student in college. People have jobs and don’t really have the free time to do the things that they love.” Aki-ra said. “They have hidden talents. There are a lot of singers that are not in music groups and dancers that are not in dance groups because they just don’t have the time.”

To address this, both Voices of Praise and BSU set up trivia questions, dance competitions, and free giveaway items during the show to help students learn more about how they can express themselves and their black culture.

White said, “Well, we are a minority on campus, but we are a growing minority. Every year, the amount of people of color on campus grows larger and larger. Appreciation of black culture and black people is necessary – we’re an integral part of the foundation of this country.”

Through hosting Black History Month events like the Soulful Music Festival, black student organizations on campus seek to bring awareness to the everyday experiences of African Americans.

White continued, “Without black people, this country wouldn’t be where it is today. We came here forcefully through slavery and there needs to be some kind of appreciation, a form of reparation to an extent.”

As the event came to a close, audience members stood up in unison. Together, a medley of voices began to rumble. With smiles from some and serious expressions from others, staff and students around the room sang alongside Voices of Praise—ringing out the tune to the Black National Anthem.

Emma Carter
Features Editor

Last week, Marvel Studios released its latest and highly-anticipated film “Black Panther.” The superhero film drew widespread attention and gave the studio its biggest opening week at the box office thanks to its diverse cast and the introduction of a new superhero to the Marvel franchise.

The film, directed by Ryan Coogler, stars Chadwick Boseman as the Black Panther — the king of Wakanda, a wealthy and technologically advanced African nation that hides behind a façade of poverty — as he battles an adversary played by Michael B. Jordan bent on redistributing the country’s resources to the impoverished African diaspora in an attempt to incite a world-wide revolution.

McDaniel College students were among the crowds who saw it on opening weekend.

Weston Funk, McDaniel sophomore and employee at the Regal Westminster 9 Theater, saw “Black Panther” on opening night. He praised Marvel’s character-centric plots — “they’re getting better with their storytelling because they flesh out the characters more” — and said this is one of studio’s best films.

The next night, he worked selling snacks to enthusiastic movie-goers.

“This has been my favorite [opening weekend] so far because

McDaniel Praises ‘Black Panther’



*The Black Panther cast at San Diego International Comic Con 2016.
Photo courtesy of Gage Skidmore.*

everybody’s having such a good time,” Funk said.

McDaniel history major Katie Creveling was among those on opening weekend who was impressed with what they saw.

“I think this is a great example of history that not a lot of people get exposed to in their lives,” said the senior, referring to the film’s depiction of African culture. The Wakandan characters in “Black Panther” reflected traditional African practices such as stretched ears and scarification – patterns imposed onto the skin by branding.

Creveling also applauded the film’s portrayal of strong female characters. Three women take the lead in the movie: Danai Gurira, Lupita Nyong’o and Letitia Wright play the roles of a high-ranking general, a Wakandan spy and the princess of Wakanda, respectively.

Further praise for Coogler’s film has commended its center on black culture.

For Jose Moreno, head of McDaniel’s Office of Student Diversity and Inclusion, this was a key element of the film. Moreno noted the importance of showing

America’s black culture in a positive light.

“For people of color, for students of color, to see a black actor be in the center of a movie and the storyline revolving around that culture, and that race, is just really important,” he said. “I’m really happy that we got to see that.”

The OSDI, along with the college’s Office of Residence Life, provided students with transportation to the theater and with discounted tickets on Friday night for the Office of Residence Life’s Late Night Movie Run program. Moreno believed seeing the film was an empowering experience for students.

“It was a very proud moment for a lot of students, especially students of color,” he said.

Funk noticed the impact the film’s diversity has had on the community as well: he has seen a larger African-American presence at the theater.

“It’s amazing because they’re having a good time — because they see people that look like them on the screen,” he said.

Funk said he expects high numbers of people to come to the theater in the coming weeks for “Black Panther.” Creveling said she would see the film in theaters again.

“Who doesn’t love a Marvel movie?” she said.

“Pigments and Plastics” McDaniel Art Honors Exhibit

Jedidiah Fowler
Arts & Culture Editor

On March 1, the McDaniel College Art Department had a new opening in the Rice Gallery. This exhibit, called Pigments and Plastics featured three seniors with departmental honors in their major. The artists, Monique Staveley, Caitlin Eversmier, and Rachel Wojnar, all displayed several pieces that they had put together for their honors exhibit.

The pieces ranged from comics to plastic bags to a crown made out of cicadas. The overarching theme of this exhibit was a reflection on self, nature, and the environment.

Staveley’s pieces featured comics that she had created. She discussed how she grew up loving stories, and thought that pictures and words work well together to create a better and more in-depth story. The comics she displayed in the Pigments and Plastics exhibit featured stories about the life struggles of a college student, whether it be relationships or term papers.

Where Staveley focused more on the Pigments side of the exhibit, Eversmier and Wojnar focused more on Plastics. Eversmier, an Environmental Science and Art double major, explained how taking care of the Environment and particularly the oceans has always been near and dear to her heart. As a scuba diver for most of her life, Eversmier described the environmental degradation that she has witnessed firsthand caused by plastics in the ocean. In order to demonstrate this problem in her pieces, she had several prints displaying ocean animals with plastic stitched to them. Additionally, she had many posters demonstrating and discussing much of the pervasive nature of plastics and microplastics in our oceans.

Perhaps the most eye-catching of



Photo by Darby Bortz.

her exhibits was a giant outline of the state of Texas made entirely out of plastic grocery bags. The purpose of this exhibit was to demonstrate the enormous nature of the plastic pollution in our oceans today. In

order to combat this problem, Eversmier suggested that people begin grocery shopping with reusable bags and avoiding the use of plastic straws.

Lastly, Rachel Wojnar’s pieces

also focused on nature and how it is tied into art. She explained how she has become increasingly concerned and attentive to environmental problems and how they can affect our lives. One of her works “450 years” featured a video of her using a naturally occurring preservative to make art. She discussed how some plastics can take up to 450 years to biodegrade. Finding these numbers appalling, Wojnar decided explored ways of making her art more eco-friendly. Interestingly, she discovered a style of art called eco-art which focuses on using nature to create beauty in an environmentally friendly way. One of her pieces that demonstrated this was called “hope for our waters,” and it featured a log that she had carved into the shape of a cluster of oyster mushrooms.

Overall, the Pigments and Plastics exhibit is both breathtaking and thought-provoking. Stop by if you get a chance. The exhibit will be up through March 30 for visitation.

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Photo by Darby Bortz.

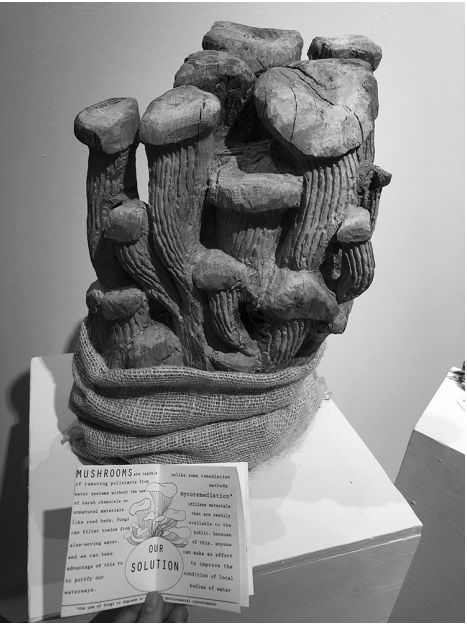


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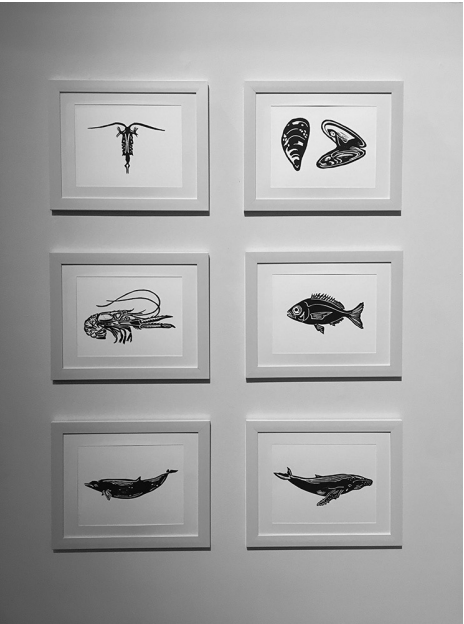


Photo by Darby Bortz.

Sorority Housing Brothel Myth Is Just That

Atticus Rice
Sports Editor

The idea that a certain number of unrelated women living in the same residence officially designate said residence as a brothel has been circulating college campuses for years. The myth is often used as an excuse by students to explain why their college lacks specific housing for Greek-lettered organizations. But the myth is just that – a myth.

Columnist Richard Roeper in 1994 called it “The most widespread piece of university folklore making the rounds” and could document it on at least 100 campuses.

While, McDaniel hasn’t been immune to the myth, the claim is as unsubstantiated on the Hill as it is anywhere else.

“I have never been asked to enforce anything like that,” Associate Dean of Students Michael Robbins said of the brothel label.

A review of Maryland, Carroll County, and Westminster housing and zoning codes reveal no restrictions.

County officials can confirm that nothing in Carroll’s code places any restrictions on any number of women living together in one dwelling on the basis of being labeled a brothel, or anything of the like.

As reported by Snopes, the myth is likely derived from a time where blue laws prohibited things like shopping on Sundays and many new zoning laws were being put into place.

Matt Soniak reports in Mental Floss that the “law has been recorded since the 1960s – a decade that saw a huge uptick in the number of women



Greek-lettered housing options at Babson College in Massachussets.
Photo courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

attending college.” Still, there are no records found that ban a certain number of women living together on the basis of the brothel label.

Some jurisdictions do put limits on who can live in what type of residence, but those laws usually exist to limit how many people can inhabit a single-family dwelling.

“Even in communities that carry such housing restrictions on their books,” writes Snopes, “sororities and fraternities are exempted from them.”

One particularly pervasive variation of the myth says that Pennsylvania has specific laws still in place

that prohibit sorority housing so as to avoid any legally defined brothels. This has been debunked by Pennsylvania State University, which also makes clear that, while State College has zoning laws similar to those in Westminster and Carroll County, none of them have specifications about Greek housing.

Another version suggests that sorority houses with more than five women with alcohol present are given the brothel label, as reported in The New York Times.

A review of the National Panhellenic Conference Policies and Best Practices says that any policy dealing with substances comes from

voluntary policies created by their 26 sorority members.

Additional information provided by the NPC also points to the fact that an absence of alcohol in living environments leads to lower insurance premiums.

Robbins echoes the NPC, saying that the designation of an official sorority house would surely cause insurance rates to go up.

It’s not uncommon, he says, for multiple women in the same sorority to all rent a house together.

In this vein, the College offers Greek-lettered organizations the option to be assigned to a floor or wing of an on-campus residence hall to allow their members to all live together rather than getting a house on or off campus.

“This enables them to stay easily connected with one another and still access the various services on campus easily,” the College policy reads.

Policies like these are becoming more common at colleges, though not many chapters tend to exercise them. Currently at McDaniel, only Phi Mu has official on-campus housing, on the first floor of Albert Norman Ward Hall.

PSU offers similar options, but allows their Greek-lettered organizations to rent suites from the University, a practice that started in the post-war era as the price of off-campus housing soared.

No matter the explanations or policies put forth, it seems that this myth is one for the ages, and one that colleges just can’t shake.

Spenser Secret
Assistant Editor

Executive Director of the Center for Experience and Opportunity Josh Ambrose has been named as the new head of the Encompass Distinction.

The Encompass Distinction is an entrepreneurial program that is open to sophomores in any major. It is made possible with the financial support of The Sisco Fund for Enterprise Management.

Ambrose has replaced Professor Bryn Upton, who had been in charge of the Encompass Distinction since the program’s inception in 2015. According to Ambrose, Upton wanted “to focus and work on other projects.” However, Ambrose notes that Upton, “is still on the Steering Committee and is still actively involved with Encompass.”

Upton, who is the Director of the Honors Program, elaborated on his departure by stating that with “the largest incoming class of Honors students in Program history, with the Encompass Program also growing it was going to be too much to try to be at the helm of both Programs. I am still part of the leadership team for Encompass along with the Faculty Innovation Fellow Julie Routzahn and our Entrepreneur-in-Residence Jon Weetman, and we have other members of the faculty



Photo by Spenser Secret.

Ambrose Named Head of Encompass

involved as well.”

As head of the Encompass Distinction, Ambrose’s new duties include meeting biweekly with the Encompass Committee, as well as helping set up the Encompass agenda. Ambrose is also in charge of student outreach and design publicity. This means that Ambrose is in charge of posters, special events and speakers on campus.

As a member of the Encompass steering committee, Ambrose also has a role in the big picture of where the program is going.

Despite these new duties, Ambrose is not in charge of any new changes, and states that any new plans that are to be implemented are done through the committee.

Ambrose currently teaches two courses, Writing for Main Street in the fall and Writing for the Nonprofit Organization in the spring, both of which have an internship component. Interestingly, both of these courses are tied into the new minors that were developed by Encompass. Writing for the Nonprofit Organization fulfils requirements in both the marketing and entrepreneurship minors. Additionally, Writing for Main Street fulfils a requirement for the entrepreneurship minor.

“The entrepreneurship and marketing minors were developed by the encompass committee and faculty,” Ambrose explains. “The faculty will teach the majority of the classes, which are all part of the Encompass umbrella.”

Ambrose has ambitious goals for the future of Encompass. Ambrose would like to see an Encompass student club with a focus on

entrepreneurship and hopes that he will continue to see more students apply to the Innovation Challenge. The Innovation Challenge is a competition open to all students and allows them to compete for the best business or social innovation plans. The deadline for the 2018 Innovation

Challenge is March 9. Finally, Ambrose states that he would “hope to see them graduate and become entrepreneurs.”

If you would like to learn more about the Encompass Distinction contact Josh Ambrose at jambrose@mcdaniel.edu



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Maryland Looks to Tackle Youth Football Head Trauma Issues

Gunnar Ward
Assistant Editor

The threat of concussions and injuries in football has not gone unnoticed in Maryland. Proposed legislation in the General Assembly would put a ban on tackle football played on all Maryland public grounds and publicly funded facilities at levels before high school play.

“This is about a vulnerable population and developing brains,” Del. Terri Hill, physician and Howard County Democrat,” told the Baltimore Sun. “It’s a public health issue.”

New York lawmakers are proposing similar legislation outlawing tackle football. In addition, other sports like soccer and hockey have rules implemented where contact to the head or brutal body contact are prohibited for young players.

For the 102 Green Terror footballers, the journey to collegiate level football began on the same level that potentially may be banned. Few go on from playing football only a few years to the collegiate level. It is a process that takes years to develop.

Although many began playing tackle football during youth years, the threat of injury is one that players are aware of.

“The sport is definitely dangerous,” McDaniel quarterback Ben Igo said.

It is a danger and contest that the American public spectates more than any other sport. Stadiums are



Photo courtesy of Pixabay.

jam-packed on game day for all levels. Even McDaniel’s stadium is a hotspot for on campus organizations, local spectators and alumni. The interest in the sport has become woven in American culture and with possible changes to the game coming, waves of change could reach beyond the goalposts.

“This can have such a huge ripple effect on football,” freshman Eric Chung said. “How can one be a talented football player and possibly be looked at as a serious college prospect if you only play in high school? That’s gonna throw Maryland high school football into hell.”

The issue of concussions and

other injuries has the potential to funnel into major issues such as CTE, a degenerative brain disease that can cause memory loss, confusion, impaired judgment, impulse control problems, aggression, depression, suicide, Parkinson’s, and eventually progressive dementia according to studies from Boston University.

Studies stemming from Boston reflect the suicide of former New England Patriots tight end Aaron Hernandez. Hernandez was serving a prison sentence at the time of death, but his autopsy revealed extreme levels of CTE.

With the danger evident, solutions are suggested to be implemented at

the highest level of play and trickle down. It is the big hits that draw the awes, but those huge collisions are dangers to both offense and defense, and it is the incorrect way to play.

“The NFL needs to be the spearhead of change [because] they are the model,” McDaniel head athletic trainer Gregg Nibbelink said. “Ultimately if they say something everyone looks to them and says ‘if they believe change needs to occur, lets change.’”

Football fans, players, and trainers agree that there needs to be action to protect all football players, not only youth players. The process to making the sport safer has experienced some changes, but has not progressed far.

“If I were in a position to make decisions it would be to inform all coaches part of an organization the proper way to tackle and bringing the head out of the game,” Igo said. “Equipment is also just as important, there has been big advancements in helmet technology and they keep getting better.”

The discussion of safety and legality of America’s most popular spectator sport present both pros and cons. The discussion, like the game, has both an offense and defense and the importance of safety seems to fall in between.

“For me personally, flag football is a great alternative,” Nibbelink said. “ You can teach the game and allow kids to enjoy the game, it is the tackling aspect that is the biggest concern.”

Jakob Katzen
Staff Reporter

A year after the Baltimore Orioles made the postseason and had a promising record of 89-73, the end of the 2017 season left many fans and members of the front office scratching their heads.

Finishing in last place of their division at the conclusion of the 2017 season at 75-97 undoubtedly raised eyebrows because the roster was almost identical to the previous season. Adding insult to injury, the Orioles cut ties with fan favorite Matt Wieters who had been with the team since 2009.

The Orioles also saw other players who made considerable contributions not return and sign with other organizations, but that was no excuse for the lackluster season fans had to endure.

Of course, seeing the Baltimore Orioles fail to advance to the postseason was difficult to swallow, but roster moves made during the offseason should give hope to fans for 2018.

With these new contracts, the team looks ahead to seeing how fresh prospects will perform during Spring Training, as the Orioles make final preparations for Opening Day.

Manager Buck Showalter wants to give fans something to cheer for during the 2018 because he knows his team missed out on a golden opportunity letting the 2017 season slip out of their hands.

On the last year of his contract, the three-time Manager of the Year is well aware that his team will have to do the best with what they’ve got and can no longer point fingers and make excuses.

“As I get older, I realize how



Oriole Park at Camden Yards.

Photo courtesy Pixabay user 12019 / 10269 images.

lucky I am,” Showalter told USA Today. “I think everybody knows what I think of the city and the organization and the people that I’ve come to know. As every day passes, it’s another great honor.”

There is no doubt that Showalter would like nothing more than to return to the Orioles in 2019 and several years after, but for the time being he is only focused on finding success and hopefully bringing the Orioles back to the postseason, which he’s accomplished three times since taking the helm in 2010.

General Manager and Executive Vice President of Baseball Operations Dan Duquette is in a similar situation as Showalter. His contract also set to expire after the 2018 season, but he remains focused on addressing areas of weaknesses within the organization and trying to find solutions to areas that have

continued to raise red flags over the years.

“They’re going to need three of four weeks to get ready, so it would

be important to get somebody signed up three or four weeks from the start of the season,” Duquette told MASN. “It’s getting to that time of year where you need to add to your team .”

The lack of movement with regards to free agents on the market and hesitancy to fill glaring holes in the depth chart, specifically with adding outfielders and starting pitchers to help strengthen the existing rotation has led to skepticism and forced fans into thinking that if the front office doesn’t make noise soon, they may be out of luck.

There is plenty to build off of after a disappointing 2017 season, however. Orioles fans should keep their fingers crossed and have higher expectations with less than a month left until Opening Day.

The Orioles open their regular season home schedule March 29 at 3:05 p.m. against the Minnesota Twins.

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The Daytona 500, Where Legends Are Born

Derrick Chase
Staff Reporter

On the high banks of Daytona International speedway, there’s no such thing as taking your foot off the gas pedal. On Feb. 18, 40 drivers battled to be on that Harley J. Early trophy alongside the names Richard Petty, Bobby Allison, Jimmie Johnson, Dale Earnhardt Sr., Dale Earnhardt Jr., and many more.

Celebrities in attendance included future NFL hall of famer Peyton Manning—who drove the pace car—Oscar winning Actress Cherlize Theron, and Rascal Flatts.

“They call this the ‘Super Bowl of racing,’” said guitarist Joe Don Rooney for Rascal Flatts.

“I’ve been upright; I’ve been on my back,” Said Manning “I’ve never been sideways before.”

“I did what I had to do there at the end,” Said Austin Dillon, driver of the no. 3 Camaro ZL1 “It is what it is here at Daytona.”

It was a very emotional day -- it was the first time in 20 years that a no. 3 car has sat in victory lane at Daytona International Speedway. “This is so awesome to take the no. 3 car back to victory lane 20 years ago,” Dillon said.

As a child, Dillon was in victory

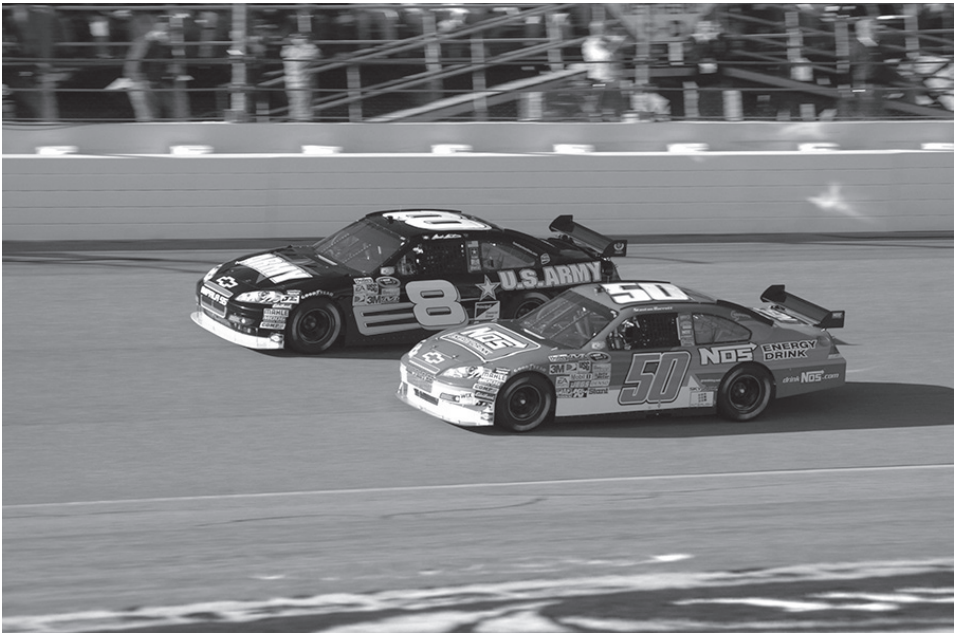


Photo via Public Domain.

lane posing with his brother Ty with Dale Sr. He was very emotional answering questionings in the same Gatorade victory lane now.

“This one is for Dale Earnhardt Sr. and all those senior fans,” Dillon said.

It was also a very emotional day for others as a longtime driver Danica Patrick, who was hanging up her driving career after the

conclusion of the Great American Race’s sixtieth running. “I’m grateful for everything. Thank you to all the fans,” said Patrick, who was involved with a wreck early and crashed out of the Great American Race.

“I just try so hard to be successful at everything I do,” said Darrell Wallace, driver of No. 43. “My family pushes me each and every day, they might not even know it. But I just

want to make them proud.” It was a very emotional day for the driver of the famous No. 43 car, as Darrell “Bubba” Wallace was the highest finishing African American driver in Nascar history, let alone finishing runner-up in the Great American Race. He received many high praises, such as good luck tweet from fellow African American Formula One driver Lewis Hamilton.

“He just said, “Good Luck and have a good race today,” said Wallace. “That was really cool.” Wallace received a phone call from hall of famer Hank Aaron, who is from the same hometown as Wallace: Mobile, Alabama.

“From one Mobile son to another... Always believe in your dreams and anything is possible,” said Hank Aaron.

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Make Liberty Win: McDaniel’s Young Americans for Liberty

Tiana Connor
Staff Reporter

McDaniel’s Young Americans for Liberty club offers an alternative view of politics to college students.

YAL brings a focus to personal liberties and rights in a time of great political divide. Their goal is to educate students on the growing pro-liberty movement and encourage students to engage in political discussion.

YAL is a nationwide pro-liberty organization with a focus on educating others about Libertarian values. Students of McDaniel’s chapter of YAL meet in Hill Hall room 323 every Thursday at 6 p.m. to engage in open discussions about current events, civil liberties and the foundation’s values and ideologies.

With the spring semester already in full swing, YAL hopes to kick off the season with a recruitment event this upcoming week.

“Our events last semester were pretty successful. We had Constitution Day and our Halloween event ‘YAL-oween,’” said the club’s recruitment director, Jack Ujvary. “We held events outside, so we’re hoping with the warmer weather we will have better turnouts.”

This semester, YAL has events such as “Ax the Tax,” a tax-season themed event, and the “Free Speech Ball,” an event allowing students to exercise their First Amendment Rights.

These events can be informative ways to learn more about the organization, but what is essential for the student to know beforehand? The core belief that YAL represents, according to the club’s president Clint Wright, is individual freedom.

“We believe that individuals are the solutions to problems, not the government, and we value the

Constitution and the Bill of Rights,” Wright said.

Although YAL is a Libertarian-based club, its members welcome those from all political parties and beliefs: Centrists, Democrats, Republicans, Independents, and many others are all welcome.

“We’re open to all,” said Ujvary. “If you can state your views respectfully and be open to debate, you’re welcome to come.”

Last semester, the club held a debate on abortion during one of its meetings. There were students on both sides of the debate, and even though there were many opinionated voices, they all remained respectful, according to YAL members.

Young Americans for Liberty invites all to participate in their upcoming events and encourages interested students to come take part in one of their meetings. Pay



Photo courtesy of McDaniel Young Americans for Liberty.

attention for upcoming events outside of Englar Dining Hall or outside in Red Square.

For questions regarding Young Americans for Liberty, contact club president, Clint Wright, at cam022@mcdaniel.edu or attend one of their meetings in Hill Hall 323 on Thursdays at 6 p.m.

Mackenzie Goaneh
Staff Reporter

If you ever watched “Project X,” you know that it is a film for teen and young adults.

You also know that the movie is about three high school seniors who are tired of being wallflowers, and who finally try to make their mark — by throwing a party. However, the innocent idea becomes a wild reality. The party soon involves drugs, alcohol, girls and a lot of property damage.

Although McDaniel’s annual Spring Fling is not quite comparable to “Project X,” it is something for the books, and may be the most memorable and fun event of the year for students at McDaniel.

So — what is Spring Fling and what should first-year students expect?

Spring Fling is hosted by McDaniel’s Office of Student Engagement. The OSE’s purpose is to connect McDaniel students to opportunities on and off campus. According to OSE representative Cari Witherow, a

sophomore, Spring Fling is a “campus-wide party.”

For the day-long event, OSE rents out inflatables and giant activity games. They also host mini activities such as tie-dye, and different activities are set up, such as obstacle courses and climbers.

Witherow said that Spring Fling is a day for having fun and relaxing. She said that first-year students should expect crowds and entertainment, and “a lot of take home things to remember [Spring Fling] by.”

Junior Brittane Ramos said that first-year students “should expect to be outside all day, a lot of fun, and getting to know people.”

According to Katie Holland, a sophomore, Spring Fling is a celebration of the school year coming to a close.

“The school gives students the opportunity to be big kids,” Holland said. “The school has big bouncy houses and inflatable games in the quad, DMC, and ANW.”

Holland recalled that last year

during Spring Fling, there were funnel cakes, tie-dye shirts and temporary tattoos.

Holland also noted the size of the campus-wide party. “North Village turns into a giant party that looks like something that would be in a stereotypical college movie,” she said.

She had advice for first-year students as well.

“Bring a couple of dollars with you and be safe,” she said. “Watch out for yourself and your friends if you’re going to drink; it’s easy to get



Photo by Kyle Parks.

too caught up in the whole party atmosphere and overdo it.”

Holland also emphasized that first-year students should drink water, eat food, don’t take drinks from anyone else and wear sunscreen.

Spring Fling takes place Friday through Sunday, usually in April.

First-year students should expect “a carnival at school,” Witherow stated. Most importantly, first-year students should just expect to have safe and careful fun, as their lives are more important than an epic party.



Photo by Kyle Parks.

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McDaniel Adds Butterfly and Bee Catching Classes

Spenser Secrest Apostle of Angst

McDaniel's Fall 2018 semester will have two brand new classes added to the McDaniel curriculum!

McDaniel has added a class dedicated to the art of butterfly and bee catching.

Both of the courses are two credits, with Butterfly Catching as the prerequisite to the bee catching course. Both courses are offered by the Whimsical Studies Department.

Although McDaniel has been heavily publicizing the addition of these courses, the student body has been polarized by it.

"I love it! It seems like a cool, and more importantly, a fun way to learn about butterflies and bees! I am so jelly that I will never get a chance to register for it," proclaimed senior Thomas Anderson.

Freshman Susan Smith was excited about the bee catching course and said, "I just love how I can get credits for catching lovely buzzing bumblebees around our wonderful, wonderful campus!"

Sophomore Philip Stephenson seemed slightly less excited about the



Students sharpening their butterfly and bee catching technique in McDaniel's fields.

course and stated, "I might take it, if people I know are going to. I don't want to be catching butterflies alone and I am allergic to bee stings."

However, not all McDaniel students were enthusiastic about the addition of the course.

When asked about the new course, junior Samantha Stone tersely stated, "I don't care, neither are courses that I'd ever take."

quite a while, and it really irks me that people will just take this class as a joke," he said. "It will also irritate me if the class only focuses on butterflies, because I find moths just as interesting." Despite these reservations, Thornhill also said that he still intends to register for the butterfly catching class, but is undecided whether he plans to ever register for the bee catching class.

Interestingly, some McDaniel students, most likely due to either self-absorption or apathy, or perhaps a combination of the two, were completely unaware of the addition of the two courses. In fact, a few of the freshman students did not know what a butterfly or bee was, but all were familiar with DreamWorks 2007 movie, Bee Movie.

Professor John Fleming, who designed the course, stated that he designed it because he "hoped it would be fun for the students and because #YOLO."

McDaniel College President Roger Casey offered an apathetic shrug when asked about the polarization of the campus due to the addition of the two classes.

Student Deceives Faculty and Peers by Pretending to Study in Budapest



Hare watching an intense episode of "Friends."

Emma Carter Small Town Girl with Big Dreams

For half of McDaniel's Spring 2018 semester, junior Connor Hare shared photos and videos of Budapest, Hungary – the location of the College's Europe campus where he was registered to study abroad – with his followers on social media.

Hare, however, never left the U.S.

Instead, Hare has spent the semester at his home in Accident, Md., where he sleeps in on weekdays and watches entire long-running series like Friends in less than a month. He said he posted pictures of Budapest he found on the internet to his social media accounts so he could avoid suspicion of his absence.

"I called the Budapest campus and left a message to say I wasn't going anymore, but I never actually talked to anyone here about it,"

said Hare, 20. "Sitting on the couch posting pictures of Budapest from Google Images is easier than dealing with the logistics of registering for classes at the regular campus, anyway."

Hare said his posts also boosted the aesthetic value of his social media accounts.

"My Instagram feed was looking pretty sharp," he said.

It wasn't until spring break – halfway through the semester – that others began to question Hare's whereabouts.

Erica Wheeler, one of Hare's former housemates, became suspicious when she noticed a Shutterstock watermark on a photo of the Hungarian Parliament Building, a landmark of the city, that Hare posted on Facebook.

-continued on page 2-

McDaniel's Beloved Free Press to Hold First "Taste of Free Press"



Editors take a brief break while preparing a print issue.

Laurel Pogue Chaos Prevention Specialist

The McDaniel Free Press will be hosting the first annual "Taste of Free Press" event, inspired by the success of similar cultural dinners such as "Taste of Latin America," "Taste of Asia," and many others. This event will aim to share the culture of the Free Press and its editors, staff reporters and contributors with the campus as a whole.

The dinner will be served buffet style, and dishes will include a bottomless coffee bar, stale pretzels and pasta cooked using the boiling tears of the editors. This pasta is a special dish that can only be made directly before a print issue is released, and has never been shared with the general student body, so it is not to be missed.

Some additional dishes aim

to represent the greater campus community, not merely the Free Press staff, which includes squirrel kebabs, cold pizza rolls and lukewarm soda stolen from another event. And of course, no event would be complete without copious amounts of pizza.

There will also be a selection of performances as entertainment while attendees eat.

The first performance will be an interpretive dance by junior political science major Deborah Mosely, representing the feeling of trying to edit an article while running on only 3 hours of sleep.

Following that will be a series of readings, where each editor will read the article they have written which contains the most conflicts of interest.

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McDaniel Plan Changes Approved for Fall 2018

Laurel Pogue
McDaniel Planner

The McDaniel Plan is a well-known part of all students’ experiences and forms the foundation of their college careers. As per the McDaniel website, it is a “comprehensive program of general education and a rigorous program in the major, complemented by electives and a range of special opportunities.” Since its implementation, the McDaniel Plan has seen several changes, as the college attempts to figure out what it truly values, and what students should know (or take their first semesters and instantly forget) by the time they graduate.

This semester, committees have met regularly to discuss potential additions to the requirements, and it has been decided that three new categories of classes will be required, starting with the incoming class of 2022.

The first requirement is the “Doing Things While Tired” course, which will be abbreviated as DTT during registration. These classes will



McDaniel enters a Dark Ice Age, academically and literally.

be offered during the new 6:50 - 7:50 a.m. M/W/F time block, and it is highly recommended that they be taken in the second semester of the first year. The intention behind this requirement is to prepare students not only for their more rigorous classes and capstones, but also for what their lives will be like in the

working world.

The second requirement that will be added is the “Sexual Education” class, which will be abbreviated as SEX, of course, during registration. This class was heavily requested by concerned neighbors of freshmen with thin walls. The SEX tag will be applied to two versions of the

2-credit class, one which will also count as a textual analysis (TA) and another that will count as a quantitative reasoning (QR), though the classes themselves will be identical.

The final new requirement is the “Interacting With Humanity” course, which will be abbreviated as IWH during registration. This class is being offered as an attempt to combat the rampant apathy and isolation of individual students on campus, as well as yet another way to tout experiential learning. This class tag will be added to any course that forces students to spend time each week having genuine face-to-face interaction with another human being.

It is the hope of the committee and the administration as a whole that these additions to the McDaniel Plan will be warmly welcomed by students. Students can email their opinions at any point, and results both from course evaluations and additional surveys covering the new plan will be released once this data is gathered.

Student Deceives Faculty and Peers by Pretending to Study in Budapest (continued)

-continued from page 1-

“I was wondering why Connor wasn’t actually in any of the photos he posted, but I figured maybe he was just camera-shy,” said Wheeler. “Then I saw that watermark and thought it was pretty fishy.”

Wheeler mentioned the water-

mark in a conversation with Chester England, the head of McDaniel’s study abroad office, while she planned her own semester in Europe.

England contacted the academic department at the Budapest campus and spoke with officials there. They notified him that they thought Hare

was at the Westminster campus, based on a message they had received on their main office’s answering machine before the start of the semester.

“The kid just duped us all,” said England. “I’m glad we got him when we did.”

Since England’s discovery, Hare has been suspended and has told his followers on social media that none of the pictures he posted this semester were his.

“Well, it was pretty cool while it lasted,” said Hare. “Maybe I’ll go to Budapest for real some day.”

McDaniel Institutes New Policy to Limit Handicapped Button Use

Stefan Specian
Editor in Name Alone

In a groundbreaking move, Campus Safety has announced that the automatic door openers of McDaniel College will now require an ID scan, which will only be given out to handicapped students.

“We decided on this move after looking at the energy being used at McDaniel from these buttons alone,” a representative of Campus Safety said. “This move will not only be beneficial to the environment, but, more importantly, will save the school a great deal of money.”

Since the shift last week, the campus has seen a dramatic shift in daily student life. Professors have reported that attendance to their classes has dropped dramatically, and both Glar and the Pub have seen their clientele almost completely dry up.

Meanwhile, large mobs of students have been congregating around major doorways. Some attempted to scan their IDs to no avail, while others stared confused at the handles on the door, unsure how to operate such



Doors will now only automatically open for a select group.

a complex device. Campus Safety fears that while these students remain docile now, they may become more aggressive as the policy continues.

“It’s the perfect setting for something to go wrong,” Campus Safety stated, “All you need is one student upset he can’t get to Chicken Tender Thursday, next thing you know the

library is on fire and someone’s looting the Green & Go.”

Efforts by students to cheat the system are already underway, however. A police bust yesterday found that a number of members of the Chemistry and Computer Science departments had been teaming up to create a lab with the purpose of

making fake handicapped IDs, which they were selling for \$1500 to willing student buyers.

Meanwhile, the handicapped students of McDaniel have seen their status elevated. Many have remarked how their services are now in high demand, and how an economy has developed around their abilities.

“I’ve been paid over \$5000 to help someone get to their 8 a.m. lab,” said one student, who preferred to remain anonymous, “I’ve also been offered sexual favors, Ravens box seat tickets, and someone’s housing lottery number.”

Other handicapped students have reported that they’ve never felt this valued on campus in their lives, and that they feel the policy is making McDaniel a better place. They did call, however, for Campus Security to raid the radical “How to Use a Door Handle 101” society, which has gone underground in the past few days, stating they are clearly Un-American Communists.

Movie Review: “High School Musical”

Delores Fleischmann
Grumpy Elder

I just hate when something is so obviously created to make a profit that it seems to abandon all creativity and reflection. “High School Musical” is a prime example of this.

On the surface, it seems that this movie seeks to teach viewers that they can be whatever they want to be, regardless of what they currently are. Yet, characters in this movie (because I refuse to call it a film) achieve their dreams by cheating in a game of manipulation while also continuing the activities they wish to discontinue and/or were forced into.

“High School Musical” confuses us with its opening scene. We first

see a ski resort on New Year’s Eve accompanied by the same whimsical music used in every holiday movie ever made. This messes with our expectations. We then see the main character, Troy, and his father playing basketball and not wanting to stop despite the mother’s wishes. Yes, we must establish that regime of masculinity, or at least get a sense of Stockholm Syndrome to set in.

Troy is then directed to the “kids” New Year’s party, where secondhand embarrassment begins to disrupt us as the viewers. The emcee asks “Who’s gonna rock the house next?” Our discomfort is amplified by this, as the previous song was country, and we’re getting disheart-

ening flashbacks to awkward middle and high school dances.

Unsurprisingly, Troy is “forced” to sing. His singing partner, Gabriella, is a stereotypical characterization of a sheltered girl -- she’s reading a book when forced to sing and says her only experience singing is from “church choir.” In a horrifically basic act of foreshadowing, the emcee says, “someday you guys might thank me for this... or not.” Then we are subjected to their singing, their (particularly Troy’s) pretentious demeanor while doing so, and their bad lip syncing.

When school starts up again, we see all of the stereotypical cliques reconvene. Surprisingly, we are intro-

duced to the us/them mentality utilized throughout the film by Taylor, a stereotypical characterization of an intelligent person, who says, “Beware -- the zoo animals heralding the new year. How tribal.”

We also get to see the theater teacher (Ms. Darbus) on a power trip, possibly taking out her anger at the world on students. However, we know this is a wink to the intended audience, who presumably get frustrated with their teachers. This is an attempt at #relatable content, if you will. The teacher hates cell phones and assigns detention en masse.

Just like “magic,” Gabriella transfers to the same school, East High

-continued on page 3-

**Gunnar Ward
Sportsball Hobbyist**

McDaniel College announced on March 14, otherwise known as Pi Day that the Environmental Science department will be offering courses on the latest scientific conspiracy to make its way around the globe... or rather from edge A to edge B with flat earth related courses coming to the Hill this fall.

Along with this earth shattering announcement, students can expect courses highlighting the critical evidence of English author Samuel Rowbotham’s flat earth theory. Courses will include cartography of a flat planet, analysis of the fake moon landing, and breaking the psychology of round Earthers.

In a hope to make waves and begin bringing the flat earth theory into full focus, a course related to the flat earth is becoming the newest addition to the McDaniel plan and is available as a major.

With this theory only recently taking flight, McDaniel announced that accredited members of the Flat Earth Society will be joining the faculty team as adjunct professors. Having been founded in 1956, The Flat Earth Society has a rich history and has been brought into the mainstream by celebrity attention.

NBA star Kyrie Irving was one of the first celebrity figures to announce

their following of the Flat Earth Society teachings back in 2015. Since then, Irving has been joined by other celebrities such as rapper B.o.B, which raises questions following the rappers hit song ‘Airplanes’ that featured Paramore frontwoman Hayley Williams.

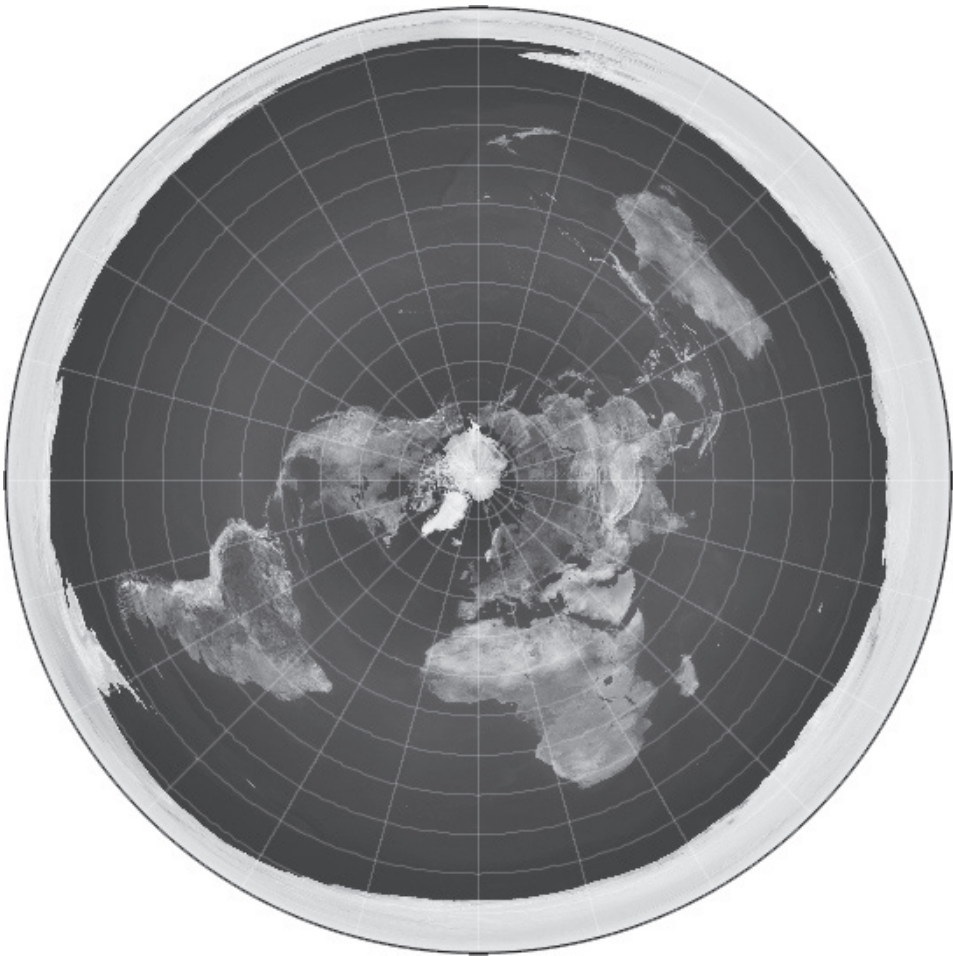
Speculation over how long B.o.B has been a member of the Flat Earth Society is uncertain as the rapper has been observed arguing the shape of the planet with astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson on twitter.

McDaniel has not been the only institute offering courses into Flat Earth theories as the University of Washington and the University of New York at Stony Brook have made courses available.

Further exploring the flat Earth theories, McDaniel has announced a study abroad Jan term is in development that will bring students to the edge of the planet and spur curiosity to solve the mystery of what awaits over the edge.

To give students the most realistic experience when traveling to the edge of the world, sailing ships will be used as this was the technology used at the time the theory was widely accepted.

With responses differentiating in support, McDaniel is expected to introduce additional pilot courses in the future and find the balance



The Earth, depicted in its true form.

between flat and round earth teachings.

As flat earth courses look to become active this fall, speculation of really where the Hill sits in the

midst of the universe is raised and can only grow as more details become available on the courses with each passing time the sun falls into magnification.

McDaniel’s Beloved Free Press to Hold First “Taste of Free Press” (continued)

-continued from page 1-
There will also be a special performance by Editor-in-Chief Kyle Parks, who will pace anxiously around the room for 15 minutes while grumbling about how no one has sent him an article for the

upcoming print issue yet.
Finally, our honored guest, Travis Rouley, Editor-in-Chief of the Julieville Times, will speak about his time in the field of journalism. His speech will be followed by a brief question and answer period,

which is especially recommended for journalism minors, English majors, and those hoping in vain to build a connection that will earn them a job in three years.
Tickets will be sold for two weeks leading up to the event, and the price

for students is the submission of one article that does not include your roommate as a source and is not about something you are directly involved in.
www.mcdanielfreepress.com

College Announces Plan to Listen to Students

**Atticus Rice
Uses Daddy’s Credit Card**

In an unprecedented move, College officials last Thursday announced McDaniel’s new plan to listen to students--and actually heed their words.

A shift in unwritten policy of the last several years, the announcement comes just weeks after the yearly “your tuition is increasing and there’s nothing you can do about it but pay in the name of the liberal arts” letter and days before students register for the upcoming Fall term.

“McDaniel has always been committed to its students,” the announcement from the President’s office reads, “and today we reaffirm that commitment. Now, when you, our students, have concerns, we will listen with open ears. Further, when we ask for your feedback, we’ll also listen.”

The new policy has drawn mixed feelings on the Hill.

“I’m excited for this new approach that they’re taking,” said junior John Meoff. “I think it’ll really turn things around for a lot of people.”

“This is the next best thing since that new branding campaign,” senior Amanda Going said enthusiastically.

Others, however, are skeptical.

“I’ve been here for six years and haven’t seen any change; not with the



Students reacted differently to McDaniel’s announcement to begin listening to them.

food, not with the policies, and not with my McDaniel plan,” said Benjamin Fret.

Rich Swett, a sophomore, echoes Fret’s concerns.

“It’s unlikely that we’ll see any change, that’s just not how bureaucracies work,” he said.

This is reportedly the first time in recent years that students have exhibited at least some positive response to any type of announcement from a College official--and it has the President’s office going wild.

“It was like Y2K in there when we got word of the student response,” said Daryl Boss, a spokesperson for the President’s office.

The length of the announcement a whole section of the audition list. We’re mainly annoyed by how she says “toodles” un-ironically. Another stereotypical character.

Then it’s time for basketball practice. The basketball players criticize the upcoming musical at the school

has some policy experts worried about the implications behind such a change in attitude.

Executive Director of the Institute for Liberal Arts Institutions Who Are Only Fooling Themselves Mylah Fe said she is particularly worried that the lack of specificity will lead to false optimism among students and a lack of accountability among members of the administration.

“It’s policies like these that undermine the movement to give students a voice,” she said in an email. “If the College is serious about their plan, they need to release a clear-cut proposal for this new process.”

For others, like Heidy Mainst, then immediately proceed to break into song. Typical.

There’s also the stereotypical arts vs. sports war going on. Fittingly, the theater department and basketball team have a standoff, which the sports side is winning. Ms. Darbus

president of Westminster Isn’t That Bad, the concern is that students may suddenly be given too much of a voice.

“Without a constant voice telling [the students] that McDaniel has the best location in the Mid-Atlantic, students will begin to grow restless over their whereabouts. Giving credibility to this misguided dissenting opinion will only harm the region,” she said.

Reportedly, Mainst’s biggest concern is that the College will take student concerns too seriously which will result in the relocation of the campus.

But College officials are aware of Mainst and her babbling, and assured Tuesday that no such relocation was in McDaniel’s future.

The new plan does beg the question, however, of what the College means by listening, and heeding. When asked for comment, officials were unable to give specifics as to how students concerns would be vetted and responded to.

“It is currently too early to address these matters,” said Boss in a written statement too short to warrant its format.

For now, students both skeptical and supportive of the alleged change wait eagerly to see what the next steps are in the College’s new chapter.

even asks the principal, “If these were theater performers instead of athletes, would you seek special treatment?”

This brings up the theme of separation between social groups again.
-continued on page 7-

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School, as Troy, and they quickly run into each other. We’re then introduced to who we assume is the antagonist, Sharpay, who dominates the school’s theater program and deliberately makes her name take up

Rather Than News or Any Form of Mental Stimulation, Cats



McDaniel Markets New Hookup App for Seniors

Stefan Specian
Fabulous Gossip Queen

McDaniel College has announced the creation of a new app, designed to help graduating seniors through the last few months of college. The app, SeniorFling, is devoted to finding seniors casual relationships they can use to push away their feelings of existential fear.

The app was designed after college administrators realized that fear of graduating was causing seniors to have continual debilitating existential crises, and, short of massively changing the economic structure of America or forgiving all student loans, they had no real solution. As such, they went in a shorter-term direction.

“It’s all about that brief burst of happiness that distracts you from the harsh realities of life,” said app creator Mark Johnson, Ph.D. “It’s that moment when you can just engage in meaningless sex acts with someone who isn’t going to ask you about your post-graduate plans, because honestly, they don’t care!”

The app also offers a “So I

Guess We’re Dating” feature for seniors who need an emotional connection with their stress-induced sex, but also fully realize that their relationships have no future once they get a degree. This feature comes with tips on how to explain to your partner that you can’t develop serious feelings for them, and blocks all communication with them after you graduate to prevent drunken, post-breakup booty calls.

So far, student reviews of the app have been highly positive, with students specifically enjoying features such as the “Capstone Mode,” which matches students who are up at 3 a.m. working on their capstone and just need someone to come over for 15 minutes for a quick “study break.”

“I really can’t stress enough how much this app helped me,” said senior Owen Madison. “I’ve been applying to jobs all month and haven’t heard a single reply. So I’m probably moving back with my parents, and working at the local Giant, and...it doesn’t matter. Because thanks to SeniorFling, I could drown these thoughts out



SeniorFling promises to distract students from the fact that the sun is setting on their lives.

with... other things!”

The school hopes that the app will relieve students’ stress and potentially offer an alternative to

binge drinking, hard drug use and random crying fits seniors have utilized in the past.

From Our Instagram



An artifact discovered among the ancient ruins of Collegii Mariae Terrae Occidentalis.



#bless



Susan puts the “NO” in “sNOw.”

@mcdfreepress

Student Leaves Milk and Cookies for RA During Room Checks

Kyle Parks
Obsessed with Food

“I just like the idea of giving back, you know,” said senior Stephen Mousi.

Mousi’s RA was conducting apartment checks in Garden Apartments when something stood out. In an otherwise badly decorated apartment, there sat a well-plated, scrumptious pile of cookies, accompanied by a glass of milk.

“They were chocolate chip. How did he know those are my favorite?” said Mousi’s RA Eenesh Calber.

“I spent a weekend going around to stores to decide which cookies were the right kind to buy,” added Mousi. “I knew that any cookies I made myself would be horrible.”

When Mousi found just the right cookies, he knew he couldn’t stop

there.

“I had to provide a beverage – it’s only right,” said Mousi. Milk became the obvious choice – Mousi, though for some reason preferring skim, bought his first-ever gallon of whole milk for his dear RA. “You know, it’s the small details that make the ensemble,” added Mousi.

Calber was thrown off by the gesture at first. “I actually didn’t notice the cookies at first. I was distracted and disturbed by the collage of Roger Casey’s face Photoshopped onto female models in pin-up poses on the fridge,” he reported. However, when Calber continued his inspection, the offering was noticed. “I thought, ‘Wow, these people are actual idiots,’ until I realized the cookies were for me, then I just felt uncomfortable,” stated Calber.

Evidence suggests that Calber was, in fact, pleased by the gesture. An RA who was nearby recalls hearing high-pitched shrieking coming from the apartment, despite its residents having left.

In the end, though, college policy prevailed. Calber stated, “I didn’t eat any of the cookies, but I did have to take note of the fact that they left perishables out in their apartment,



Mousi anxiously peeks out of his apartment with a cookie in his mouth.

not to mention the contents of their fridge. Oh boy.”

“I was surprised to get in trouble for my kindness,” said Mousi. “But in the end, I have no regrets. McDaniel is a place full of kind gestures, friendliness, warmth and love. I’m just a part of it.”

Mousi reportedly ate all of the cookies, though stale, upon his return to campus.



An artist’s rendition of the image that distracted Calber.

JOIN OUR STAFF

The Free Press welcomes all students interested in writing, photography, editing, videography, design, and more!
No experience necessary.

website: mcdanielfreepress.com
email: freepress@mcdaniel.edu
office: Hill Hall 111

Students to Organize ‘Theatrical Celebration of the Phallus’

Susan
Follower of Julie

This year McDaniel hosted its fifteenth annual Vagina Monologues, inspiring some male students to create their own performance that celebrates penises.

Several male students expressed their concern about McDaniel only having a performance centered around women’s experiences, and wanted to add an event to the campus that focuses exclusively on men.

The student heading this project, Richard Mann, stated “I just think that it is really important to have equality in everything that we do on this campus, and this is a good way for students to learn more about the male experience.”

Other students voiced their support for Mann’s vision.

Adam Kese, a sophomore, said “I want to do more things to improve my acting and public performance skills, but I don’t like doing shows with women involved, so this is a great opportunity for me.”

The project is still in its developmental stages, and the group is looking for male members of the campus community who are interested in writing, advertising, or performing monologues and helping to contribute to the vision.

The project is unnamed for now, though current ideas include the Dick Dialogues, Schlong Soliloquies or Penis Performances, and the group welcomes any feedback or

suggestions.

While there has been a good amount of support for the project, there have been several concerns from members of the campus community who do not think that this is a good idea, and who have expressed their unhappiness towards the project. Teresa West, a junior, said, “This is an attack against women and is completely unnecessary.”

Another student, Sarah Franklin, stated, “I didn’t even know the Vagina Monologues were a thing, is that the theater? I never went to that and I probably won’t go to this. Why are you asking me questions?”

Despite complaints and general student apathy, the students are going forward with their project. Auditions



Part of the planned social media publicity for the performance.

will be held next week, with hopes to put on a show before the end of the semester.

If you have questions or concerns please contact the president of the club or attend one of their meetings, which are held every fifth Thursday at 4 p.m. in Hill Hall 015.

Movie Review: “High School Musical”(continued)

-continued from page 3-

There are references to a distinct “cheerleader language,” talk of “sub-species,” and repeated references to others being “alien,” including a reference to a “mothership.”

At theater auditions, only Sharpay and her brother Ryan audition as a couple in a song that sounds exactly like everything else spat out by the sector of the Disney conglomerate in charge of music. When seeing these two, we can’t help but wonder if their insecurity at having any competition stems from a realization that they’re nothing without their meager high school theater program.



The High School Musical cast.
Image via Public Domain.

Their insecurity is heightened when a callback is issued (due to Ms. Darbus hearing Troy and Gabriella sing directly after auditions). Sharpay states, “How dare she [Gabriella] sign up. I already picked the color for my dressing room.” Ryan adds, “She hasn’t even asked our permission to join the drama club.” Their regime of insecurity is cracking apparently.

As this is a Disney product and a musical, another song quickly ensues. Characters are reminded that “If you wanna [yes, even the film’s official subtitles spell it ‘wanna’] be cool, follow one simple rule -- don’t mess with the flow, no, no.” This means characters can only be one simplified archetype, and like nothing outside of it. You see, in life we do this because we don’t know what to do. Without a pretend identity we feel like nothing, as we see in Ryan and Sharpay.

So then people begin confessing that they like “stuff that’s not their stuff,” as Sharpay puts it. Sharpay and Ryan assume that the “jocks” are trying to help Troy, and Ms. Darbus assumes Troy auditioned as a joke. What a lovely series of standoffs.

As the movie progresses, the basketball team and members of the scholastic decathlon team up to get Troy and Gabriella to no longer wish to participate in the musical. Through their own act of manipulation, Troy’s teammates get him to say the musical is nothing, and that he will forget Gabriella, which decathlon members show to her. They make Gabriella cry then ask if she’ll join the decathlon. Unfortunately, this triggers another song by Gabriella.

Yet, just like that, both the basketball team and the decathlon members decide they must help Troy and Gabriella pursue the audition. This is confusing since it happens so randomly. The movie loses us when characters seem to be affected by guilt -- we’re used to a society in which manipulation is fixed on a single end result without compassion.

Meanwhile, Sharpay and Ryan get Ms. Darbus to move the auditions to a time the conflicts with the “big” basketball game and decathlon, giving them their own edge in the game of scheming and postponing the realization that life is meaning-

less.

To get around this, decathlon members hack into the gym to force an evacuation and cause a beaker to smell bad and fizzle over in the decathlon so that Troy and Gabriella can make the callback. So, essentially, they “win” by being part of the side that more effectively cheats. In reality, this would go down horribly if such hacking was uncovered.

So then Troy and Gabriella win the basketball game and decathlon, and get the lead roles in the musical because they played dirty in response to many others playing dirty. But what’s important is that they did it and won.

The movie closes with another song, claiming “we’re all in this together.” Eh, there are still losers. Many losers. But they’re not included in this bit, other than Sharpay and Ryan, who are somehow not bitter. Maybe they, too, have broken and are too numb to process what has happened to them.

Either way, history was written by the victors.

www.mcdanielfreepress.com

McDaniel Horoscope a.k.a. McHoroscope

Laurel Pogue
Self-Designed Astrology Major

Aries (March 21 - April 19)

Don’t overwork yourself. You’re almost done with the semester and soon you’ll get the illusion of freedom. The key word is illusion. Maybe you can spend the summer learning stage magic, and then try to make your student debt disappear.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20)

Change can be uncomfortable, but everything changes. The Green Terror, Glar plates, your tuition, which adjuncts are allowed to return for the next semester. Allow yourself to change. There probably won’t be protests in Red Square about your new haircut.

Gemini (May 21 - June 20)

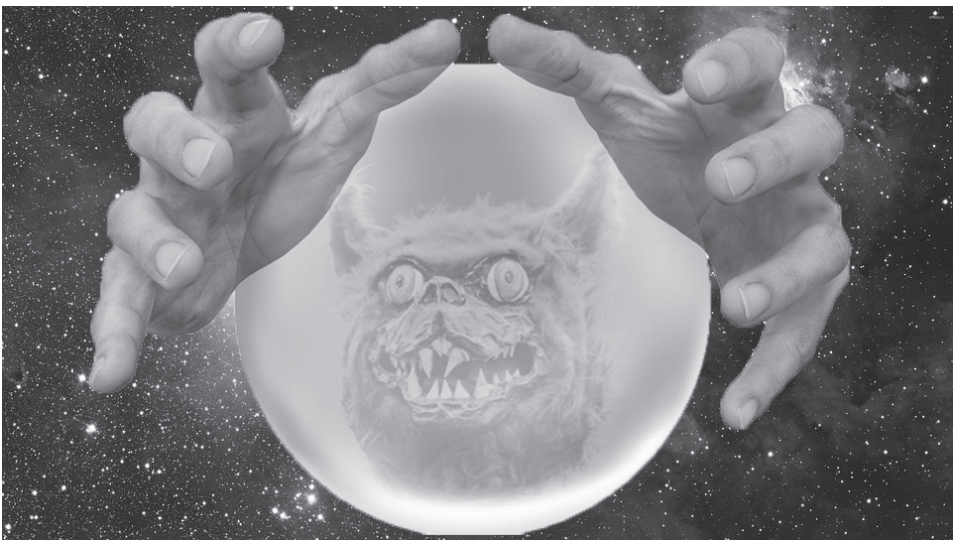
People only say that you’re too loud because they don’t want to hear what you’re saying; because people don’t like to confront the truth. You could stand to stop screaming the Honor Code in Red Square every day at 4 a.m. though.

Cancer (June 21 - July 22)

Make sure you aren’t missing what is right in front of you. Make sure you aren’t missing what’s behind you. Make sure you count the number of steps between your dorm room and your first class – it could matter someday.

Leo (July 23 - August 22)

Hobbies are good to have and



Today’s McHoroscopes are brought to you by the Green Terror’s Greater Form.

they are a great way of de-stressing from classes. Try to get your friends involved, and then you can have even more fun. Just be careful not to let your new hobby devour you. Granted, you probably should have considered that before you picked up Terror-Taming.

Virgo (August 23 - September 22)

It’s important to talk about your emotions and open up to someone, like a friend or even a pet. For those in search of a pet, the squirrels that can usually be found near Red Square make fantastic friends. Just get your rabies shot and wear thick gloves -- thicker than you think you need, those claws can get pretty sharp.

Libra (September 23 - October 22)

Sleep is all too rare among college students, and of course you are no exception. Make sure you’re squeezing a few hours in here and there, and please contact the editorial staff if you happen to find some method of freezing time or eliminating the need for sleep entirely.

Scorpio (October 23 - November 21)

The Scorpio horoscope has been omitted due to a conflict of interest.

Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21)

Class registration is coming up, so you are probably anxious along with everyone else on campus. Channel

that nervous energy into creating something. Something weird. Cut up some old magazines and make a collage. Just don’t pay too close attention to the sentences that your clippings spell out when your back is turned.

Capricorn (December 22 - January 19)

You have made large strides coming out of your comfort zone at college. Consider going further out of your comfort zone by changing your major. Of course you have time to finish all of the requirements; the college will gladly accept your overload credit fees, or even tuition for an additional semester.

Aquarius (January 20 - February 18)

A surprise will be waiting for you the next time you get food from Pub. Order fries, and then take them with you to the nearest mirror. If you whisper “McDaniel College” three times, the ghost of an alumnus from the class of 1890 will appear and shame you for not calling it WMC.

Pisces (February 19 - March 20)

Don’t forget to eat full, healthy meals, even if you’re distracted by work. Bring granola bars with you to the computer lab, and take trail mix if you go searching the nooks and crannies of campus for secrets. The kind with the M&Ms is best for feeding whatever you might find.

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The McDaniel Free Press

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CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2018

**Marya Topina
Assistant Editor**

For Editor-in-Chief Kyle Parks, joining the Free Press wasn't always part of his college plan.

"I only wanted to take photos at first since I didn't think I could write well enough, and I actually didn't like being a part of the Free Press at first," Parks said. "However, I was convinced by Josh Ambrose, who was my Intro to College Writing professor at the time, to take the Newspaper Practicum class, which led to me getting really involved in and enjoying the Free Press, as well as my decision to minor in journalism."

Parks went on to contribute to the Free Press as a staff reporter throughout his freshman year. Then, when he was offered the multimedia editor position, he became even more involved with the paper. During his first semester of sophomore year, he published over 20 articles. This great work ethic and commitment to the newspaper continued as he became Editor-in-Chief.

Senior Editor: Kyle Parks



Photo by Spenser Secret.

Now a dedicated member and arguably the driving backbone to the paper, Parks attributes his personal success to the responsibilities associated with being involved with the newspaper. Looking back on his four years at McDaniel, Parks is amazed to see how much he has grown.

One of his biggest challenges

when first starting at McDaniel was social isolation. Never a particularly extroverted person, Parks struggled to fit in during his freshman year. It wasn't until junior year when he established his place within the newspaper community and became more involved on campus did he feel more accepted.

"I have to acknowledge that I've

grown immensely at McDaniel," said Parks. "I've come out of my shell to an extent I never thought would be possible when I first started here."

A history major with Spanish and Journalism minors, Parks acknowledges that many of the professors in the History department also helped him grow and find confidence in himself. Many of his fondest memories at McDaniel involved the two summer research projects he completed with history professor Dr. Qin Fang.

"She has been a major factor in how I have steered myself academically and professionally," said Parks. "And I feel that I've grown a lot as a result of her mentorship and academic guidance."

Parks has also had great experiences working with Drs. Zejmis, Feeley, and Evergates as they each helped him develop his love for history and hone his academic and professional skills.

"I also would like to thank Josh Ambrose," Parks added. "I had classes with him for my first five

-continued on page 5-

**Mackenzie Goaneh
Staff Reporter**

People might be surprised to know who Francis Aubee really is. The McDaniel student has been described as charismatic, intelligent, cultured, well-mannered, hilarious, business-minded, and more.

Aubee is an international student from The Gambia; he also lived in Nigeria for five years and is well-traveled, having been to countries like Senegal, Ghana, Germany, and France. For fun, Aubee loves soccer – in his spare time, he unwinds by playing FIFA soccer with his friends. He also loves outings, food, relaxation, and nap time.

Professionally, one of Aubee's goals is to get involved in Gambian politics and economics. He keeps himself up to date with the nation's political, economic, and social news.

For now, though, Aubee has a full schedule. He has been the president of Africa's Legacy since the beginning of this semester, and he was not afraid to take on this position.

"I felt like I was part of the Legacy family," he said. "[The club's] jovial nature was amazing to see, and this was even before I attended my first meeting." He said that when he finally attended a meeting, he was overwhelmed with joy at the diversity and passion the members exhibited.

The first memorable event for him was his first UNITED, an annual celebration held by various cultural organizations on campus. Aubee said he thought the dance performances at the event were "electrifying." He also said the event had a lot of energy and that the African food was

Continuing Africa's Legacy: Francis Aubee



Francis Aubee (center).

Photo courtesy of Francis Aubee.

one of the best parts.

Since then, what has surprised Aubee the most about Africa's Legacy is the creativity and passion he has seen when members organize events and put on shows. Aubee said that the "wonderful ideas that members come up with is quite unbelievable."

One of the biggest challenges that the club has encountered, Aubee said, is "holding onto members so that they attend meetings regularly and remain a part of the club." One problem, he said, is keeping seniors coming to meetings, as they become busy with their capstones. Aubee said he wants to see more efforts in the future to recruit members and to keep them engaged and involved.

Another challenge that Aubee is up for is service, which is a requirement for any club at

wishes people knew more about the club's "diversity, beautiful heritage, our calabash talks, on-campus events, and more about the African culture and continent."

Regarding his strongest beliefs about Africa's Legacy, Aubee believes that the club is "a united family." He believes the club can rise above any misunderstandings.

Communication within the organization is crucial, so that "any misunderstandings should be solved internally and not externally." People should be able to "separate personal feelings and emotions from club activities," Aubee said. Aubee wants to see "a wonderful, happy family that serves as a support system for everyone." He thinks that it is important to "just have fun; we are here for a short time."

"I would love to keep expanding the Legacy name in a positive light," Aubee said. He believes that the club has the most talented and brightest people.

Aubee was chosen by the members of the club to become president of Africa's Legacy because he was seen as a neutral party to the relationship between the executive board members.

"I was seen as a neutral,

-continued on page 2-

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Ryan Sember
Staff Reporter

Cooper Hostetler has the job in college no one ever really thinks of as a dream job. Why would someone want to look after a bunch of freshman in a dorm every night?

Being a Resident Assistant (RA) in college is a very demanding position, from staying up until 2 a.m. to planning different events to host in your dorm. It is a very intimidating job.

Hostetler, however, is up for the challenge and very much enjoys being an RA.

“One of the biggest challenges of being an RA is balancing all the other things going on in your life with the RA job,” Hostetler said. “It can be tough when you have a bunch of big assignments for class and have staff meetings and bulletin boards or programs due.”

Overall, Hostetler has worked well managing his time between his school work, being an RA and other activities he participates in.

Hostetler also participates in intramural sports and is a TA for the intro chemistry lab.

“It is a really good test of



Cooper Hostetler. Photo by Kyle Parks.

yourself and is very rewarding when you are able to get everything finished on time,” Hostetler said.

Being an RA is not a job anyone can hop right into with all the skills they need. Hostetler noted that he had a lot of experience in the past to help him make the transition to be an RA easy.

“In high school, I was captain of my soccer team, so that was some good leadership experience,”

Hostetler said. “I was also a basketball and floor hockey coach for younger kids, so I think that was helpful too.”

Being an RA isn’t just a one-time job. It can help you in the future by making connections with the people around you.

Many of the people on Hostetler’s floor are pleased to have him as an RA.

“Cooper is a really good guy and

he really makes our floor a great community to live in,” Charlie Csejka said.

Hostetler wants to build relationships with the people around him – being more confident and comfortable around people will help him in the future.

“I think that being a RA has made me a better person. I have acquired and developed skills that I would not have otherwise,” he said. “Being an RA has allowed me to get to know such a wide variety of people and has opened my eyes to so many things.”

“Cooper really tries to make everyone feel safe and cared for here,” Csejka said. “It was an easy transition coming here knowing I have someone like him I can talk to and make our floor better for everyone.”

RAs do not have the normal jobs most college students might have; this job gives RAs the opportunity to try something new.

“I would say that experiences like being an RA or other similar ones should be something that everyone should try to do while at college,” Hosteler said.

Continuing Africa’s Legacy: Francis Aubee (continued)

-continued from page 1- principled, effective, and forward-thinking individual,” Aubee said. “I was not voted for, but rather selected.” For Aubee, that felt more personal.

Aubee said that it has been an honor to “serve members of Legacy and to represent the club on the McDaniel campus.” He has

embraced the leadership and the responsibility the job has come with. He said that being president has made him work on his discipline, ego, planning, organization, and time management.

One word Aubee used to sum up being president so far is “exciting.” He stated that if he were not president, he would still be involved

with Africa’s Legacy in a different way.

To Aubee, Africa’s Legacy is a “big and wonderful family that I have been fortunate enough to be part of.” He said that it is a club you have to experience, rather than just hear about. He hopes for a successful semester and a wonderful club dinner in Fall 2018, as it will be his last

semester here at McDaniel College.

“I believe in Africa; as President, I believe I can educate people, promote the diversity of Africa and build bridges and destroy misconceptions.”

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State Wide Opioid Crisis Yet to Penetrate the Hill

Olivia Storer
Staff Reporter

Despite never having to use them, all of the McDaniel campus safety officers carry NARCAN, the life-saving drug used to treat narcotic overdoses, and are trained to use it.

McDaniel Campus Security Deputy Chief Adam Reid explains that while he has prepared his officers on how to respond to opioid overdoses, as far as he knows, the narcotics epidemic has yet to reach the campus.

“For about three years our officers have carried NARCAN with them, just in case,” said Reid. “Fortunately, we haven’t had to use it.”

On June 26, 2017, the Maryland Independent College and University Association partnered with NARCAN in an effort to halt the opioid crisis. McDaniel College President Roger Casey, who is chair of the association, was on board with the partnership.

“Colleges must be prepared to respond to every emergency,” said Casey in a statement reported by the Maryland Independent College and University Association. “While I hope we never need to use NARCAN, I recognize the need for a comprehensive and proactive response to the opioid epidemic, which must include education, training, counselling, and life-saving medicine.”

The precautions that Casey, the Maryland Independent College and University Association, and the McDaniel Campus Safety Department have taken reflect the actions taken by government officials around the country in response to the rising rates of drug related emergency



Photo by Kyle Parks.

room visits and deaths in the past decade.

According to the Maryland Behavioral Health Association, Carroll County ranked 10 out of Maryland’s 24 counties for the number of heroin related deaths in 2016. Eighty-nine percent of all intoxication deaths in Maryland were opioid related.

Although McDaniel has been able to avoid the effects of this nation-wide crisis so far, Maryland and Carroll County have clearly been affected.

Maryland Governor Larry Hogan has made this epidemic one of his main focuses.

In the past few years, according to his office, Hogan has declared a state of emergency to combat the state-wide crisis, creating the Maryland Heroin and Opioid Emergency

Task Force and committing nearly \$9 million in funding. He also signed legislation that expanded the state’s good Samaritan Law and Prescription Drug Monitoring Program.

On top of this, the Maryland Department of Health and Hygiene announced last year that as of June 1, 2017, naloxone would be available to anyone at a Maryland pharmacy without a prescription, again in a response to the rising rates of opioid related incidents.

While commending all of these actions, Reid believes that outreach and education programs implemented by the likes of Brian DeLeonardo, the State’s Attorney for Carroll County, will make the biggest difference in the fight against opioid addiction and overdoses.

“Outreach, awareness and ed-

ucation and just putting out the dangers of it. There’s a lot to be said for these things,” said Reid. “Brian DeLeonardo is very committed to this cause and is doing a great job of creating awareness and educating the people of Carroll County.”

“In Carroll County, I know they have begun to get into the schools and educate children at a younger age,” continued Reid. “I think that past programs that have been implemented in Carroll Country, like the Heroin Kills Campaign, have shown that this is one of the best ways to address problems like this.”

Reid also said that this early education about the issues associated with drugs is what has helped protect the McDaniel community from this epidemic.

“Luckily, most students at McDaniel have come in with a knowledge about the dangers associated with drug use,” said Reid. “There are smart kids here who know the risks and that’s probably a big part of the reason why we haven’t had to deal with opioid related issues on campus.”

In the event of a student needing help with an opioid related issue, Reid said that his priority and the priority of all his officers would be to help steer the student in the right direction.

“The very first thing that we’re going to do is to point them in the direction of the help they need,” said Reid. “We’re just going to say ‘here are your options.’ All we really want is for them to get connected with the resources that they need.”

From Brussels to Westminster: Svetlana Bochkova

Emma Carter
Features Editor

On a chilly snow day this semester, Svetlana Bochkova sat on her bed in her Pennsylvania Avenue house, writing an essay for one of her classes. She was thankful for the day off – the exchange student from Belgium used the time to catch up on her heavy workload that is, for her, a unique American experience.

“It’s totally different,” Bochkova, 20, said with a smile as she compared college in the U.S. to her home school in Belgium’s capital city of Brussels, which puts more weight on end-of-year exams than smaller homework assignments.

Bochkova is among the group of more than 30 international students studying at McDaniel this spring semester. At home, she studies political science at Belgium’s Saint-Louis University, which has shared an exchange program with McDaniel for more than 10 years.

Before arriving at McDaniel – before Saint-Louis, even – Bochkova’s lifestyle was rural, a far throw from either university. She has called several towns in Belgium home after moving from Russia, where she was born, shortly before her third birthday. Her home in Belgium now, Baulers, is a small town speckled with farms 20 miles south of Brussels. Bochkova said living in a city is a significant change.

“It’s very different from here because here, everything is so big,” she said. “Rural in Belgium means really tiny, and everyone knows each other,” she said.

It was during her schooling in Belgium that Bochkova learned three new languages. Shortly after moving from Russia, she learned French at her primary school and later learned



Photo by Emma Carter.

Dutch – both are official languages in Belgium.

Bochkova began learning English at 12; this, along with her determination to study abroad, became an important factor in choosing to study abroad in the U.S.

“The exchange semester is a must,” she said. “I felt like the States would be the best place [to study abroad] because it’s an English-speaking country.”

Saint-Louis offers its students exchange programs at three universities in the U.S. Bochkova settled on McDaniel for its proximity to destinations like New York City and Washington.

“The first day was a bit fuzzy,” she said. Bochkova was exhausted after an eight-hour flight and a three-hour wait in the airport’s passport cue – not to mention hungry. Her

first trip after arriving on campus was to the grocery store.

Bochkova was in the kitchen the next day when her Pennsylvania Avenue housemate Craig Grunewald met her for the first time. Grunewald had not known that an international student would be moving into the single left vacant by a housemate studying in Budapest.

The junior said he likes sharing stories with Bochkova.

“She tells me about her culture; I tell her about my culture,” said Grunewald. He said he enjoys teaching her American slang and, in turn, learning details about Belgian culture. One of the ones he’s found most interesting is the difference in how people dress.

“She says we wear ‘pajamas’ [to class] because to her, sweatpants are pajamas,” Grunewald said. He noted

that his new housemate often dresses more formally than other students when she goes out – Bochkova said that it is rare in Belgium to see students wearing athletic gear.

All things considered, Grunewald says, the differences in culture and college fashion choices are minor.

“She’s done a pretty good job of acclimating herself,” he said. “[Living with Bochkova] is not that different from living with someone who lives down the street.”

One other person who has seen Bochkova succeed at McDaniel is Herb Smith, Ph.D., one of her political science professors.

“She’s a splendid writer and researcher,” he said. Smith said he sees Bochkova taking advantage of the small class sizes at McDaniel – one of Bochkova’s favorite aspects of McDaniel, compared to her 300-student lectures at Saint-Louis – by making contributions to class conversations.

“She’s inquisitive,” said Smith. He said that Bochkova learns quickly in both his State and Local Government and American Political Institutions courses, putting her among the top of the international students Smith has taught.

In classes like Smith’s, along with several other international relations courses, Bochkova will spend the remainder of the semester studying subjects that keep her on the political science track, preparing for her return to Saint-Louis.

Bochkova admits she is looking forward to going home, but until then, she says she will absorb everything McDaniel offers her.

“You feel wanted to be here,” she said.

Paul Ryan’s Retirement a Deep Blow for Morale for the GOP

Michael Cozzi
Staff Reporter

Speaker of the House Paul Ryan is retiring after three years of service as house speaker.

Ryan has stated that he is retiring due to the belief that he has accomplished everything that he wanted to achieve as speaker, noting that he also wants to spend more time with his wife and children.

Across the political spectrum, people have reacted to Paul Ryan’s retirement differently. Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer of the Democratic Party has stated that “While I disagree with @SpeakerRyan on many policy issues, I have personally found him to be a good man with a kind heart.”

Others are more critical of Ryan’s retirement due to the uncertainty it creates for Republicans as the mid-term elections of 2018 draw near.

According to David Wasserman, Paul Ryan’s retirement is a “deep blow to his party’s morale.” This could lead to the potential of low GOP voter turnout in the 2018 mid-terms, which could result in the Democratic Party taking control of the House of Representatives after the midterm elections.

According to the Pew Research Center, the American public views President Trump at a low of 34 percent in terms of job creation. This could be one of the main factors that could tilt the 2018 midterms to the Democrats.



Photo courtesy of Gage Skidmore.

Class of 2018 by the Numbers*

Total
662

364 Undergraduates
15 Budapest
283 Graduates

Top 10 Majors

1. Psychology—41
2. Political science—31
3. Business administration—30
4. Kinesiology—30
5. Sociology—30
6. Communication—23
7. Biology—22
8. Accounting Economics—18
9. English—17
10. Environmental studies—17

22 U.S. States
63 percent from Maryland
Top 5 runner-ups:
PA, NJ, VA, FL, DE

30 Honors Program Students
33 Phi Beta Kappa members

21 Countries
Represented

Dominica, Hungary, Nigeria, United Kingdom, Costa Rica, Jamaica, Nepal, China, Togo, Vietnam, Ethiopia, Argentina, Colombia, Mexico, Iran, Serbia, Romania, Italy, Georgia, Cameroon, and Taiwan

37 different majors
1 quadruple major
1 triple major

44 with two majors
13 dual majors

3 dual-majors with a second major

Top 5
Minors

Sociology—13
Psychology—10
Spanish—9
ASL and Deaf Studies—8
Elementary Education—8
Writing—8

Least Common Majors

Religious Studies—1
German—1
Economics—1

*numbers are approximate and are subject to change until graduation

Invisible Illness: A Story of Suffering in Silence

Kyle Parks
Editor-in-Chief
Multimedia Editor

On the surface, Kaitlin Michael, or Kat, is like many other McDaniel students. She is a psychology major finishing up her senior year, and she works as a peer mentor.

However, Michael struggles on a daily basis with severe pain, which can disrupt her daily schedule – even to the point of making her unable to leave her bed on occasion.

Michael suffers from endometriosis, a painful autoimmune disorder centered in the uterus. According to Mayo Clinic, this condition occurs when “tissue that normally lines the inside of your uterus – the endometrium – grows outside your uterus.” Endometriomas then attach themselves to other organs, such as the ovaries and thigh muscles, and cause severe pain.

According to the Endometriosis Foundation of America, an estimated 170 million women worldwide suffer from this condition, which includes 1 in 10 women in the U.S.; however, many of these cases are undiagnosed. Many women do not experience significant symptoms – some, for example, do not realize any irregularities until they try to have children, as infertility is a common symptom.

Diagnosis itself is a tricky matter, as was the case with Michael. “It can take up to 10 years to be diagnosed,” stated Michael. “I was process of elimination diagnosed around 17, and that’s only because my mother also had it,” added Michael.

Cases are most reliably diagnosed when a patient undergoes surgery, which can determine the severity, measured from stage one to four. Michael has not received a stage diagnosis, but believes her case is moderate. “[The symptoms] kind of hit me



Kaitlin Michael. Photo by Kyle Parks.

like a ton of bricks when I was 15,” said Michael, who initially assumed that she was simply experiencing painful cramping like everyone else. “Then I started having to miss school because of it, and I passed out a couple of times.”

Endometriosis is not detectable to the eye, which prevents strangers and friends alike from knowing that someone suffers from the condition. “It’s an invisible illness, and so because of that, a lot of people don’t believe in it ... when I have to use my cane, people are suddenly like, ‘What’s wrong?’” stated Michael.

The hidden nature of the condition makes knowledge on it equally scarce – “because it’s so hidden and not discussed,” said Brandon Lurz, Michael’s boyfriend. “It’s so hard for people to be diagnosed and treated by doctors who claim it’s something else.”

Her personal and academic lives have even been impacted by her con-

dition. She has missed class due to being stuck in bed with severe pain.

She has experienced strain in her social life as well. “I’ve had friends not invite me to things and say, ‘Well, you can’t really keep up with us,’” she stated. Others have also doubted the degree of pain she goes through. “There have been people in my life that have said to me ‘I don’t think you’re actually in pain. I think you’re making it all up,’ which hurt a lot and [I] kind of had to sever some ties.”

Michael, however, has learned to live with endometriosis. While self-care, such as using a heating pad, is mostly preventative, Michael has also learned to avoid certain foods and activities, like red meat and taking the stairs, that have caused her condition to worsen in the past. Though her case is moderate, Michael still experiences frequent flare-ups.

“She’s pretty resilient and upbeat for someone who experiences unthinkable pain quite regularly, so

that’s admirable,” added Michaela Rankin, a close friend of Michael’s.

Michael said she is fortunate to have the support of others, such as Lurz. “My condition has definitely deteriorated in the past two years, and [Brandon has] been a rock for me, so I’m just thankful that he’s been with me through it.”

Michael has also found support through guiding others. “I’ve met so many people [at McDaniel] because I’m so vocal about it. They’ll come up to me and say ‘I think I have this too, what should I do?’” Michael said. She has been able to bond with others as a result, even if it is just through venting together.

“I’ve seen Kat help many other women recognize the possibility of having endometriosis by discussing and comparing symptoms,” said Lurz. “She is able to form a bond with other women who also experience the pain.”

Rankin sees inspiration in Michael’s handling of her condition. “Perhaps endometriosis sufferers’ constant pain is not something to pity, but instead something to be in awe about for how amazing it is that such resilience can exist in a human being that they’ll anticipate pain in the future but continue doing what they need to daily,” Rankin reasoned.

Despite her chronic pain, Michael manages to keep an upbeat attitude in all that she goes through. “Some days she might have to use the elevator instead of the stairs or take the long way to class, but Kat always smiles and is always friendly and happy, despite her condition,” Lurz said. “Her life continues because she makes it continue as best she can.”

Feeding Carroll County’s Hungry Since 1982

Jakob Katzen
Staff Reporter

For many, it is surprising that there is a need for food banks and pantries in Carroll County, given the programs and initiatives the state of Maryland has implemented in an attempt to combat hunger.

Thankfully, local individuals recognize the need to give back to the community and provide food to those who struggle to buy groceries on their tight weekly budgets.

Carroll County Food Sunday has been committed to feeding those who are hungry and strives to give individuals a new beginning. The non-profit organization provides a nutritionally balanced grocery package on a three- to four-day basis for Carroll County residents who would otherwise not be able to meet their emergency and supplemental food needs. These packages include meat, eggs, fruits, vegetables, breads and milk.

“When I retired, my neighbor gave me 6 months to do my honey-do list,” said Carroll County Food Sunday food bank administrator Dennis Fahey. “[Then] he showed me what his role as a Food Bank Administrator was all about and it was essentially his way of asking me to cover for him while he was away on vacation.”

“It’s been a wonderful experience,” Fahey said.

Because Carroll County Food Sunday serves families and individuals who need food, the promise the



Photo by Jakob Katzen.

organization has made to ensure that the entire Carroll County community is fed is a big undertaking.

“These people depend on us, believe me,” said Ed Leister, Carroll County Food Sunday’s executive director. “It’s really hard. It shouldn’t be in Carroll County, [but] it really is.”

Carroll County Food Sunday depends heavily upon volunteers and community members, as well as the two part-time staff members who make sure the operations are handled efficiently and professionally.

Volunteers and community members work together to feed those in need and they note the importance,

for them, of giving hope to people who face the reality of being hungry every day.

“Years ago I started volunteering out of a church group, but had to stop for a period because I had cancer,” said volunteer Charles Colgan. “Eventually I decided to come back to give my time and energy because there’s no better gift than helping those in need. I’ve been doing this for three years now.”

In recent years, the number of volunteers has grown, increasing the number of families for which Carroll County Food Sunday can provide food. The number of volunteers helping to serve those in need varies

from week to week, but roughly 10 to 20 volunteers daily will help anywhere from 40 to 70 people coming in to receive food. One-third of the provided food comes from donations, a third from purchased and a third from the state government.

More than 400 families a week are served at Carroll County Food Sunday’s Westminster, Eldersburg and Taneytown locations.

Every year, the number of families who receive food packages from Carroll County Food Sunday continues to expand with food drives and food donations being held throughout the community in elementary schools, from local philanthropic events and monetary gifts that are used explicitly for purchasing food.

One of the volunteers’ biggest takeaways is that everyone who walks through the doors to receive a week’s supply of food has a different story. The volunteers hope, too, that these people will soon make it back on their feet. They want the families they serve to know there is hope for the future and that they are not alone in their work to turn their lives around.

“What you really find out in a place like this is the fact no one comes from the same background,” Fahey said. “This is a testament to what we’ve been able to accomplish over the years.”

Carroll County Food Sunday is always looking for volunteers, so to receive more information on ways to get involved and make donations visit <https://ccfoodsunday.org>.

Katie Ogorzalek
Contributor

Inspiration can be found even in the youngest of us.

Late last month, I went to the Boys & Girls Club and talked to a group of several middle-school girls aged from 10 to 13 years old in a program called SMART Girls. This weekly Boys & Girls Club program tackles self-respect, attitudes, and dealing with pressure.

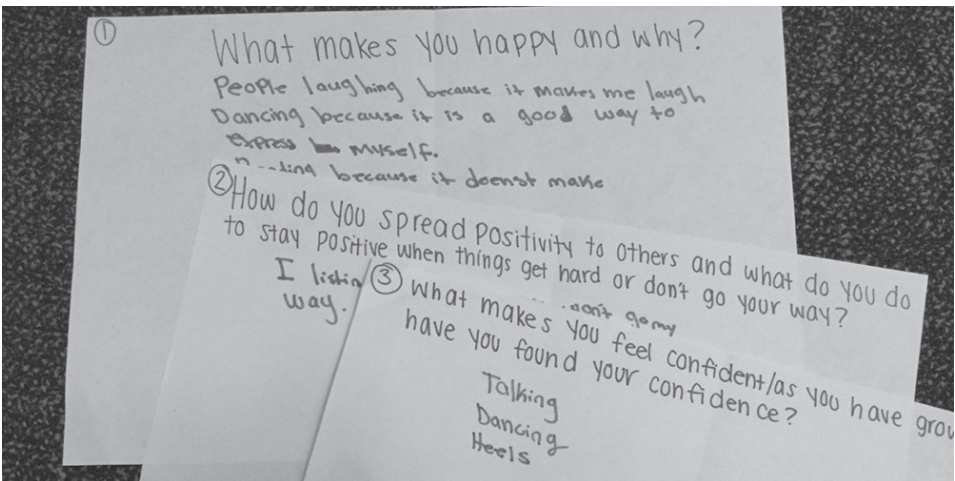
With that in mind, I talked to them about happiness, positivity, and confidence when I joined one of their weekly sessions. It is important we continue to teach young people about these values, as they will help the girls as they get older.

While I was there, I asked the girls I met three different questions about happiness, positivity, and confidence. Growing up can be hard, but being reminded of these different values in life can help you get through some of the hardest times.

The girls were full of energy and were talkative when I walked in, chatting about nail polish. The first question I asked them was about happiness: what makes you happy and why? I had one of the girls write down the answers on a sheet of paper.

“Dancing makes me happy,” Abdielis said. “It is a good way to express myself.” I saw that she stood strong for her opinions. After each question, I read them my own answers to allow them to see a bigger picture. I had said that life is full of so many amazing opportunities and

SMART Girls: Finding Positivity



Girls at the Boys & Girls Club’s SMART Girls program write about what makes them happy. Photo by Katie Ogorzalek.

things to see and do – it is how you choose to seize those moments and make them count.

We then talked about positivity and what we do to spread positivity to others. Spreading positivity in this world is important because a little positivity can go a long way.

All of the girls talked about listening to others and how that can help spread positivity because sometimes people just need another person to listen. Being positive and sharing that positivity with others can sometimes be difficult. There are little things that you can do to be positive, whether it is telling yourself that you are amazing and that you can do whatever it is you need complimenting another person, or even doing something that might make you happy.

Our final topic was confidence

and what makes the girls confident.

“Talking to people so you are getting other people’s point of view,” said Madison, helps her.

I thought that this was a good answer because sometimes when you do not understand what a person is saying or you want a different view, it allows you to get a deeper understanding of what you are trying to find.

Abdielis said that dancing made her feel confident because even though other people might not like her dancing, she does. To me, that was a good point, because she wasn’t letting other people’s opinions and thoughts affect how she lives her life.

Confidence is not always the easiest to have or find.

Fenicia asked me, “How have you learned to speak up and be confident?” She was more reserved than

the others, but was still assured of her answers. It was special to see her ask me how I learned to speak up and be confident – because that, and asking for help, were challenges I once struggled with.

I told her that I found confidence by putting myself in positions where I was in unfamiliar territory. It is okay to be scared and unsure and for things not to go well – what matters is that you tried and proved to yourself that you are capable. For me, it was going to professors during office hours. I felt they would judge me, but I realized they were only there to help.

Confidence is something that is not found right away, we find it as we experience different things throughout our lives. Some find it easier than others, but we all have it within ourselves.

I left the girls two points that I felt were important to think about as they go through life. The first was that it is okay to fail; no one is perfect. I explained that life was like a puzzle: we have these different pieces and have to find where they go and as time goes on we figure out their place.

My second was the importance of self-care. To find what makes you happy and to find positivity and share it with others, you have to take time for yourself and what you need. This doesn’t have to be huge things; it could be something as small as going for a walk or having lunch with a good friend.

-continued from page 1-

semesters at McDaniel. As a result, he became a major factor in me initially coming out of my shell, and he has continued to push me to achieve more.”

As he looks to graduation and

Senior Editor: Kyle Parks (continued)

post-college life, Parks hopes to reflect on the lessons he’s learned at McDaniel.

“I want to continue my self-growth, though I’m still working on figuring out how I can do this realistically,” said Parks. “I’m still

pondering whether or not graduate school would be right for me.”

Regardless of what lies ahead for Parks, he has certainly left a legacy in his wake. Emma Carter, one of the co-editor-in-chiefs taking over the position in the fall, says “being

Editor-in-Chief is a big job, and Kyle has been amazingly hard-working in this position. I think he serves as a great example for us for next year.”

Megan Coyle
Staff Reporter

Swish. Swish. Swish. The crowd roared.

People started jumping and screaming as they witnessed something that had not happened since 1991 – even if they weren’t aware of it at the time. Anna Mondoro, a sophomore guard, had just made seven three-point shots in a women’s basketball game for McDaniel College against Bryn Mawr.

The craziest part about it? She did it in 11 minutes of nonconsecutive playing time as a bench player.

“I got in the game and I told myself to just shoot it,” Mondoro said.

The strategy sounds simple enough, however what Mondoro accomplished was not something that happens every day. Not only did she tie a school record, but she also broke a different school record all in the same game while not being a starter. In 11 minutes of nonconsecutive playing time, Mondoro managed to hit seven out of eight three-point shots attempted.

In a 91-30 victory for the McDaniel Green Terror, Mondoro tied the record for most three-points made in a single game, set in 1991, and she broke the record for three-point field goal percentage in a single game, set four years ago.

While most would say this was a once in a lifetime performance, Mondoro would say otherwise.

“In high school, I averaged about 25 points per game,” Mondoro said.

Just Shoot It



Photo courtesy of McDaniel Athletics.

“I have hit up to 10 threes in one game before, so I knew I could do something like this.”

Mondoro attributed most of her success to her high school coach, Tasha Fuller, who she says is the best coach she has ever had. Fuller, who coached Mondoro from her sophomore year to her senior year, was always very confident in Mondoro’s abilities.

“From the first time I saw Anna play, I knew she had a lot of potential,” Fuller said. “I always wanted to make sure she performed to the best of her ability when she was on the court.”

When she heard the news about Mondoro’s performance, she was not surprised.

In the three years Mondoro was coached by Fuller at Evangel Christian School in Dale City, VA,

she scored 1000 points. She could have had more, but the stats from her freshman year were lost during the coaching change. Mondoro was a varsity starter all four years at her high school. However, she says it wasn’t until her junior year that she really started to change her game.

“I would say junior/senior year, my shooting became a huge part of my game,” Mondoro said. “My senior year, I really started watching Steph Curry and was always in awe of what he could do. I definitely wanted to be like him shooting wise.”

When Mondoro chose McDaniel College, she looked to continue progressing her play from high school. Once Mondoro got here, however, she found herself in an unfamiliar role. She was now a non-starter, something that women’s basketball coach Becky Martin says can happen

to some players when transitioning from high school to college.

“As a coach it is always hard to put people on the bench, however I believe that every player on our team is capable of going into the game and making a difference,” Martin said.

Mondoro said it was different going from starting to coming off the bench, but that hasn’t really changed her approach. She is often found in Gill Gymnasium practicing her shot for hours even on practice days. She said that all she wants to do is help her team be successful even as a player that might not get the big minutes.

When Coach Martin put Mondoro in against Bryn Mawr she wasn’t expecting a record breaking performance. Afterward, she was very happy for Mondoro who she says is very passionate about the game. “I always see her practicing in the gym by herself, so it was great she found her shot,” Martin said. “Anna has done something only 2 people in the history of the program have done, which is very exciting for her.”

When asked about it Mondoro said that it was really cool to be in the record books, however she would much rather help her team win games “I think it would be pretty cool to break the record one day,” Mondoro said, “At the end of the day though I’d much rather win a Centennial Conference Championship with my teammates by the end of my college career.”

Alumnae Poets Serve as this Year’s Bothe Lecturers

Marya Topina
Assistant Editor

On Tuesday, March 27, McDaniel continued its annual poetry tradition with the 32nd B. Christopher Bothe Memorial Lecture. Alumnae poets Melissa Atkinson Mercer and Karen Meadows returned to the College to read their recent work and speak with current student poets.

“We are delighted to welcome back to campus two alumnae who are published poets,” said English professor Kathy Mangan, the Joan Develin Coley Chair in Creative Expression and the Arts at McDaniel. “I had the pleasure of teaching both Melisa Atkinson Mercer and Karen Meadows during their respective McDaniel years, and it’s gratifying to see two former creative writing students go on to establish themselves as poets.”

With opening remarks from President Roger Casey and Kathy Mangan, the evening commemorated the memory of B. Christopher Bothe as well as McDaniel’s love for creative writing. According to the Bothe Lecture Collection, this annual lecture “brings a distinguished visiting writer to McDaniel’s campus for one day to meet with student writers and to give a public reading and lecture. B. Christopher Bothe, a member of the class of 1972, was a poet, award-winning journalist, and printer who died



From left: Karen Meadows, Kathy Mangan, and Melissa Atkins Mercer pose after the lecture. Photo by Marya Topina.

in 1984. Bothe’s family and friends developed the lecture in his memory in 1987.”

The two visiting poets this year had attended Bothe Lectures during their time at McDaniel, too. Melissa Atkinson Mercer, class of 2010, graduated with a double major in English and Sociology. She went on to earn her Master’s from West Virginia University. Karen Meadows graduated in 1999 with a degree in Psychology, and later earned her Master’s from Hollins University.

Both women are also published authors. Mercer has successfully published five chapbooks, the full-length collection “Saint of the Partial Apology,” and, most recently, “Knock,” which was released on March 1 and focuses on mental health and depression.

“I didn’t want to write ‘Knock’ just for myself,” said Mercer. “It is intensely personal, but it also comes from years of deep listening. So many fierce, compassionate women in my life have struggled with

shame and depression; they’ve been discounted and silenced and not believed. This book is as much about listening as it is about speaking—I hope it inspires readers to do more of both.”

Meadows’ poems have appeared in “Subtropics,” “Blackbird,” and “The Hollins Critic.” And just this past month, she published her first collection of poems, entitled “almond, eyeless.” According to Meadows, the book “confronts how the self is compromised by society, relationships, or even brief, impersonal interactions, yet maintains the persistent, often desperate need to be understood by another.”

At the end of the night, the audience was encouraged to participate in a brief Q & A. When asked about their successes, both women were incredibly humble and attributed their achievements to McDaniel’s writing program.

“Bringing them back to the Hill as the 2018 Bothe poets during the College’s sesquicentennial year was a splendid way to celebrate McDaniel’s 150th anniversary,” said Mangan.

Both Meadows’ and Mercer’s books are available for purchase in the campus book store.

www.mcdanielfreepress.com

Julianna Frascella,
Staff Reporter

Sijui Kama Bartrum took up dancing at a young age – but as she got older, others told her it was time to give up her hobby. Instead, she found a new form of her favorite artistic expression.

Bartrum, a senior, is the president of McDaniel’s Belly Dancing Club. The club is a small but close-knit community of people who enjoy dancing. So far this year, the club has had two performances on campus.

Bartrum has been involved in dancing from a young age, and she readily discussed how belly dancing has helped her express herself.

“I started taking ballet, tap and jazz when I was 2 to 16,” Bartrum said. “As I got older, people told me I could not continue to do what I wanted because I had gained weight. I took what they told me and started taking belly dancing when I was 17.”

Bartrum also noted how belly dancing helped her make her college choice.

“When I visited McDaniel, they

already had a belly dancing club established. This was one of the main reasons I chose to come here.”

She said she is excited to be in her

position as president and hopes to inspire others through her moves.

“I was very happy with the club when I was a freshman and learned

Hips Don’t Lie



Aiyana Jones (left) and Sijui Bartrum (right).

Photo by Claire Capuccilli.

all that I could so that I could one day teach the class myself,” Bartrum said.

Sophomore Aiyana Jones is the vice president of the club. Like Bartrum, the Belly Dancing Club has helped her assimilate to McDaniel and college life.

“I was super nervous about joining college,” Jones said. “I had some confidence issues and I was worried about meeting new people because it’s hard to make new friends. The reason I started taking belly dancing was when one of my friends online suggested it to me,” she continued. “They told me it had helped them to get their confidence up, and now I’m the vice president. I like it because it helped me to have self-confidence.”

Imani Jackson, a freshman, was excited to start dancing as well when she arrived on campus.

“I heard about the club from my friends and I saw how much they enjoyed it,” Jackson said. “I enjoy the camaraderie, openness and the closeness of the club.”

Dangersauce Debuts First Ever Musical Show

Marya Topina
Assistant Editor

This semester, McDaniel’s improv comedy troupe, Dangersauce, debuted their first ever musical show. With an in-house band made up of Jehan Silva and Ben Kahn on guitar, Jake Fine on the drums, and Lucas Craig on the piano, Dangersauce played a series of musically themed improvisation games.

The show started out with a slam poem from Rachel Gunnerson. Audience members wrote down a few random words such as “headphones,” “carousel,” and “wine,” which she used to create a compelling introduction to Dangersauce. Then, a few group singing performances expanded on topics provided by audience members, such as paragliding, video



Photo by Marya Topina.

games, and ice cream.

The troupe also included a few well-known games, such as “Mixed Tape,” where Rachel Gunnerson and Maryanna Lynch sold a mixtape to the audience, previewing several tracks sung by Mable Buchanan with

beatbox accompaniment from Steve Alford.

Not looking to exclude the less musically talented members, the band switched places with members that did not know how to play an instrument in the game “Dueling

Violins.” Ellie Davis, Matt Ulrick, Kiree Moore, and Steve Alford tried their hands at creating music, which, in the game, controlled the actions of their fellow Sauce members. Camden Ostrander, Ben Kahn, Jake Fine, and Maryanna Lynch were controlled by the music these members created as they acted out a scene inspired by the many staircases here on the Hill.

Finally, the night ended with an all-inclusive game where members took turns singing about saddening celebrity deaths. Overall, the night proved the quick wit and improv expertise of each member, as the audience was left roaring with laughter and calling for an encore.

Dangersauce’s next performance, their annual Hot Sauce Show, took place on Friday, April 20 at 7:30 p.m. in Ensor Lounge.

Living History: A Tale of the Holocaust

Gunnar Ward
Assistant Editor

Holocaust survivor Emanuel (Manny) Mandel stood in front of a crowd of McDaniel students and Carroll County residents, sharing his story of survival in one of history’s darkest periods.

Despite Mandel’s grim childhood in Budapest, Hungary, he shared his story and his humorous nature shined through the darkness. Having travelled throughout the United States and the world, Mendel, now eighty-two, has been sharing his story to inform current generations of the tragedies of the past.

“Educating people [about the Holocaust] is very important,” Mandel said. “The knowledge of the Holocaust is such a foreign subject to everybody.”

Mandel, of course, also has a coincidental connection to McDaniel College. The European city is home to McDaniel’s satellite campus, where students can live and study abroad.

The course of recent history in Budapest shows the growth of a city of rich, culturally-driven tourism from the shackles of what was once a stronghold of the Nazi regime. Mandel was 8 years old when Nazi forces invaded the city in March of 1944, but the glimpses of the Holocaust were seen firsthand even before the Nazi invasion.

“[The Nazis] called for a pogrom – a senseless, useless, purposeless exercise of what [the power] can do to you and you can do nothing about,” Mandel said. “What they did was, everyone ordered was marched towards a river, and they were shot into the river, never to be seen again.”

Experiences like this occurred throughout Europe, and people of all ages witnessed them. From children to the elderly, the brutality of the Nazis was real and vivid.

“This was a first hand experience of a 5-year-old,” Mandel said. “I had no idea of what it meant, I didn’t know what dying means.”

The opportunity to hear a Holocaust survivor share their story in person is truly an experience with living history, as, according to a publication by Time Magazine, only 100,000 survivors were living in 2016.

“Having someone in flesh and blood right before you who lived through the Holocaust really wakes people up to the true horror these people went through,” freshman Ben Igo said. “[It] was a surreal moment.”

As World War II continued to rage across Europe, the Holocaust began to expand its reaches further than any person could have imagined. Mandel and his family

would eventually become victims of the evil and violence plaguing Europe.

“It was a situation where a little boy has begun to experience the horrors of war and the horrors of the Holocaust,” Mandel, who also serves as a volunteer at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C., said.

With each passing year, the Holocaust crept farther and farther to Mandel’s home of Budapest. As a child, Mandel’s father was ordered to work away from home from 1942 until 1944.

In 1943, 12,000 people a day were ordered out of Budapest to concentration camps. Eventually, Mandel and his family were ordered aboard a train to be sent to Bergen-Belsen, a concentration camp in Germany, until being sent to Switzerland and liberated in December 1944.

Mandel’s tale of surviving some of history’s most tragic times was an inspiration that impacts current and future generations. As time passes, it is crucial to preserve knowledge of the Holocaust.

“Generations in school probably are taught the bare minimum about the Holocaust,” freshman Isabella Lawbaugh said. “History repeats itself, and being aware of what has



Emanuel Mandel in the Decker Center Forum. Photo by Gunnar Ward.

happened [can prevent that].”

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum is located off of the National Mall in Washington D.C. Since the museum’s dedication in 1993, more than 40 million have visited, including 99 heads of states and more than ten million school-aged children. Online, the museum’s website is available in 16 languages.

Graduate Professor Mona Kerby Overcomes Challenges with Self-Publishing

Marya Topina
Assistant Editor

For graduate professor and award-winning children’s book author Mona Kerby, writing was not always a passion, nor did it immediately come easily to her.

“When I was growing up, I never



Dr. Mona Kerby.
Photo courtesy of monakerby.com.

once thought I would be a writer,” said Kerby. “Writing was so much harder than my other homework. It took more time and more thinking. I always did my math homework first.”

At that time, most girls became either teachers or nurses. Kerby chose teaching because the women in her family had been teachers for several generations. She started out as a kindergarten teacher, but soon fate lead her to become a school librarian.

Kerby earned a second master’s in library science and then completed her PhD in Library Science, all while working as a school librarian. After she finished her degrees, she suddenly found a lot more free time. She used this time to write and publish. Five years after she completed her PhD, she had five books published with New York publishers, all geared towards students in grades four through

seven.

“I was drawn to children’s books because I was an elementary school librarian surrounded by books and kids,” said Kerby. “I wrote because it was a way to keep learning after earning all my degrees.”

Kerby enjoyed a successful writing career, publishing nearly a dozen children’s books. Then, this academic year, seven of her books went out of print and the copyrights reverted back to her. Kerby wanted to reissue them as paperbacks and eBooks and decided to try her hand at self-publishing.

This came with its own set of challenges. Kerby reached out for help from freelancers to scan the books, edit them in Word, format them as eBooks, and prepare new covers. That process took much longer than Kerby had expected, with more than six months’ worth of work.

Then, she worked on rebranding herself and updating her website, monakerby.com. This also took longer than she anticipated: three months long.

“Still, it was a fun process,” Kerby admits. “I worked with freelancers from the Far East to Great Britain, to California.”

Now, the challenge is to continue to promote her site and her work.

“My writing career has been a journey,” said Kerby. “There have been dead ends and vistas, hills and valleys, rocky and smooth, bliss and despair. But it’s important to expect despair, grit your teeth, and soldier on.”

More information on Mona Kerby can be found at monakerby.com. Her books are available for purchase both as eBooks on her site and in hard copy in the campus book store.

The Show Must Go On: The Bakkhai Theater Performance Continues Despite Opening Night Scare

Marya Topina
Assistant Editor

This Wednesday, the theater department revealed the opening night production of “The Bakkhai,” a Greek play written by Euripides and translated by Anne Carson. The show was the capstone project and final theater production at McDaniel for many seniors in both the cast and crew.

However, in the final scene, a set malfunction caused the two main actors, Megan Smith and Torreke Evans, to sustain minor injuries. Audience members were asked to empty the theater and the two seniors were taken to the hospital as a precautionary measure.

Despite the misstep, the show continued for the rest of the week. Smith and Evans were discharged that same night and insisted on proceeding as planned. Thursday’s performance was tense as cast and crew members’ anxiety built up, leading to



Photo courtesy of McDaniel College.

the final scene. Fortunately, the set behaved according to plan and the production ran smoothly.

Directed by Elizabeth van den Berg, “The Bakkhai” served as a wel-

come challenge to the theater department, which tends to put on more modern pieces. Van den Berg incorporated some modern interpretations in her version of the play, where

Dionysos decides to teach Pentheus a lesson for imprisoning the Bakkhai, his followers, and refusing to believe in both the demigod and his right to rule Thebes.

Audience members have expressed how much they enjoyed the show and the new appreciation they have gained for Greek theater.

The hard work of the entire cast and crew, as well as the dedication of the senior theater majors has culminated in this epic production honoring theater and bidding farewell to the seniors as they look to graduate in the coming weeks.

According to Evans, he is “beyond thrilled to be going out as the God of Theatre.” Smith echoes his enthusiasm, saying she is “excited to finish her college acting career as the god of theatre, and wants to thank [her] friends and family for their love and support.”

McDaniel Allies Hosts Sixth Annual Drag Show

Laurel Pogue
Assistant Editor

The McDaniel College Gender and Sexuality Alliance, also known as Allies, hosted their sixth annual Drag Show in Decker Auditorium on April 6, 2018.

The show was originally meant to be held on March 22, but an unseasonable snow storm caused it to be pushed back. While the drag show has always been one of Allies' most popular events, this year's show was the most successful one yet.

The host and emcee was Kit Valentine. Other performers included Evon Michelle, Siren Kelly, Pariah Sinclair, and Whitney Guccigoo. Some of the queens have been regular participants in McDaniel's annual drag show, while others were there for the first time.

The show began by a performance by Kit Valentine, who

then served as the announcer for the rest of the acts. Evon Michelle

also acted as a secondary emcee, and hosted the show while Kit Valentine

was out of the room for costume changes.

During their routines, the performers travelled around the auditorium and accepted donations from the audience. All proceeds that were raised from these donations, as well as the \$2 from each ticket, were donated to the Trevor Project, a non-profit organization focused on suicide prevention for LGBTQ+ youth. By the end of the night, the audience of over 100 people raised \$712 for the charity.

A lot of hard work was put into the event, and it has been being planned since December. Both the Allies board and performers were glad to see the event turn out successfully, and especially at the amount of money that they were able to raise. "At the end of the night, we're here to make a difference," said Kit Valentine.



Photo by Kyle Parks.



Photo by Kyle Parks.

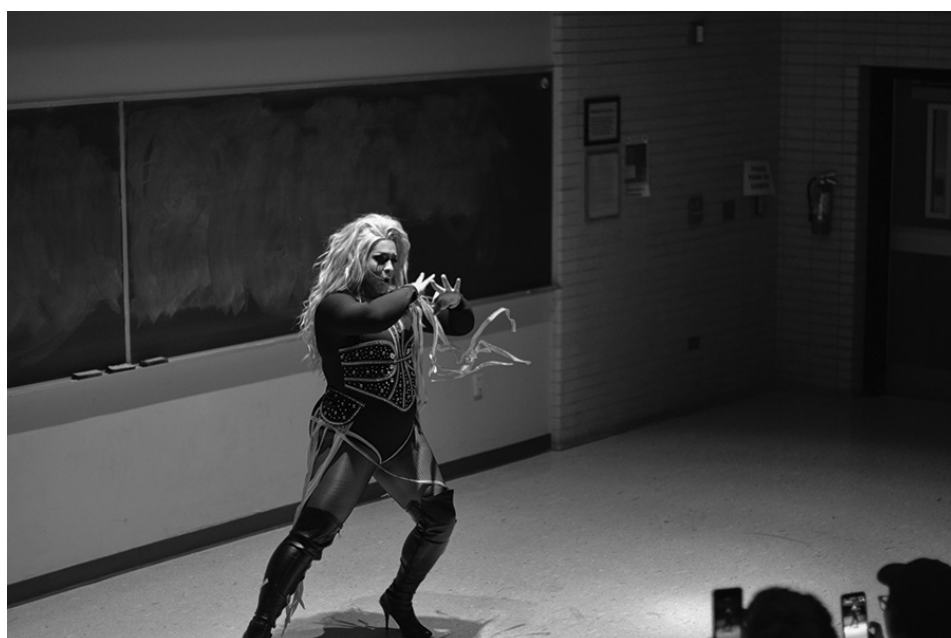


Photo by Kyle Parks.



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Sam Brustad
Contributor

Looking back on my first year of college, I wish that I hadn’t heard that “it’s the best four years of your life” so many times.

It made me feel as if I was an outsider because I wasn’t having fun 24/7 like everyone told me I would be. One of the worst feelings that I felt during this time was that I was alone in whatever I was feeling. Whether it was anxiety, homesickness, or just a feeling of being trapped in college, it was difficult to see that I wasn’t the only one feeling this way.

According to the most recent Association for University and College Counseling Center Directors survey, 70 percent of directors believe that their campus saw an increase in students with “severe psychological problems” over the past year.

So what can be done to help this epidemic? I composed some tips and tricks for surviving and adjusting to college life that proved very useful for me.

My first tip is to find a way to make the school feel smaller than it actually is. Even at a small, liberal arts college such as McDaniel, it can be overwhelming to be away from home and living on your own; so find something that makes campus



Photo by Kyle Parks.

feel more close and personal to you. Whether you are an athlete, theater kid, musician, or just interested in a club, college life is much easier to manage when you have a core group to lean on.

Another common feeling in college is homesickness, especially as a first-year student. I live just an hour or so away from campus, yet I find myself missing home frequently. If you are in a similar situation, never underestimate the power of a trip home for the weekend or even for a day. Sometimes getting away from campus life for a short time can work wonders.

If you are in a situation where a trip home for the weekend is not a realistic option, then be sure to call a parent, friend from home, or another family member just to catch up. This can help treat homesickness and also help the people back home who are missing you.

One of the most valuable skills to have is good time-management. Whether you have an extremely busy schedule or not, it is important to budget your time wisely to be both productive and also well-rested. Personally, I despise doing homework at night; particularly after practices and meetings end. I find

that I work much more effectively during the day, so that is when I get the majority of my work done. This is obviously not a “one size fits all” strategy, so it’s wise to assess your own strengths as well as what time of day you produce your best work.

Another crucial tip I can offer is to utilize the resources that are available to you. If you’re unhappy with your grade in a class, talk to your professor to discuss what you can do to improve it. If you feel that you need some mental health support, then visit the counselors in the Wellness Center on campus. Believe it or not, faculty members want you to succeed, so they are willing to put in the work to make it happen as long as you are, too. College success is often reflective of the effort that you put in, so be proactive; you owe it to yourself.

The last, and arguably most important, tip that I have is to remind yourself that you are not alone.

When I struggle with anything that I previously mentioned, it helps immensely to remind myself of this. It is okay to feel exhausted, worried, or sad from time to time. Whatever it is you may be going through, chances are someone else feels the same way. College does not have to be the best four years of your life, but it doesn’t have to be a four-year nightmare, either.

Christian Garruppo
Contributor

Losing a family member because of a battle with depression is something that I will never get over. My family will forever be effected emotionally, financially, and mentally as a result of a member of our family passing away because of a battle with a mental illness.

Illnesses such as depression, anxiety and others are all major problems in society today and must be handled with proper care -- just as you would with a physical injury. According to the American Psychological Association, 41.6 percent of college students suffer from anxiety and 36.4 percent suffer from depression. This means that many McDaniel students likely suffer from these as well.

As someone who has experienced mental health issues within myself and in my family, I can safely say that nothing is worse or more

traumatizing than having someone you are close to end their life suddenly when nobody is expecting it.

There is no time to accept that you will be losing a loved one based on a long illness or old age. One day they are there and they seem like they are doing okay and the next day they are gone forever. 123 Americans end their lives daily according to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. This is a tough statistic to swallow, and it impacts families like my own every day.

Now imagine that you are a person suffering from a mental illness and having suicidal thoughts. It is easy to think that nothing will ever get better and that nobody cares, but that is not at all true.

There are a lot of people in your family and in your community that care for you and would be truly

devastated if you were not there anymore. It is something that is hard to explain, much like the pain and suffering of mental health issues is hard to explain.

If you are suffering from a mental illness, then I encourage you to get help. Suicide Awareness Voices of Education states that only half of Americans with depression receive treatment. If someone you know is suffering, encourage them to get help. Encourage them to see a doctor or visit the Wellness Center here on McDaniel’s campus.

Realizing that you need help and going to get it is the first step to attempting to make yourself feel better, and by doing this you can save your own life as well as saving your family and friends from endless suffering.

Your mental health is just as, if not more, important than your



Photo by Christian Garruppo.

physical health, and you need to treat it that way. It sometimes may be hard to realize this because you cannot physically see it, but that does not mean it is not there.

Going to the doctor is a normal thing to do when you physically don’t feel well, so why not make it the norm when you mentally aren’t feeling right?

The Case Against Intervention in Syria

Michael Cozzi
Staff Reporter

All regimes pursue power, regardless of the type of government system they have.

Whether it is a democratic republic like the United States, oligarchical Russia, or theocratic Saudi Arabia, in the end the main goal of these individual states is the pursuit of economic and military power.

This theory of geo-politics is called realism. It dates back all the way to Niccolo Machiavelli, and to modern statesman and theorists such



Damascus, Syria at night in 2011.
Photo courtesy of James Filipi.
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as Morgenthau, Kissinger, George H.W. Bush, and Stephen M. Walt. The tragedy of the Syrian Civil War is real, and we must approach how the United States policy will change in the light of the United States launching a strike in retaliation for the use of chemical weapons by Bashar al-Assad.

Direct intervention in Syria will destabilize the Middle East, there will be no goal for U.S. forces other than to take out Assad, and a lack of moral clarity on each side complicate the situation.

Many people believe intervention could overthrow the regime and lead to a better life for the Syrian people. That is a noble goal; however, direct military intervention would lead to far more harm than just casualties of the war. This is because if there is an Iraq War-like situation, the Syrian Civil War will last much longer and more innocent civilians will be killed in the process.

Therefore, in order to maximize people’s happiness and security, it would be best if Assad remains in power. Intervention in an already unstable region would lead to more destabilization in the Middle East and possibly promote terrorism in the United States.

There would also be no clear objective for U.S. troops in the region other than nation building.

If we directly intervened in the Syrian Civil War, there would be no clear goal for U.S. troops in the region other than nation-building. Whenever we want to preemptively strike a nation, like Iraq for example, then there is no long term goal for stabilizing the region. This will lead to unneeded nation-building and U.S. troops staying in the region much longer than necessary.

As a result, millions of taxpayer dollars will be spent trying to change a nation-state’s system.

Another flaw in supporting direct

military intervention in Syria is that there would be no moral clarity, because the rebels are just as bad as Assad. They are a religious extremist group and are turbulently fighting against Assad, such as the Syrian National Army (SNA).

There are extremists on both sides of the conflict — this would lead to the American government and the American people being unsure as to who to truly support in this conflict.

Let me be clear, I am not a pacifist. However, I do believe that we should not engage in intervention that could result in further destabilization of the Middle East. While Assad is a war criminal, we should reluctantly support him. This is because we must do what is necessary, even if it isn’t morally ideal.

We must spread democracy where we can, but our first duty as the United States is to ensure order and stability in a disorderly world.

Grace Hounsou

What is your preferred name?

Grace

What is your major and minor?

Business Administration and Accounting Economics with a minor in French

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?

I worked in the Foreign Language lab, the Payroll office, and I did VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) during the spring semesters.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

For Global Bridge, I was a member of the advisory board. In Africa’s Legacy and French Club, I was a regular member.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

I absolutely loved my time at McDaniel. Choosing to transfer to McDaniel is the best decision I have ever made when it comes to my college journey. Transferring to a new school can be challenging and nerve-racking because you left your old school for some reasons. The last thing you want is to encounter those same reasons, but I felt just at home the second I visited McDaniel. During our orientation, just listening to people and talking to them, I overcame all the fears that I had, made lifelong friends and gained the self confidence I needed to finish my college journey.

I was fortunate enough to spend my last semester of college in Budapest. It has been an experience like no other, and that might not have been possible if I never transferred here. Every one of my professors had listened to me and comforted me when I thought there was no way I could get through their classes. I received a tremendous amount of support from my peers



Photo courtesy of Grace Hounson.

and everyone at McDaniel in general. My college experience has been filled with learning, discovering and growing.

Who do you think is/was your best mentor(s)?

I have two mentors: the first one is professor Duvall in the Business and Economics department. I aspire to be like her one day. I started developing a hard-working mentality because of all her accomplishments in just the short amount of time she has been living. She is a great professor, not just because she knows her materials so well, but also because she will encourage you to try harder than you ever thought you could. Her persistence in making sure her students succeed is beyond amazing, and she is a wonderful person outside of her work zone.

The second is Dr. McNichols in the language department. She is like a second mother to me. I could go to her about anything and she will know exactly what to say to make me feel better. I never had her as a professor, but she was the head of Global Bridge, and she would make

everyone feel welcomed and valued. She is a great person all around.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?

I don’t have a single memory but my best memory at McDaniel would be my friends. The relationships I built here are some that I will carry with me for the rest of my life. I will forever be grateful for the love and support I received right off the bat. I loved our little road trips, our midnight runs to McDonald’s or Taco Bell and all the crazy adventures.

What were some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?

Paying for college wasn’t easy. I had to take a lot of loans out and even after that, I spent every day of all my summers working so I could pay the rest of tuition and personal needs. I am also a first generation student, and my siblings look up to me more than anyone. In order for them to succeed, I had to succeed, and that can be a lot on you, but I got through it with the help of my friends and all the mentors I have in

life.

What are your plans for after graduation?

I am currently interning at a small CPA [certified public accounting] firm in Baltimore - Gross Mendelsohn & Associates - which just turned into a full-time job, and I will officially start on April 23rd. While working, I will be studying for the CPA and hopefully after I pass all four parts, I will go back to school for a master’s in taxation.

What advice can you give to those not graduating?

Work hard, even harder than you ever thought you could. Take that internship that doesn’t pay, ask for help when you need it, because there will always be that one person who will be willing to drop everything to help you. Don’t let anyone tell you you have to graduate in four years, do that extra semester or year if you have to. But in the mist of all that, don’t forget to let go and have an insane amount of fun - before you know it, you will be graduating. Do things that scare you, go out of your way to make someone’s day and don’t forget: college is “supposed” to be the best years of your life - no matter how long it takes you to get that degree.

Is there anything else you want to share with the McDaniel community?

I know not a lot of people know McDaniel as a school, but it is a good school if you know how to look for help and who to go to. Your professor will help you find your way if you are a good student and always trying. Take classes outside of your comfort zone because you never know how that class or that professor might shape your view of the world - after all, that’s the best part of going to a liberal arts school, right?

Zac Sheaffer

What is your preferred name?

Zac Sheaffer

What is your major and minor?

I am a History and Arabic & Middle Eastern Studies double-major.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?

Off campus, most recently I have served as the Professional Exchanges Program Intern at the World Trade Center Institute in Baltimore, MD. I have also held internships at Translation Excellence in Aurora, CO and the Carroll County Farm Museum here in Westminster. On campus, I have served as the Intermediate Arabic II Teaching Assistant, Arabic Tutor, and an Ambassador for Admissions.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

The Honors Program, Intramurals, Alpha Phi Omega, Arabic Club (President), Phi Alpha Theta, Pi Gamma Mu, Phi Sigma Iota, LEAD, S.I.N.G., Study Abroad in Budapest in 2017, Traveled to Doha, Qatar through Qatar Embassy/Arabic & Middle Eastern Studies Dept. in 2015.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

I have loved my time at McDaniel. I tried to take advantage of every opportunity that came my way, and feel that the these different experiences positively shaped my college experience. I also



Photo courtesy of Zac Sheaffer.

enjoyed my time in the classroom and involvement in extracurricular activities, whether it be as unique as traveling to Providence for the Northeast Regional Honors Conference or as simple as playing pick-up basketball with my friends.

Who do you think is/was your best mentor(s)?

Dr. Upton and Carol Zaru. Throughout my four years at McDaniel they have pushed me to pursue different opportunities and made me a better student and man. I would not be in the position that I am today without their support.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?

My best memory at McDaniel was studying abroad the spring semester of my junior year in Budapest. To have the opportunity to go abroad with one of my best friends, Camden Ostrander, and to study and live in Budapest and travel throughout Europe was incredibly rewarding. I especially enjoyed volunteering at Mig Help, where I used my skills in Arabic to teach English to refugees and migrants.

What were some of the challenges you encountered and how did you

overcome them?

My first few weeks here were difficult because I am more on the shy side, but I put myself out there and made friends, got involved, etc. to overcome that challenge. I would say that was my greatest challenge, just being comfortable enough to put myself out there. Once I did that, every other challenge seemed much less daunting because I had a support system to back me up.

What are your plans for after graduation?

After graduation, I have accepted the position of Assistant Manger of Operations and Program Support at the World Trade Center Institute in Baltimore, MD. I am very excited to continue working for the WTCI. I will also continue to serve as the Baseball & Softball Director for the Hanover Borough and volunteer as a youth baseball coach.

What advice can you give to those not graduating?

Take advantage of every opportunity and do not be afraid to take risks.

Is there anything else you want to share with the McDaniel community?

Thank you to everyone who supported me throughout this incredible journey. I will forever cherish the amazing memories that I have made along with all of you at this special place on the Hill!

What is your preferred name?
Katy

What is your major and minor?
English major with Writing and Sociology minors.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?
Writing Center tutor and Resident Assistant.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?
Member of GSA, co-Editor of Contrast Literary Magazine

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?
I did enjoy my time here at McDaniel! I met many new friends and had lots of new experiences. I learned to be more outgoing, and to

be better at advocating for myself and my needs.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?
I think my favorite memory at McDaniel was the Weekend Blitz trip last year to see Rent. It's my favorite musical, and this was the first time I got to see it live.

What are your plans for after graduation?
I plan to work in a relatively low-stress job and continue to work on my writing in my spare time.

What advice can you give to those not graduating?
Keep working, because it'll all be worth it in the end. Also, it's never too late to try something new. Don't

be afraid of change just because you've always done something one way.

Is there anything else you want to share with the McDaniel community?
For everyone who ever asked me my pen name so they could hunt down my published works, come see me again and I'll actually tell you what it is this time.



Photo courtesy of Katy Kissel.

www.mcdanielfreepress.com

Jay Heinzen



Photo courtesy of Jay Heinzen.

What is your preferred name?
Jay Heinzen

What is your major and minor?
Sociology with a Specialization in Criminal Justice and a Minor in Middle Eastern Studies.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?
Here at McDaniel College I worked for Sodexo.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

- Former President of Canine Companions for Independence
- Allies
- Gamma Sigma Sigma

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?
I did enjoy my time at McDaniel. I met a lot of incredible people and I grew into the person I never thought I could be. I am myself, I am happy, and I am ready to take on the next chapter.

Who do you think is/was your best mentor(s)?
Jennifer Marana former Director of ODMA; Heidi Huber; and Dean Lisa Breslin. They believed in me and pushed me to continue

to better myself. They have stood by me through it all, and if it wasn't for each of them I would not be finishing my senior year of college.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?
I have a lot of incredible memo-

ries here at McDaniel. But, my best memory is seeing all people that have come together, and who I have worked with to make this school a better place for the transgender community. I have watched the trans* community grow every year – and

while there's still a lot of work to be done, this is a safe place for trans* students.

What were some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?
I dealt with a lot of personal things on top of all the academics. The biggest challenge I faced was overcoming negativity and pushing myself to succeed.

What are your plans for after graduation?
Currently, I am working to get into Homeland Security.

What advice can you give to those not graduating?
Things happen on your own timeline not everyone else's. Don't be afraid to do new things and challenge yourself. But always remember that the most important thing is to take care of yourself.

Is there anything else you want to share with the McDaniel community?
Take a moment and get to know those around you --- McDaniel is a unique school, it is filled with incredible and caring people.

Christina DeJoseph



Christina DeJoseph paddles across a river in the Peruvian Amazon.
Photo by Atticus Rice.

What is your preferred name?
Christina.

What is your major and minor?
Kinesiology major and Spanish minor.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?
Peer mentor, peer mentor advisory board member, student ambassador for Admissions, tutor, McDaniel local first year program peer facilitator.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?
Honors Program (first year representative, community service coordinator), Global Fellows, Fitness Buddies, Heroes Helping Hopkins, Ski and Snowboard Club (president and vice president), Vagina Monologues, African drumming ensemble, The Forest Online, and Gospel Choir.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?
Absolutely, McDaniel has become another home for sure. I loved being able to be involved with a variety of activities and have such an intertwined network of support from people with diverse backgrounds and perspectives.

Who do you think is/was your best mentor(s)?
Such a tough question! Dean Lisa Breslin, Dr. Pam Zapparadino, Dr. Jason Scullion, Dr. Elena Campero, and Dr. Paul Mazeroff definitely

stand out because of how well they know me and have supported my winding path. Each of them has been dedicated to my success and explorations throughout my undergraduate career.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?
One of my favorites days happened just a few weeks ago. It was a snow day and all of my best friends gathered in my apartment for brunch. We made pancakes and tea and just stayed cozy. It sounds fairly casual, but I have such an incredible

group of friends, to just be together is phenomenal. Then we went sledding and had an absolute blast. We ran around like kids and laughed constantly. Okay, this is sentimental, but they truly are spectacular and I am wicked grateful everyday to have each of them in life. I definitely wouldn't have gotten through terrible times or enjoyed the fun stuff nearly as much without them. Much love!

What were some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?
One challenge that has played a

significant role has been both a benefit and disaster—being so involved. I think I reached a point of being too involved and so I needed to mellow out. This just took time to naturally let things take a break. That was what I told myself, that I could take a break from different activities and when the time was better and if I still wanted to, I could get back involved later.

What are your plans for after graduation?
So far I have travel plans! I'm headed to Australia with my family and then I will potentially be working with an animal sanctuary for a bit there. Then I'm headed to Central America to do some hiking with my best friend from growing up. Then we'll see!

What advice can you give to those not graduating?
As cliché as it is, don't forget that it's never too late to try something new. In my last semester here, I started marimba lessons and I LOVE it. Though I am still learning the foundational skills, it's nice to remember that at the right time, new opportunities come.

Is there anything else you want to share with the McDaniel community?
Go hiking, it'll make your days better and you'll have a chance to see the world a little differently when things look down.

Throwback: First-Year Move-In Day 2014

Moving in



Meeting FYS



Introduction Convocation



Candle Walk & Ringing In



What is your preferred name?
Tyler Van Dyke

What is your major and minor?
Majors in English and Philosophy

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?
Resident Assistant, Writing Center Tutor, Writing Fellow, Research Assistant (WDL)

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel?
What positions did you hold?
Radio Club (Vice President 2015-6, Co-president 2016-present), Free Press (copy editor 2017-8), Heroes Helping Hopkins, Honors Program (PR chair 2015-6), Pep Band (2015-6), Yearbook (2014-6), Boys and Girls Club Writing Program (2016-7), Jazz Band (2014-17)

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?
I have absolutely enjoyed my time here at McDaniel. The con-

Senior Editor: Tyler Van Dyke



Photo by Kyle Parks.

nections that I have made with both professors and classmates and the opportunities that this campus has afforded me (both in terms of experiential learning opportunities like jobs and internships and also in terms of the campus' relative proximity to places like Baltimore and DC) have broadened my awareness substantially. I think the mark of a good institution is its capacity to change its students for the better, and I can honestly say that I am not the same person who walked onto

this campus four years ago.

Who do you think is/was your best mentor(s)?
I have had many mentors here at McDaniel whom I have a genuine and deep respect for, especially my two advisors Dr. Vera Jakoby and Dr. Pamela Regis. However, the lessons, stories, experience, and guidance that I got from Bo Eckard, one of the most interesting, crazy, and sincere individuals I have ever met, will remain with me for life.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?
The ones that get a little hazy. The ones that remind us that even though we're doing a million things and taking a thousand credits, there's always time for friends and celebrating those friendships.

What are your plans for after graduation?
Workin', makin' money, saving for the graduate school so I can get that

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Laurel Pogue
Assistant Editor

Tusannah Krauss, better known as Hannah, is currently wrapping up the last few weeks of her undergraduate years at McDaniel. She will be graduating with both an English degree after presenting her senior capstone “With a Voice Not Like Her Own”: Narrative Silence and Absence in Wilkie Collins’ The Moonstone” and German minor, and has completed both the Honors Program and Global Fellows Program.

She is currently applying to graduate programs with the intent of getting a Master of Library and Information Science degree, and hopes to be an academic librarian.

While on campus, she has worked as a tutor for both the Writing Center and German department, was a peer mentor for two years, and worked in Hoover Library as an intern and in the archives.

During her senior year of high school, she attended Carroll Community College, where she was involved in their student newspaper, The Quill, but she didn’t become part of the Free Press until her sophomore year. “Once I started working for the Writing Center in my sophomore year, Professor Ambrose, who knew that I had previously been managing editor for The Quill, asked me why I hadn’t joined the Free Press here at McDaniel. Jimmy Calderon was also there and I’m still not quite sure how it happened, but I suddenly found

Senior Editor: Hannah Krauss



Photo by Kyle Parks.

myself sitting in an editor’s meeting as the Commentary Editor.” She is now the News editor, and says that she has loved managing her section and enjoyed working with the writers and other editors.

She was involved in several other student organizations besides Free Press, including Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Sigma Iota, Alpha Lambda Delta, and the Spelling Bee team. She has been involved in German Club for four years including as this year’s President, is currently the President of Sigma Tau Delta, and stage parent and former academic committee head in Alpha Psi Omega.

Hannah enjoyed her time on the Hill, saying “I absolutely loved my time at McDaniel. I was able to have

a lot of experiences that I never thought I would, like being involved in the theater, and have loved the sense of community overall.” In her four years, there were two specific experiences that stood out as special, which were the theater’s production of ‘Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs’ and her time working for the Westminster Detective Library with Dr. Mary over two summers.

A challenge that she faced was her commute freshman year, which caused her to feel a disconnect between herself and the rest of campus, though once she was able to live in the German house for a while, the distance did not bother her as much even when she returned to commuting for a later semester.

The mentors in Hannah’s college journey were very important to her, and she states that “I’ve had a lot of mentor figures here while at McDaniel, so it is really hard to pick one.” She cites her peer mentor Mariah Ligas and first year advisor Dr. Esa of the German department as enormous help from her freshman year, and a big influence on her decision to pursue German. Hannah also recalled meeting Dr. Mary at an admitted students’ day, and how she became a mentor who she “really looked up to during [her] years here.” Andrea Briggs was also an influence upon Hannah, and helped her to discover her interest in library science. Additionally, she cites Professor Ambrose as another mentor figure, “Working at the Writing Center has been one of my favorite experiences here at McDaniel, sometimes barely feeling like a job for me, and I’m so glad that Josh gave me the opportunity to work there.”

Hannah offers this advice to those students who are not graduating yet: “Don’t be a hermit; go out and try things that push you out of your comfort zone. You have the opportunity to learn so many things at college that you won’t once you graduate. Take a class for fun, whether it’s pottery or history or a new language. Make the most of your time here.”

As a final word, she adds: “There are seven hidden dragons on campus. For real. Find them.”

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What advice can you give to those not graduating?
Be absolutely serious in your endeavors while you’re here. Take opportunities and risks, and be a dedicated and committed member to the organizations that you participate in. But when it’s Thursday

Senior Editor: Tyler Van Dyke (continued)

night, your ass’d better be at Down Under.
Is there anything else you want to share with the McDaniel community?
I think a lot of people shit on McDaniel College, and I think a lot of times its largely warranted. But I also think that people shouldn’t

disillusion themselves with the idea that these problems don’t exist everywhere else. So don’t make them a McDaniel Problem. Make them a problem. And use your involvement and agency and capacity for activism to do something about it. We’re all here because for some reason or another we chose to be here. It’s our

responsibility to make this place better. So yeah, make jokes about how shitty Glar is, how overpaid Roger Casey is and the fact that when he wears that white suit he looks a little bit like Colonel Sanders, relish in our discontent. But then find the avenues for change, and make it happen.

Kyle Parks
Editor-in-Chief
Multimedia Editor

With the days left until graduation dwindling, Managing and Commentary Editor Stefan Specian is completing some of his final coursework, as well as tasks for the Free Press. Specian has been involved in the Free Press since his freshman year. He became an editor his sophomore year and has been in charge of several different sections. He is currently the managing editor.

An involved student, Specian is also a brother of Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity, for which he was the treasurer for a year, and has served on the editorial board of Contrast, McDaniel’s literary magazine, three of his four years here.

While admitting that there were aspects he enjoyed and didn’t enjoy about the college, Specian acknowledges, “I’ve made a lot of great friends, and connected with a lot of great people, and at the end of the day that’s what I’ll remember, rather than the more negative aspects. I’m leaving here with a solid education, solid connections, and memories I can look back fondly on.”

Stefan has also hired to work in the Writing Center his freshman year and has worked there since. Beyond McDaniel’s campus, he has held several internships. He was worked for the Literacy Council of Carroll County, the Law Firm of Stoner, Preston, and Boswell, as well as his

Senior Editor: Stefan Specian



Photo by Kyle Parks.

recent work in the office of Delegate Pamela Biedle during the 2018 Maryland Legislative Session.
“These internships have all been highly rewarding, and I’m thankful I’ve had an opportunity to experience them,” said Specian on these experiences.
Specian would like to thank two of his biggest mentors during his time in college from the political science department. Dr. Christiana Leahy has been his advisor, and he credits her effective mentorship, saying “She definitely introduced me to a lot of new ideas that I would never have considered had I not had class with and discussed them with her, and I’ll definitely take what I learned from her into the post-graduate world.”

He also found a strong mentor in Dr. Herbert Smith. Though he only began taking classes with Dr. Smith in the later part of his college career, Specian remarks that “His encouragement for me to continue writing has definitely helped me improve as a writer, and I appreciate all the support he has given me over this past year and a half.”
During his fall semester Junior year, Stefan studied at McDaniel’s Budapest campus and remembers it as one of his fondest experiences. Many of his best memories, however, come from working for the Free Press. “It really did shape my plans for the future in ways I never could have expected coming into McDaniel, and I’ll forever be glad I was a part of it,” he remarked.

Specian was challenged by campus culture at times, feeling that it was mercenary and perhaps combative in some respects. However, he feels that, “I’m glad I experienced this culture, and I’m glad I learned, through personal experience and discussion with others, how we can make something better from it.”
After graduation, Specian will live in Baltimore and enjoy a break from the workload of academia before possibly continuing on to law school. He specifically looks forward to “... the small things in life for a little while - going to talks and concerts, cooking and reading leisurely.”
To those not yet graduating, Specian offers these words:
You have the power to make your college experience great, and, more importantly, to make the college experiences of those around you great. Don’t get bogged down in the constant rush to be the best of the best, the leader of everything and the winner of all the awards. Because at the end of the day, it’s your undergraduate years in college - it probably won’t define your life, and it hopefully won’t even be the best years of your life. But if you leave here knowing you made great friends and colleagues, and that you genuinely cared about them and supported them, and made a bond that’s going to last a lifetime, then you’ll leave here knowing you’ve succeeded, and you’ll leave here without regrets.

Jason Swartz



Environmental studies major Jason Swartz taking a bearing while at anchor aboard the Student Sailing Vessel Corwith Cramer in the British Virgin Islands during the spring 2017 semester. Photo courtesy of Jason Swartz.

What is your preferred name and your major and minor?

Jason or Jase. Environmental studies major with a specialization in biology and a French minor.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?

Student Ambassador with Admissions, Peer Writing Tutor at the Writing Center, Honors Peer Mentor, and Transfer Peer Mentor with the First Year Team, French Language Tutor in the Department of World Languages, Literatures, and Cultures.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

Treasurer of Heroes Helping Hopkins, Fellowship Vice President of Alpha Phi Omega, and Co-President of DangerSauce.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

Yes, I have definitely enjoyed my time at McDaniel. While I think many of us can get easily frustrated by different administrative struggles or by the sheer amount of pressure we feel from work/class/extra-curriculars, I have definitely grown as a person and met many influential people along the way. McDaniel is a great place to learn and I am thankful that I have had the opportunity to study here!

Who do you think is/was your

best mentor(s)?

Dr. Jason Scullion Dr. Mona Becker, the two environmental studies professors during my time at McDaniel, have definitely been my greatest mentors, though there have been many good ones along the way.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?

I think one of my best memories at McDaniel has been helping my sister to move in during her freshmen year (when I was a junior). I was very excited to see her getting ready to

start out on an awesome adventure at a new place that I also loved calling home.

What were some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?

Neither of my parents have attended a 4-year college which can definitely make some of the registration, writing assignments, and even just daily life so unrelatable and difficult for parents to understand. Suddenly, someone who knew so much about what I was going

through in high school had very little idea of what I was going through in college, which can be quite isolating and lonely. I overcame this struggle by reaching out to different offices (First Stop, Academic Affairs, Writing Center, and the Honors Program, among others) that helped me get connected to on-campus resources that could help me out and create a support system here that helped to supplement my support system at home.

What are your plans for after graduation?

I intend to work for a year or two, hopefully in coastal/wetland sciences, before heading to graduate school. My ultimate goal is to work towards an M.S. and then a PhD so that I can be a professor.

What advice can you give to those not graduating?

Make sure that you take advantage of every opportunity you get. Whether this is a professional opportunity (networking, internship, etc.) or social (hang out with friends, explore Westminster, etc.), just DO IT. You'll regret sitting around not doing anything when it comes time to leave this place!

Is there anything else you want to share with the McDaniel community?

Kenny Porter wrote the playbook.

Abi Rose-Craver



Photo courtesy of Abi Rose-Craver.

What is your preferred name?

Abi

What is your major and minor?

Social Work, Spanish, minor in Latino and Latin American Studies

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?

I've been working in Advancement Services since sophomore year and I've been an international peer mentor for 2 years now. These have been great opportunities to meet some really neat people. I also love my mentees.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

I'm a brother of Alpha Phi Omega, and at one point I was secretary.

I have 4 littles, 3 grandlittles, and at least 5 great-grandlittles in my family tree. I've been a member of the Asian Community Coalition for all 4 years, and I've held the positions of Treasurer, VP, and President. I'm also an active member of Phi Alpha Social Work Honor Society. We plan educational and social awareness events throughout the year.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

Despite the roadblocks along the way, I can say with confidence that I received a top notch education. Even if the school's location and resources weren't the best as compared to those at my friends' colleges, I was

here for the education and that's exactly what I got. I definitely feel prepared for grad school and my future career as a social worker. I also am grateful for the close faculty relationships I encountered through the years.

Who do you think is/was your best mentor(s)?

I have so much respect for the professors in the Social Work and World Language departments. They not only were teachers but became invaluable sources of support through my time at McDaniel. Dr. Amy McNichols was especially influential through these 4 years for

-continued on page 15-

What is your preferred name and your major and minor?

Abby Keen. Exercise Chemistry dual major with minors in Biology and Spanish.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?

Student Ambassador in Admissions on campus and as a Medical Assistant at Your Doc's Urgent Care on the Eastern Shore.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

Captain on the Women's Soccer team, Honors Program, Phi Beta Kappa, Gamma Sigma Epsilon, Beta Beta Beta, Phi Sigma Iota, President of the Student Athletic Advisory Committee, Vice Chair of the Centennial Conference SAAC, Secretary of the Kinesiology Club, Treasurer of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and a Project Leader with Operation Christmas Child.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

I greatly enjoyed my time at McDaniel and I am going to miss it here so much! Soccer has played a huge role in my happiness and I am forever grateful that I was able to play the sport I love for the past four years. To share that love with my teammates, and to have amazing coaches



Senior and team captain Abby Keen is high-fived by her teammates ahead of an away match. Photo courtesy of Abby Keen.

has been such a blessing. I have made lifelong friends and I have learned so much about myself and life through this sport. I was also able to branch out and become involved in so many other things that helped me to make great friends outside of the team. Being able to be a part of groups besides soccer has also aided in my happiness and success throughout college!

Who do you think is/was your best mentor(s)?

Dr. Mackenzie and Dr. Dana Ferraris been incredible mentors to

me throughout my time at McDaniel. They have been there every step of the way by giving me great advice and recommendations, helping me with applications, and preparing me for interviews. They have both been awesome resources and are just genuinely caring people who are constantly checking up on me. I am so thankful for the two of them and I cannot thank them enough for everything they have done for me!

What is your best memory at

McDaniel?

My junior season was pretty memorable, from winning a regular season championship and beating Johns Hopkins for the first time in 20 years, to making it to the Sweet 16 of the NCAA tournament. My best memories are definitely with my teammates; team nights, traveling to the NAAs, and playing tons of soccer have definitely been my favorite memories.

What were some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?

Some challenges I have faced include difficult classes with tough professors, as well as adjusting to being a college athlete in terms of a heavy workload on top of a packed sports schedule. Mastering time management, persevering, and constantly working hard have taken me a long way!

What are your plans for after graduation?

Following graduation, I plan to attend a Master's program of Physician Assistant Studies in order to one day be a practicing Physician's Assistant.

What advice can you give to those not graduating?

Try new things, be nice to everyone, make connections, and don't sell yourself short!

Lindsay Russell

What is your preferred name and major and minor?

Lindsay Russell. Communication major and sports management minor.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?

I have worked as a lifeguard, in the equipment room of the Athletic Center, in the Resource Room, managing the front desk of OSE, and as an Engagement Peer in OSE.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

I have participated in Heroes Helping Hopkins (HHH), Green Terror Programs (GTP), the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, the Senior Week Planning Committee, and the McDaniel Tennis team. I have acted as the Social Media Chair and Coordinator for HHH and for GTP was the Fan Favorites Committee Head that coordinated recurring events such as bingo and trivia.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

While there have certainly been bumps along the way, my time at McDaniel is something I will always be grateful for. At first, I thought that I might have chosen McDaniel for the wrong reasons. With a few weeks left until graduation, I can say that I made the right choice after all and I'll be leaving here better than where I started. The students, faculty, and staff on this campus have helped me learn to look at my surroundings in new ways and pushed me to work harder. This college has allowed me to make great friends, study abroad in Budapest, walk on to a sports



Lindsay Russell while studying abroad in Budapest, Hungary during her junior year. Photo courtesy of Lindsay Russell.

team, sled on a golf course, meet wonderful alumni, and so much more.

Who do you think is/was your best mentor(s)?

Kelly Harvey, the former Assistant Director of Student Engagement, was a mentor that I had the opportunity to work with for almost all of my four years. She offered me my first job with OSE and I have worked there ever since. After I accepted that initial work-study position, she encouraged me to join GTP, participate in LEAD, and take many other chances that I was reluctant to pursue. In addition to our professional ties, I knew I could go to her if I was feeling stressed about life in general. She was a great role model, but she also helped me recognize my own potential and learn how to apply my skills to other jobs and situations.

What is your best memory at

McDaniel?

I have a lot, so that question is very difficult. One of my favorites from freshman year was attending a Larkin Poe concert with Dean Breslin and three other students from our Honors class at the time. It was very spontaneous and we all had a blast. The food was great and the performance was awesome. I still listen to their music today and the signed poster I got at the concert has been hung up in my dorm room every year since.

What were some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?

One of the challenges I faced was being overwhelmed with all the activities, responsibilities and assignments I tried to squeeze into a semester. While I still don't have a solution for over-involvement or a device for time traveling, I learned that it is okay to say no to things.

Sometimes it is better to focus on quality versus quantity. I can also be very stubborn and I had to learn to ask others for help. It did not make me any less hard working or driven, but it taught me to use the resources around me to work smarter.

What are your plans for after graduation?

I am currently working as a marketing intern for TreadBands, a non-slip headband company located in Pennsylvania. I have been discussing the possibility of a full-time position with the company after graduation and I will know their decision in a few weeks. Fingers crossed!

What advice can you give to those not graduating?

McDaniel has a lot of great opportunities for students, but you still have to get out there and work for them. Ask about upcoming events, actually check your email once in a while, and don't be afraid to try something out of your comfort zone. Also, learn to be comfortable with the uncomfortable. Certain situations are bound to happen, but you can still control how you react to them. I've found that practicing things like public speaking and talking about why I am uncomfortable with certain situations helps make them more tolerable in the future.

Is there anything else you want to share with the McDaniel community?

When people tell you that college will fly by, they are absolutely serious. Don't keep pushing something off if you really want to do it because you don't have forever.

Abi Rose-Craver (continued)

-continued from page 14-
challenging me to become a better student in Spanish and helping to navigate a somewhat rocky semester abroad. She also encouraged me to recognize my own confidence to become a leader on campus. I can't say enough good things- she has just been an overall amazing, strong role model in my young adult life.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?

I've really enjoyed my time with my social work peers, especially in the last 2 years. There are only 14 of us in the class of 2018 and we're such a close-knit group. It sounds a bit utopic, but we all have so much

love and support for our fellow classmates in the major. There is no cut-throat environment- we all want each other to succeed, literally each and every one of us. I don't think I would've found this in any other major. If someone is having an emotionally draining week at field placement or just a bad day in general, we can always count on one another. It's definitely going to be hard saying goodbye to them at the end of the year.

What were some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?

After my semester abroad I came back to find that my core friend

group had pretty much dissolved as people grew apart or transferred. I just had to keep moving forward and decided to take care of the friendships that still remained. I made a couple of new friends along the way, so it can get better.

What are your plans for after graduation?

I'm enrolled in an Advanced Standing program at West Chester University to get my MSW, so I'll be getting my master's this time next year. I also have my field placement set up at Crozer-Keystone Family Medicine in Springfield, PA. There, I'll be doing case management for their behavioral health center.

What advice can you give to those not graduating?

Just keep swimming! It'll all be over soon.

Is there anything else you want to share with the McDaniel community?

When it's your turn, support the Senior Class Gift! Even if you don't believe in contributing to the general fund (where your money can go basically anywhere), you can still donate to specific departments or causes. Please keep in mind the special people who made a positive impact on your journey!

Sarah Edmonds

What is your preferred name?

Sarah
What is your major and minor?
English and Cinema majors and a Business Administration minor

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?

Nothing with the school, but I've worked on the crew at various film sets in the area.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

I've been a general member of groups like Alpha Lambda Delta and Sigma Tau Delta.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

Yes, because being here at McDaniel has let me meet so many amazing people who I have become close friends or work associates with.

Who do you think is/was your best mentor(s)?

There are too many to count, honestly. All of the professors at Mc-

Daniel have been amazing and they all are truly invested in their students. If I had to name a few, I would say that Professors Richard Brett and Jonathan Slade, and Doctors Pamela Regis and Robert Kachur have been some of the most supportive and helpful people I've ever met. They all motivate me to push the limits of my ability to improve (in most cases) my filmmaking and writing skills.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?

I don't think I could pick a specific memory, honestly. I just really enjoy every day I get to be with friends and work with professors on topics that are truly interesting.

What were some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?

Just trying to figure out what the best path to take has been the biggest challenge. What major to pick, whether or not to go to grad school,



Photo courtesy of Sarah Edmonds.

that kind of stuff. I don't know that I've necessarily "overcome" that, but I've realized that no matter what choice you make, it will be the best one if you keep an enthusiastic and optimistic attitude.

What are your plans for after graduation?

I'm going to be moving to Boston to go to Simmons College to get two M.S. degrees in Library and Information Science with a concentration in Archives and an M.A. in History.

What advice can you give to those not graduating?

Plan ahead for the big picture, but live spontaneously from day to day. That way, you'll always have fun, but never lose sight of your goals. Is there anything else you want to share with the McDaniel community?

Come to the Cinema Showcase on May 3 at 7 p.m.!

www.mcdanielfreepress.com

Will Giles

What is your preferred name?
Will (Giles)

What is your major and minor?
Communication Major

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?
Rec Lounge, CEO Study Abroad Ambassador, Enterprise Rent-A-Car Intern, Student Visitor on Board of Trustees

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?
Student Alumni Council (Fundraising), Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity (Recruitment, Treasurer, Vice President), Men’s Tennis (Captain Soph-Sen year),

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?
These were some of the best years of my life. Everything and everyone I came across in my four years made it the fond experience

I recount today as I fill out this form. I’ll have memories of my nutty fraternity brothers during tailgates, bus trips to and from tennis matches, and move in and graduation day for the rest of my life. I had nothing short of the perfect college experience here at McDaniel.

Who do you think is/was your best mentor(s)?
My sister was, and still is, my best mentor, having graduated from McDaniel herself in 2015. Her help with the transition into college life made me so much more comfortable on campus, and her example as an outstanding student, sister, and human being has helped prepare me for the real world.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?
The fact that there was always something to do, people to hang with, and fun to be had every second I was on campus.

What were some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?
I considered myself an outgoing person, but I never realized how uncomfortable it is to walk up to someone on the first day of orientation and start up a conversation with a peer. After a day or so, I realized the person sitting next to me felt the same way, and it might as well be me who started the conversation.

What are your plans for after graduation?
I plan on attending graduate school somewhere in a field unknown. God only knows where I will end up.

What advice can you give to those not graduating?
Take every opportunity to progress academically, socially, and spiritually during these four years. Growing is the most important thing



Photo courtesy of Will Giles.

college does for you, and that growth manifests itself in different ways for everyone.

Rebecca Debinski

What is your preferred name?
Rebecca

What is your major and minor?
Spanish Major, Elementary Education Minor

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?
While at McDaniel, I have been a tutor, a babysitter, and a substitute teacher for Carroll County Public Schools.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?
At McDaniel, I was a member of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. I am a Small Group Leader (we meet on Monday nights at 7:00 in Hill 004), but I have also been on the Exec Team. Regarding athletics, I was a member of the Cross Country and Track & Field Teams. Regarding academics, I am a member of the Honors Program, Global Fellows, Phi Beta Kappa, Alpha Lambda Delta, Phi Sigma Iota, and Kappa Delta Pi (of which I am currently Vice President).

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?
Yes, I did enjoy my time at McDaniel! I enjoyed spending time with friends whether we were running, at Bible Study, going to DC, hiking, eating, or doing homework.

Who do you think is/was your best mentor(s)?
In the Education Department: Dr. Craig and Dr. Swartz
In the Spanish Department: Dr. Deveny and Dra. McNichols

What is your best memory at McDaniel?
I have so many great memories from my time at McDaniel! I think my best memory at McDaniel is doing homework in the library with Francisco Romero.

What were some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?
The biggest challenge of college was my freshman year, when I was anemic and anorexic. That was a big challenge to my physical health and athletic performance and this also

brought a lot of anxiety. However, God is good! Through His grace, my growth in my faith, and seeing a dietician and therapist, I was able to go beyond those challenges. *If you can identify with this, please tell someone who can help you, even though it will be hard. You can do it!*

What are your plans for after graduation?
After graduation, I will go to California! Throughout the summer I will be traveling to different states but I will volunteer at 4H Camp when I am in Carroll County. In the fall, I hope to be working in a Maryland school as a teacher.

What advice can you give to those not graduating?
Keep working hard. Remember to have fun. Be safe. My mom would definitely say “Make good choices!”

Is there anything else you want to share with the McDaniel community?
One of my new favorite quotes is from Hank Green. He said, “Read

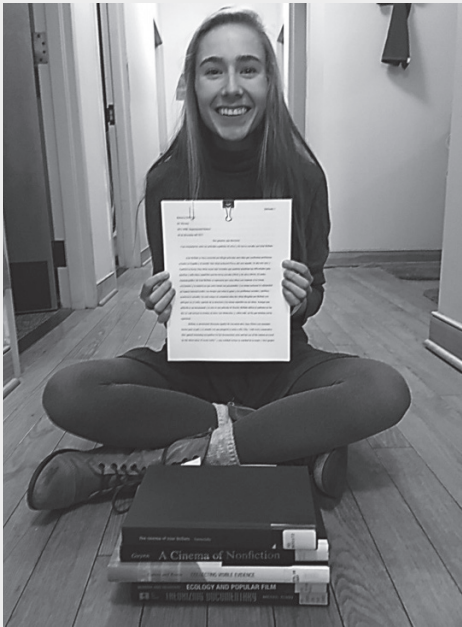


Photo courtesy of Rebecca Debinski.

books. Care about things. Get excited. Try not to be too down on yourself. Enjoy the ever present game of knowing.”

Valerie Lamb

What is your preferred name?
Valerie Lamb

What is your major and minor?
Political Science with a minor in Acting

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?
I work at the Front Desk in the Gill Center for most of my time here, and I interned with the United States Mint over the summer which was an amazing experience.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?
I was a part of the Women’s Softball Team and on their leadership team, I was Sisterhood Development Chair and Community Service Chair for Phi Mu Women’s Fraternity, Alpha Psi Omega Theater Honor Society, Phi Beta Kappa, and Green Terror Programs.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?
I definitely enjoyed my time here at McDaniel. I got to meet some of my closest friends here, and I’ll never forget some of the memories we had, like living on the first floor of Blanche as sophomores, winning a Centennial Conference Championship, and being a part of two awesome theater productions



Photo courtesy of Valerie Lamb.

here.

Who do you think is/was your best mentor(s)?
It’s so hard to choose! I’ve had amazing experiences with a lot of professors at McDaniel. Some of my favorites include Dr. Dundes, Dr. Leahy and Gené Fouche. They’ve all helped me in different ways and represent the different paths I took while here.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?

My best memory at McDaniel was probably getting into both Streetcar and Carrie the Musical my Senior year. I had always wanted to be in a show, but I didn’t know if I’d have the time or if I’d be able to do get in if I auditioned. I got into both and enjoyed every second of it!

What were some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?
Some of my challenges include managing my time as a student-

athlete and making new friends while being so far away from home (Miami, FL), but I overcame them by branching out my sophomore year and joining organizations and planning out my schedule in advance.

What are your plans for after graduation?
Currently, I am in the process of applying for internships in the D.C. area and recent graduate programs. I am hoping to work there for a year, and then apply for law schools in the area.

What advice can you give to those not graduating?
Do what you really love and don’t let anyone stop you. College gives you four years to do things you can’t do when you’re a full adult with a job and bills to pay, you might as well use it to do the things you’ve always wanted to do.

Is there anything else you want to share with the McDaniel community?
Use your resources! The best thing you can do to benefit your future is go to your professors and people around you for advice. Also, don’t be afraid to step outside your comfort zone!

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What is your preferred name?
Ash Kwiatkowski (They/Them)
What is your major and minor?
I'm a philosophy major.
What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?
I was the president of Social/Civil/Human, and during my years here, I was a member of the Gender and Sexuality Alliance, Magic: The Gathering Club, and Global Zero.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?
McDaniel feels like home to me. I discovered my identity here (thanks GSA), and I've grown here as an academic, activist, and person. Also, thanks to my professors, I've been able to explore topics and do projects that I honestly doubt I could have explored at other colleges.

Who do you think is/was your best mentor(s)?
My best mentors have and always will be my peers. I learned a lot from my friends here, and there's no way I could mention them all. That being said, I also need to mention my advisor, Dr. Grosz. She has believed in me and my ability, allowing me

to research and study topics that interest me, and utilize creative outlets to express my beliefs.
What is your best memory at McDaniel?
There are so many good memories that I've had thanks to McDaniel. My study abroad trips to Ireland and Germany, the myriad of events I've held with my organization and others, but my best memories have been from both creating and preparing The Gay Agenda this year as part of my Senior Seminar.
What were some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?
I was never the best when it came to academics, and I still struggle to this day. I've always found the education system to be a drag, because I had to do that stuff over what I actually wanted to do. Yet as the years went on, I found ways to merge the two through my major, and now I'm able to thrive in academic settings whereas years ago I barely tried.
What are your plans for after graduation?
I'm going to take a bit of a break

before anything else; I'm not planning on going straight into graduate school. That being said, I will probably try to get a job in the nonprofit sector, and I will definitely continue working on The Gay Agenda.
What advice can you give to those not graduating?
Don't listen to anyone but yourself. There will be people out there who tell you that you can't do something. I had doubters when I told people about the projects that I wanted to do, or the change that I wanted to make. People told me that The Gay Agenda was too ambitious, that I wouldn't have it ready in time, yet I did. To quote one of my favorite YouTubers, Casey Neistat, "Do what you can't."
Is there anything else you want to share with the McDaniel community?
I'm going to miss you all! I'll try to visit, but Hawaii is kind of far away.



Photo courtesy of Ash Kwiatkowski.

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Ryan Grant

What is your preferred name?
What is your major and minor?
Preferred name is Ryan, double major in Chem and Philosophy.
What are some of the jobs you



Photo courtesy of Ryan Grant.

held while at McDaniel?
Worked in the CEO for 2 years, and at the golf shop for a semester.
What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?
I was co-chairman for relay for life for 3 years, member of SAE, held Treasurer, VP, Webmaster, and Ritual Chair.
Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?
I did enjoy my time at McDaniel, the classes were engaging and fun to take part in, and the atmosphere around campus was always great.
Who do you think is/was your best mentor(s)?
I would say my best mentor would be Dr. Ferraris in the Chemistry department. He was a great help for my process of applying to graduate school, working through my capstone project, and was always just a great person to talk to when I had questions or even just some time to spare during his office hours.
What is your best memory at McDaniel?
My best memory would probably

be Homecoming of 2017. The tailgating was a great time as it always is, I enjoyed spending the time with my fraternity as well as some recent alumni and old friends coming back to take part in it all. All in all, it was a great experience.
A close second would be my time spent doing summer chemistry research with Dr. Ferraris. It was a very rewarding and educational experience that really pushed me towards applying to graduate school, based off of how much I enjoyed it. Without it, I'm not sure exactly what I would have chosen to do after graduating from McDaniel.
What were some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?
One of the challenges I ran into was simple time management. I took the maximum number of credits available for most of my time at McDaniel, and I was also trying to balance a part time job with my classes. I didn't always succeed with the balance and I had some long stressful nights of doing assignments that were due the following morning,

but understanding the time needed for certain assignments is key. I didn't have as much free time not spent with doing work, but I had enough to keep me happy and less stressed.
What are your plans for after graduation?
After graduating I plan on attending UMBC in pursuit of a Ph.D in Chemistry, which I hope to complete within the next 5 years. After that, we'll see where it takes me.
What advice can you give to those not graduating?
For those not yet graduating, make sure and enjoy the time you have here, because after you get to your senior year and planning for everything after, real life hits you a bit harder than you think. So live it up while you can, but keep your future in mind and always strive for your goals. Don't give up when things get hard, start thinking about life after graduation before your senior year, and best of luck to you.

Hanna Murchake

What is your preferred name?
Hanna Murchake
What is your major and minor?
Psychology major double minor in Gerontology and Sociology
What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?
The last three years of college I worked as a Resident Assistant as well within Admissions.
What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?
All four years at McDaniel I have participated in the Dance Company and choreographed for last three. I was also the President of Student Alumni Council for three years.
Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?
I absolutely enjoyed being on the Hill. I was able to get to know people that I would have never met while still working towards my dreams.
Who do you think is/was your

best mentor(s)?
Dr. Holly Chalk and Alexandra DeJohn. Dr. Chalk pushed me academically while still being supportive while Alex taught me to grow as a leader on campus. Both of them have pushed me to the best that I can be and take risks that have paid off for me in the long run.
What is your best memory at McDaniel?
Anytime I am dancing is a good memory. Dance has been my release from school and work throughout college and I only have happy memories around it. I have danced with many different girls and each day in the studio was always fun and never too serious. Each year people graduate but more come in as well with different styles of dance so I was able to stretch out of my comfort zone.
What were some of the challenges you encountered and how did you

overcome them?
My biggest challenge while here was writing a manuscript for publication while also preparing for graduate school interviews and capstone. The best advice to get through everything is to know your resources and supports. There is nothing that a good night in the library with friends can't fix when it comes to school.
What are your plans for after graduation?
I will be going to Virginia Tech to get my Master's in Counseling. Go Hokies!!!
What advice can you give to those not graduating?
As corny as it is enjoy your time here at McDaniel. It goes by way too fast to only be worried about class. Join a club or two just to get out of your comfort zone and meet people that you never would have otherwise.



Photo courtesy of Hanna Murchake.

Phuc Truong

What is your preferred name?
Just Phuc

What is your major and minor?
I'm a Chemistry major and Physics minor.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?
I was a Resident Assistant for ANW in my sophomore year. In my senior year, I'm a Peer Mentor for the FYS "A World of Light and Color." I am also a tutor and lab assistant for the Chemistry department.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?
I was the Vice-President of Asian Community Coalition in my sophomore year and I am currently the President of Heroes Helping Hopkins. I am also a brother of Alpha Phi Omega.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?
McDaniel has its moment, but my time here was made special because of my friends, clubs, and professors.

Who do you think is/was your best mentor(s)?
When I didn't have any summer



Photo courtesy of Phuc Truong.

internships in my sophomore year, Dr. Ferraris took me in his research project. He has given me so much guidance in research and applying myself. I've gone places since then and he played a big part in it.

What is your best memory at

McDaniel?
Dumpster diving in senior week. Or Spring Fling 2016.

What were some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?
Definitely the lack of resources

for science majors. I already expected that when I came to McDaniel. But overall, the science departments did a great job with doing all they could to support their students. I tried using all of the resources available and applying myself for external opportunities. In the end, it kinda worked out.

What are your plans for after graduation?
I will begin my graduate studies at University of California, Santa Barbara to pursue a PhD in Materials Science. Before doing that, my summer is for traveling and not caring.

What advice can you give to those not graduating?
Sometimes you might feel like you're going nowhere. I feel that way too pretty much all the time. Stay positive, work hard, seize every opportunity, and you'll get to where you want to be. Maybe better.

Is there anything else you want to share with the McDaniel community?
Good luck, and 🙌

Mirii Rep

What is your preferred name?
Mirii Rep

What is your major and minor?
Psychology major, bio minor

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?
I've been an admissions ambassador, a writing center tutor, a peer mentor, a parent preview guide, and I have worked for the library.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?
I was Vice-President and Weekend Blitz Chair of Green Terror Programs. I was the Leader of the Transfer Peer Mentors this past year for the First Stop Office. I have also served as Secretary, Academic Excellence Committee Head, and Discipline Committee Head of Phi Mu Fraternity.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?
Yes! I made strong, everlasting

friendships, connected with my professors, and was given incredible opportunities along the way.

Who do you think is/was your best mentor(s)?
I think Dr. Ferraris from the Chemistry department because he made me appreciate my liberal arts education and helped me figure out what I wanted to do directly after college.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?
I don't think I have a specific memory. My favorite memories, overall, are spending these last four years laughing and struggling together with my best friend and roommate, Rayva. College would not have been the same without you!

What were some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?
I think McDaniel's need to charge you for about everything except

breathing mad budgeting really hard. I didn't really overcome it, I am still poor. Besides that, McDaniel has no actual pre-med major so it was difficult to plan my schedule.

What are your plans for after graduation?
Shortly after graduation I will attend Johns Hopkins University for their Post-Bac Health Science Intensive to receive a masters and hopefully get into medical school.

What advice can you give to those not graduating?
Stay on top of your finances. Fight for what you want and you deserve. Trust and respect your professors. Oh, and don't park in faculty parking because campo's tickets add up.

Is there anything else you want to share with the McDaniel community?
Good luck, y'all.



Photo courtesy of Mirii Rep.

Cam Ostrander



Photo by Marya Topina.

What is your preferred name?
Cam

What is your major and minor?
English Major, Secondary Education Minor

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?
I love working as a writing center

tutor, and over the summers I have stayed on campus as a researcher for the Westminster Detective Library.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?
I am the Co-Chancellor of Danger Sauce, McDaniel's improv comedy troupe.

I have also been a member of the men's soccer team and the Honor & Conduct Board.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?
These 4 years on the Hill have been packed with experience; full of friends, mentors, learning, adventures, and laughs. I've pursued every path I wanted, made lasting relationships, and seen my friends achieve great things.

Who do you think is/was your best mentor(s)?
To pick one mentor would be impossible, as I've been blessed. Dean Breslin has inspired me to strive further constantly, illuminated the good when I needed, and personified class. Dr. Mary has been my rock, and without her, I could have never pursued all the paths I wanted, such as studying abroad, working on campus over summers, or navigating

the English/Secondary Ed program. Professor Ambrose gave me my first job on campus, connected me with an organization in Budapest where I ended up leading an English class, teaching immigrants and refugees, and has always made me feel at home. Dr. Muhlhauser and Dr. Kachur have encouraged me to pursue academia to my fullest potential, opening doors for me that I would have never imagined.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?
To pick a single 'best' memory is impossible. However, I know the moment that I will leave as my legacy is Belly Full of Laughs, Danger Sauce's annual comedy extravaganza. That show is a platform for the incredibly talented comedians I work with to make a huge crowd laugh, and having created a sustainable program on campus is one of my greatest prides.

What were some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?
Finding support from others has been the key to overcoming every challenge I've faced. When I was diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes freshman year, Dean Breslin guided

my healing process, and my friends normalized the shocking news. When I wanted to study abroad, Dr. Mary made it possible, Professor Ambrose was a constant source of support, and I had friends around the world to adventure with. In a gloomy time, I auditioned for Danger Sauce, and they brought me into the family, bringing me laughter and giving me a place to explore and find myself. Finally, whenever I've thought that I was the greatest, I've had friends to remind me of reality and make me laugh and enhance my perspective.

What are your plans for after graduation?
I plan to be teaching high school English in Maryland, laying the foundation for the next chapter of my life.

What advice can you give to those not graduating?
Spend time with and have faith in others. Adventure with your friends, seek out the advice of mentors, and be open to experiencing all college has to offer with those around you.

Is there anything else you want to share with the McDaniel community?
I love you, thanks for filling my life with the good stuff.

Tabitha Schade

What is your preferred name?
Tabitha Schade

What is your major and minor?
Major: Environmental Studies with a Specialization in Policy and Management
Minors: German, Writing, and Urban and Community Studies

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?

- Peer Mentor
- Peer Tutor for SASS

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

- Green Life (Treasurer, Vice President, President)
- Green Terror Revolving Fund (active sitting student committee member)
- Omicron Delta Kappa
- Trumpeters Honor Society
- Alpha Lambda Delta First Year Honor Society
- German Club

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?
Yes. As a dedicated student to academics, I have found that my time at McDaniel has allowed me to foster

my own mental growth. But on top of this, I have also had the opportunity to grow as a person and realize many things about myself that may have otherwise not been possible had I not decided to branch out and come to college a good distance from my home in Pennsylvania.

Who do you think is/was your best mentor(s)?
Honestly, I don't think that I had one single mentor during my four years here at McDaniel. Being involved in a number of organizations and different academic disciplines, I have met many educated and wonderful people. Each and every one of them has in some way had an impact on my time here and given me direction which I will be able to utilize later on in life.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?
I would have to say that collectively, my senior year has been the best memory to date. The first three years of my time here at McDaniel, I was constantly overwhelmed with academics. Although I sit here grateful for my activism in taking all my re-

quired courses and building the basis for a great GPA, it was a great ability of mine to be able to relax and enjoy my senior year, while simultaneously taking the necessary time to find what I needed for post-graduation.

What were some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?
I think many of the challenges that I faced at McDaniel were personal ones. Both upon entry and even now I regrettably must say, I don't know exactly the answer to the famous question of "what do you want to do when you grow up?". For this reason, I was able to sometimes very quickly lose motivation and optimism, especially if things weren't going my way. However, through the close relationships that I maintained with my boyfriend, friends, and family back home, I was always able to be reminded of the greater things in life.

What are your plans for after graduation?
I will be staying at McDaniel for just the summer to volunteer as the Environmental Health & Safety intern, which I hope will prove as



Photo courtesy of Tabitha Schade.

a great jumping point to begin my career.

What advice can you give to those not graduating?
Make the most of every experience you encounter, whether it be a social or academic one, you can choose how that instance can impact your life.

Allison Parker



Photo courtesy of Allison Parker.

What is your preferred name?
Allison

What is your major and minor?
I'm an Environmental Biology

major with a minor in French.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?
I was a model for the art department and an RA in Blanche for a year.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?
I was in Alpha Phi Omega for a semester, and currently I'm in Ars Nova, Danger Sauce, and I'm the

co-president of the French Club.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?
Heck yeah! I met some of my best friends my sophomore year and

we've hung out ever since! I also joined Danger Sauce my junior year, so I've had plenty of fun during practices and at shows!

Who do you think is/was your best mentor(s)?
Dr. Holly Martinson in the Biology department has been an amazing mentor! I took her ecology class last fall, and she helped send my lab group to a conference to present our research from class. She's also my capstone advisor and has been such a big help with the whole capstone paper coming together.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?
There are too many, but the first annual Belly Full of Laughs was amazing! I did a really good impression of Santa and Jason Swartz was

Little Timmy who came to see Santa at the mall. It was hilarious. I think there is a video online somewhere...

What are your plans for after graduation?
I'd like to get a lab or field technician job somewhere, but in November I'm applying for a program to teach English in Japan for a year. Long term, though, I'd like to get my Ph.D in applied ecology and conservation.

What advice can you give to those not graduating?
Do as much as you can now while you're on this campus so you don't have any regrets after you graduate! This is the best time of your life to meet people around your age and make relationships that last a lifetime.

Teryn Rath

What is your preferred name and major?
Teryn and Kinesiology.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?
I am a SASS tutor and the unofficial mom of the volleyball team.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?
I was a member of the McDaniel Volleyball team and I was a co-captain of that team. I am also a member of Phi Beta Kappa

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?
Yes, it was a wonderful experience. The volleyball team became my sisters and we shared a lot of success and hardship together. I made some really wonderful friends because of my time here, including my best friend who I never would have met otherwise. Campus is gorgeous, and there are so many wonderful professors and faculty here who really helped me through some rough patches and encouraged me to keep working.

Who do you think is/was your best mentor(s)?
My coach Jess Wolverton was instrumental in my discovery of McDaniel as well as an amazing mentor and leader. She is such an amazing woman who taught me so many

things about life. She always expects the best of us and pushed me personally to discover my strengths on and off the volleyball court. All of the professors in the Kinesiology department are wonderful instructors and caring people. They were understanding and helpful when I needed them to be and I like to think of them more as friends than anything else. And even though I only had her for one class, Dr. Staab was an exceptional teacher and helped to rekindle my curiosity and love of learning.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?
My best memory would have to be during my sophomore year when my team won the Conference Championship. That game went to a fifth set and the last couple of points were terrifying because the game could have gone either way. But when we got that last block and it sunk in that we had actually won, we rushed the court. Everyone was cheering and crying and hugging. It was an experience that I will never forget and will cherish for the rest of my life.

What were some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?
The first challenge was being so far from my family. They're in

California and it was hard to be away from them and miss my siblings growing up. I overcame this challenge by learning to rely on others, particularly my team. They were always willing to give me a hug and listen to me brag about my little brother and sisters. I was also the only one on campus who was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormon), which was quite difficult. I grew up in a large Mormon community, so it was a bit of a shock being on my own. But I was able to make friends who, even if they don't share my beliefs, were true friends and accepted me despite our differences. The hardest challenge was during my junior year. I got a concussion before school started during volleyball practice. It lasted for six weeks, which meant that I couldn't contribute to my team and made it hard to go to class and pay attention. All of my professors were incredibly understanding and made sure that I knew that my health was the first priority, which allowed me to focus on getting better instead of stressing about the tests I was missing. Dean Breslin was instrumental in that process and I couldn't have done it without her, or Coach.

What are your plans for after graduation?

I will be coaching the JV volleyball team at my high school and preparing to enter grad school to pursue a career in occupational therapy.

What advice can you give to those not graduating?
Keep at it. Work hard and don't give up. But also remember to have fun and relax every now and then. Go to sporting events, take walks around campus, and hang out with friends. It's cliché, but your time here will go by in the blink of an eye.

Is there anything else you want to share with the McDaniel community?
Thank you for making my time at McDaniel memorable.



Photo courtesy of Teryn Rath.

Jackie Sherwin

What is your preferred name?
Jackie Sherwin

What is your major and minor?
I am a psychology and music double major.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?
I didn't hold a steady job affiliated with McDaniel, as my primary job for my junior and senior years was at Panera Bread in Westminster, but I played trumpet in the pit band for McDaniel's production of Hair in 2016, and I played a few other trumpet gigs on campus as well.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?
I was the secretary for Heroes Helping Hopkins, and I was involved in musical ensembles such as Pep Band, Jazz Band, College Band, College Choir, and Madrigal Singers.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?
I did enjoy my time here. I made a number of amazing friends, and I had so many great experiences here. Not everything was great all of the time, but the good definitely outweighed the bad.

Who do you think is/was your best mentor(s)?

I've encountered a lot of people who were incredibly beneficial for me here. Nick Reider, my trumpet instructor, and Tim Jenkins, my jazz band instructor, were both incredibly influential, as they both believed in me and encouraged me to take risks with regards to music that I would not have taken otherwise. Dr. Chalk and Dr. McDevitt in the psychology department were also wonderful as well. This person was not a faculty member, but Mollie Murphy was also kind of a mentor figure as well, as Mollie is a year older than me and provided me with tons of advice that helped me immensely during my time here.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?
To be honest, there are so many to where it's difficult to narrow it down to one. I lived with 3 good friends in one of the quads in McDaniel Hall during my sophomore year, and that was an absolute blast. I have a lot of memories with my jazz band friends as well, including the Monday night post-rehearsal shenanigans over at the Pub, in addition to the post-concert IHOP or Denny's visits. Also, I have only been in Madrigal Singers for a year, but

I have had a lot of fun performing with friends, so I look back on those memories fondly.

What were some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?
In March 2016, a close friend of mine unexpectedly passed away, and that was definitely difficult to cope with. I had a great support system, so that definitely helped. Also, I have overscheduled myself multiple times throughout my college experience, so I needed to examine my priorities and focus my attention on those in order to get myself back on track.

What are your plans for after graduation?
I intend to go to graduate school for mental health counseling, and I would like to get a full-time job in my field. I would also still like to play music on the side, as that has been something I have really enjoyed.

What advice can you give to those not graduating?
Try not to compare yourself to others. You may see someone who may seem more successful than you and you may think about yourself in a negative light, but it's not helpful and it certainly is not fair to yourself. Be proud of what you have accom-



Photo courtesy of Jackie Sherwin.

plished, without becoming complacent. Also, some sleep is better than no sleep. I highly do not recommend all-nighters.

Is there anything else you want to share with the McDaniel community?
To the ones who will still be at McDaniel: Don't be afraid to take risks. Try out for that musical that you love, but you don't think you could be a part of. Take a class that seems interesting, but is not in your field(s) of study. Also, take care of yourself! Your mental health is just as important as your physical health.

Chloe Ouimette

What is your preferred name?
Chloe Ouimette

What is your major and minor?
Major: Kinesiology

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?
I have worked in the Office of Student Engagement for 3 years now. More specifically I have been an Engagement Peer. I have also worked Parent Preview for 3 years as well.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

- Love Your Melon: Member (Fall 2017- Current) // Vice Crew Captain (Spring 2017-Spring 2018)
- Green Terror Programs: Member (Fall 2016-Spring 2017) // Vice President (Fall 2016-Spring 2017)
- Alpha Sigma Tau Sorority: Member (Spring 2015-Current) // Vice President of Community Relations (Fall 2016 – Fall 2017)
- Alpha Lambda Delta First Year Honors Society

- Order of Omega Greek Honors Society
- Gamma Sigma Alpha Honors Society
- Phi Beta Kappa National Honors Society

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?
I have loved my time here. It has truly been a highlight of my life. I have made amazing friends that will last a lifetime. I also have built relationships with faculty and staff members that will further me in my future.

Who do you think is/was your best mentor(s)?
I have had the opportunity to work with many role models throughout my time here. I think my advisor, Dr. McCole, has been the best mentor I could have asked for. He has helped to guide me throughout my entire college career and now my post-graduate career.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?

My fondest memory at McDaniel is probably joining my sorority. It was such an amazing experience running down the steps of the library into the arms of my sorority sisters.

What were some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?
I had bi-lateral hip surgeries the summer between my sophomore and junior year. I was in miserable pain all sophomore year leading up to the operations. It was extremely challenging to sit through my classes and even sit to do homework. My professors were extremely understanding and were immensely helpful to manage my course work.

What are your plans for after graduation?
I will be attending Arcadia University's Doctor of Physical Therapy program come August.

What advice can you give to those not graduating?
I know everyone says this, but you don't realize how true it is until you



Photo courtesy of Chloe Ouimette.

are leaving: savor the time you have here. Once you graduate, you won't be right next door to your best friends anymore. You won't be able to put off being an adult.

Dori Nance

What is your preferred name?
Dori. Psychology major and American Sign Language minor.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?
Resident Assistant, Head Resident Assistant, Admissions Ambassador, and this semester I'm an ASL tutor!

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?
Swing and Ballroom Dance Club Co-Founder and Co-President for two years; Alpha Phi Omega Service Vice President for my first semester, Pledge Mom for one year, and Secretary for one semester; Honor and Conduct Board member, and many internships.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?
I don't want to leave McDaniel! As soon as I got to campus, this school became my home. I actually stayed on campus every summer-- I never left! I'm sure this is everyone's response, but the people that you

meet here are amazing. Whether I'm meeting people through work, or I chat with someone just because I've seen them around almost every day for a year. Everyone is so nice, which was such a culture shock when I got here freshman year. I've loved that even though it's such a small campus, I could set myself up for completely new experiences all the time, and meet a whole new group of people.

Who do you think is/was your best mentor(s)?
This is maybe the hardest question on this list. As I mentioned before, the people here have been my favorite part. The number of faculty and staff that have gone out of their way to help me navigate life decisions, that have cried with me, laughed with me, brought me coffee on a bad day-- I could go on and on. The support that I've felt here has made such a deep impact on me. It's one of the reasons this school felt like home-- I had people



Photo courtesy of Dori Nance.

stepping in as family. This has come from faculty, my admissions family, and my RA staff. The people here have truly become my family.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?
My favorite memories here have been travel. I was born and raised in MD, and had barely left the state when I got here freshman year. Ex-

iting my senior year, though, I have been to three countries and have decided to move to the West coast! Traveling with the Jan. Term courses was the best decision I've ever made. Quite literally, my whole world has opened up! I plan to continue to travel and experience as much as possible.

What are your plans for after graduation?
I've decided to take a gap year before I go to grad school, and I want to do that in a new place, so now I'm in the process of applying for jobs in Arizona! In June, I will be taking a U-Haul across the country with my cat!

What advice can you give to those not graduating?
My advice: apply for everything, but know your limits. I've spent a lot of time focusing on what looks good on a resume, but forgetting to take care of myself too. Find a balance. Find your limit. Learn when to take a step back and say no. This took me a long time to learn, and I'm still working on it.

What is your preferred name?
Most people call me Sami, but I don't care if call me Samantha.

What is your major and minor?
I am a French and Political Science double major with an international studies focus.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?

Oh, buddy. I worked as a Shift Lead at the Phone Center for three semesters. I've been a Writing Tutor for the Writing Center since my freshman year. I worked as a Student Ambassador for the International Programs office for the semester before I went to France. I worked for Admissions for two semesters.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

I have been part of Global Fellows for the past three years, holding a variety of colloquium discussion leader and committee positions; I have been a student juror on the Honor and Conduct Board for the past four years; a Peer Mentor and Project Team Leader for the 2015-2016 First Year Program. Probably something else, but I don't remember. I am the chair of the Marketing and Branding Committee for the Writing Center.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

My time at McDaniel has been very well spent, in my opinion. When McDaniel was suggested to me as a place to apply by an alumna, she specifically told me that McDaniel is a college that

gives back what you put into it--if I had really wanted to slide through the cracks, I could have. However, I knew that when I made the decision to come here, I was going to put my heart into growing myself as not only a student, but as a person. I believe that if I hadn't invested my time in McDaniel and forming the relationships with my peers and professors, I would be less 'full' as an individual.

Who do you think is/was your best mentor(s)?

In my opinion, a combination of Dr. Baage, Dr. Motard-Noar, and Dr. Scullion are my best mentors at McDaniel. An important quality of a mentor is not only to provide unwavering support, but the willingness to be a source of intellectual challenges. The French department has been with me since my first day at McDaniel, and both of these women have pushed me to become a deeper analytical thinker. Dr. Scullion, while he hasn't been my academic advisor officially, has contributed tremendously to my professional career development and has been a strong guiding force in developing my passions and character.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?

My best memory would definitely be every single time school was conveniently cancelled.

What were some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?

I struggled with homesickness my

freshman year, because my family was all the way across the country; I also struggled with finding my solid group of friends. I joined a sorority because I thought it would help--it has been more of a social stress for the past four years, and while I have made some lifelong friends in the group, I never found myself convinced by the 'sisterhood'. To overcome these challenges, I redirected my energy to focus on my studies and to improve myself as not only an academic but as a citizen. Finding solidarity in solitude is a sad statement to make, but by becoming a stronger person, I attracted people who shared the same values that I did, therefore making my community.

What are your plans for after graduation?

I am a Fulbright scholar, so I will be spending the next year in Côte d'Ivoire, working with the American embassy and a local university to enhancing intercultural learning and teaching English. After I come back, I have the goal of applying to either graduate or law school; I want to do something with the environment, women's rights, and non-profit development.

What advice can you give to those not graduating?

Honestly, you will reach a point where you will feel the pressure of all your obligations pressing down upon you, and you will feel like all that you're doing is not going to be enough



Photo courtesy of Sami Wilson.

in the end; this is wrong. No one cares about GPA after college, no one cares if you were the president of whatever sorority, no one cares if you made it into that honors society. What people care about is whether or not you are a competent adult with useful skills and initiative.

Is there anything else you want to share with the McDaniel community?

Just remember that this is a temporary bubble in every regard--you have four years to foster your defining qualities and experiences, so don't let the trivial shit get you down. Bigger and better, my dudes.



Photo by Kyle Parks.

What is your preferred name?
Ben Kahn

What is your major and minor?
• Political Science: American
• Minor: Sociology

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

I played Football and was a part of Dangersauce, Progressive Student Union, and Music Meditation.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

Yeah, I enjoyed it. It is what you make it, and I feel like I had a groovy time.

Who do you think is/was your best mentor(s)?

Dr. Smith, Dr. Leahy, and Dr. Monigiello are all folks I admire greatly. I appreciate their knowledge and teaching ability more than words can tell.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?

My best memory has to be winning the homecoming game against Dickinson my Junior year. Good times.

What are your plans for after graduation?

I'm planning on attending Duquesne School of Law.

What advice can you give to those not graduating?

Advice: Stay Hard.

Ben Kahn

What is your preferred name and your major and minor?

My name is Mable Buchanan, and I'm an English major and Spanish minor.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?

While I was at McDaniel I worked in a couple of different places. I worked for the phone center, Admissions, the Office of Student Engagement, and JeannieBird Baking Company on Main Street.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

I did enjoy my time at McDaniel! I tried to make it my own by trying to be as interdisciplinary and creative as possible. I was lucky to have two

amazing independent studies, and to get to work on some really fun independent research projects through the Honors Program and summer research in the English Department, and I filled my schedule every semester (though I don't necessarily recommend that). In my academic life I was trying to make the most of every second, and in my personal life I was lucky to find some wonderful friends from all over campus who helped to make every day unforgettable.

Who do you think is/was your best mentor(s)?

I had so many mentors at McDaniel! There is so much to learn from every single person here. Some people who I learned a lot from are Dr. Bendel-Simso in English, Dr. Upton in History, Dr. Regis in English, and Carol Zaru in Arabic, and my favorite class was Poe with Dr. Kachur. I know that wasn't part of the question, but that was the perfect class and anyone interested in the sensation tale or Antebellum authors should take it so they can all read Poe and be happy together.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?

My best memory at McDaniel is still the 3K that I ran with Lucy Benson and Mollie Murphy my junior year, where I was seated last (expected to run 5 minutes slower than the

next slowest runner) and they both ran the race with me and helped me hit a faster pace so I wouldn't have to run alone. I have so much to thank the Cross-Country and Track teams for, even just helping me to discover something that makes me a stronger and happier person! Now I'm starting a new set of training after finishing my first half marathon ever, and I feel really lucky that the program welcomed me my junior year (despite my utter lack of skill or experience) and that Coach Renner helped and encouraged me through each meet, practice, and round of shin splints until I was able to grow as an athlete both physically and mentally.

What were some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?

There definitely were challenges. When I began to make a point of trying new things, (chemistry, ASL, and music theory would be good examples) at first it was really disheartening when many of them didn't come naturally. But some of my professors were very supportive and helped me, and I learned both to not give up and to celebrate small successes. There were few woes that office hours, long nights in the library, a long run to think, and Ben & Jerry's dairy-free ice cream couldn't help alleviate, and even those woes helped me to learn more about my limits and how to healthily go beyond them.

What are your plans for after graduation?

My plans for post-graduation are still dependent on where I hear back

from, but in general I would be really happy to pursue a career in a field where I can use creativity to help people.

What advice can you give to those not graduating?

My advice to anyone not graduating is to try new things (even the ones you're not good at!), make a point of doing things you're afraid of (it's worth it, I promise), and to appreciate the people around you! Some of the most rewarding experiences I had at McDaniel were the result of joining groups or communities I would never have expected to be a part of, learning from professors from very different disciplines, and working outside of my comfort zone. Make the most of every second!

Is there anything else you want to share with the McDaniel community?

I am so grateful for my time at McDaniel and happy that I was able to find the kind of place that fosters creativity, is interdisciplinary and globally-minded by necessity, and encourages students to succeed but also provides the challenges we need to grow. I would also like to share that my final project in the Honors Program is a rap musical puppet show about my Edgar Allan Poe research, because I think that sums up exactly both how I approached my time at college and how McDaniel stepped up and gave me the opportunity to explore, be creative, and put heart into every new thing that I learned.



Photo courtesy of Mable Buchanan.

Mable Buchanan

Alex Tolle

What is your preferred name?
Alex Tolle

What is your major and minor?
Communication/Theatre Arts double major

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?
Since sophomore year, I have been a Student Ambassador for the Admissions department. Junior year I was a peer mentor, and this year I began working for the Communications and Marketing department.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?
Since my freshman year, I've been a member of Alpha Psi Omega, the National Theatre Honors Fraternity. I served as its Vice President for the 2017/18 Academic Year.

My sophomore year, I joined Phi Alpha Mu, a social sorority, where I held positions like Vice President and Recruitment Chair.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?
I truly have enjoyed my time at McDaniel because I met so many people who have had an impact on my life, and that I know will be in my life for a long time to come.

Who do you think is/was your best mentor(s)?



Photo courtesy of Alex Tolle.

My best mentors are my theatre professors Elizabeth van den Berg and Gené Fouché. They're strong, talented, and inspirational women. They encourage me and make me laugh, but are also the voice of reason and discipline when I need it. I am who I am today because of their constant guidance.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?
It's hard to pick just one, but

attending the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF) January of this year ranks pretty high up there. I had an incredible time with my friends and professor Elizabeth, and thanks to their support I won a National Arts Leadership Award that took me to the Kennedy Center in April – added bonus.

What were some of the challenges you encountered and how did you

overcome them?
The stress can sometimes be a hard burden to bear. There have been times where I have been incredibly overwhelmed and exhausted both emotionally and physically. To overcome this, I just tried to manage my time to the best of my ability and sometimes just took a moment to breathe, spend some time with friends, and do self-care.

What are your plans for after graduation?
I plan to go into the field of arts administration to continue my love of theatre and the arts. I also hope to audition for some shows on the side, because I don't think I'll ever be able to truly shake the performing bug.

What advice can you give to those not graduating?
You're going to blink and you're going to be graduating. It's crazy how fast time is going to move. Enjoy every second of it. Journal, take pictures, collect mementos. These are the memories you're going to look back on – don't let them slip away.

Is there anything else you want to share with the McDaniel community?
"If you stumble, make it part of the dance."

Bryan Bowen

What is your preferred name?
Bryan Bowen

What is your major and minor?
Theatre Arts

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?
Peer Mentor, Circulation Assistant at Hoover Library, Theatre Employment (Set Construction, props, etc.)

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

- Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity (Marshall)
- Alpha Psi Omega (Historian, Stage Parent)

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?
It's been a wild ride. These have been the best and worst times of my life. I wouldn't trade these four years for anything, though. I've learned so much, met incredible people, and found my passions.

Who do you think is/was your best mentor(s)?
The professors/teachers of our Theatre Department. They have shaped me, challenged me, laughed and cried with me. They are beyond mentors. They're friends.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?
I'm horrible at picking favorites but I will never forget all the nights of Assassin, watching the sunrise, and walking the town with some of my best friends.

What were some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?
It seems that there's never enough time. I guess that's life. You just have to find the moments where you can take a breath and focus on what matters. Sometimes the best way to overcome challenges is head-on, other times it's taking a nap and worrying

about it later.

What are your plans for after graduation?
I am moving to Chillicothe, Ohio the day of graduation to work as an actor and stuntman in Tecumseh!, an outdoor play!

What advice can you give to those not graduating?
Take time for the little things. A walk with friends, a jam session, coffee and some silence...these are sometimes the best memories you'll have. You're here to learn but the most important things you'll learn are often not in the classroom. Get out into the world and adventure. We were not made to simply work and then die. Live! Live no matter how bad it hurts at times and always remember that you are important.

Is there anything else you want to share with the McDaniel



Photo courtesy of Bryan Bowen.

community?
I am forever grateful for all of you, even if we didn't get to spend much time together. Thank you for giving me something so hard to say goodbye to.

Monica Patel

What is your preferred name?
Monica Patel

What is your major and minor?
Communication major and Business Administration major with a concentration in Marketing

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?
I was the Academic Affairs office Student Worker for two years, but that's it.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?
I joined Alpha Sigma Tau my freshman year, and have held a bunch of different positions, but my favorite was definitely New Member Educator. I'm the Vice President of both Alpha Lambda Delta First Year Honor Society and of Green Terror Programs, the student programming board. I'm also in Order of Omega Greek Honor Society and Lambda Pi Eta Communication Honor Society.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?
I loved my time at McDaniel. Between hanging out with my now lifelong friends and contributing as

much as I can to the organizations I was it, I stayed busy but happy.

Who do you think is/was your best mentor(s)?
Dean Breslin, without a doubt. She's in charge of my scholarship program, and she really became my on-campus mom. Her continuous and unwavering support really helped me get through my four years here.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?
Definitely studying abroad to the Budapest campus the fall semester of my junior year. My roommate and I went together, and we had such a great group of students go that semester where we all began such good friends, and even still hang out. Going to class during the week and exploring different countries each weekend was definitely a unique way to spend a few months.

What were some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?
I considered transferring after my first semester here, just because it didn't immediately feel like McDaniel was my home. I think most people

feel this way though, and once I came back from winter break, I immediately joined clubs and my sorority where I found friends and hobbies that I really enjoyed.

What are your plans for after graduation?
Working for a year or two in a marketing firm, and then grad school probably for an MBA.

What advice can you give to those not graduating?
I know most people are going to say this, but make the most of your limited time here. Before you know it, you're only a few weeks from graduation, with so many things still left on your college bucket list. Make memories early, and often.



Photo courtesy of Monica Patel.

Kristen Upton



Photo by Atticus Rice.

What is your preferred name?
Kristen.

What is your major and minor?
Chemistry with a specialization in Biochemistry and Exercise Chemistry majors and Biology minor.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?
Student Ambassador for Admissions and Peer Tutor for the SASS office.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?
Captain of the McDaniel Women’s Soccer Team (2017), President of Gamma Sigma Epsilon, Vice President of the Kinesiology Club, Secretary of Beta Beta Beta, President/Co-Founder of Pre-Health Club, Heroes Helping Hopkins, Alpha Lambda Delta, and Tournament of Champions member.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

I loved my time at McDaniel! It was so great to in part to the friends that I made, the groups I was a part of, and the places I got to travel to. I tried to get involved with different organizations on campus, and my main family became the women’s soccer team, and with all the time that we spent together on an off the field, they truly made me smile and laugh every day, and made sure I was being my best self. With all of the classes I was in and groups I was a part of, I met a lot of people who really made my time at McDaniel worthwhile.

Who do you think is/was your best mentor(s)?
Dr. Ferraris has been my main mentor during my time at McDaniel. He has helped to support me in

many aspects during my time here at McDaniel. He allowed me to gain research experience by working in his lab and presenting research at two national conferences. As our faculty advisor, he was always there to support me and my teammates during our season. He also helped guide me and support me with my future endeavors.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?
It’s hard to pick just one, but some of my favorite memories at McDaniel were the times I was able to go abroad. My first trip was a Jan Term to Italy, and it was amazing, interesting, and I was lucky because I got to share this experience with my best friends. This Jan Term was a photography class and we essentially got to be tourists and were encouraged to take a lot of pictures (which I definitely did). Our trip took us from Rome to Amalfi, then on a

ferry over to Sicily where we went almost all the way around the island. The sites, history, and the food were all amazing, and it was definitely a once-in-a-lifetime trip!

I was lucky because shortly after I was able to travel to Spain with my teammates, and traveling with twenty of my best friends made the experience even better. Our trip was split between the beaches and city of Barcelona, and in modern and historical Madrid. We were able to be tourists, explore the cities, eat some really good food, but we were also able to play in four international matches! My times traveling abroad were definitely some of my best memories at McDaniel, and I can not wait to travel again.

What were some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?
I think like any student-athlete, you have the challenge finding the

balance between academics, athletics, and social activities. You want to give your best on the field, in the classroom, and still be able to hang out and relax with your friends. The solution that I found was time management, and prioritizing activities. You can only have so many hours in the day, but I found that if you can focus and get your work done, you can compete with your teams, and still have the time to do the extra stuff you want to do. However, there are times that you have to prioritize, and make the decision of what you should/need to do over what you want to do.

What are your plans for after graduation?
My plans for after graduation include going to medical school.

What advice can you give to those not graduating?
Enjoy your time here, make memories, and have fun because it goes by faster than you think.

Is there anything else you want to share with the McDaniel community?
I would just like to say thank you to everyone who has made my time at McDaniel so memorable. Thank you to the professors that helped me to learn so much information. Thank you to my coaches that helped me play the sport I love for four more years. Thank you to my teammates, who are my second family, for all the jokes and laughter, the support, and four memorable seasons. Thank you to everyone that has helped me get from my first day at McDaniel all the way to graduation.

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Mark Gales

What is your preferred name?
Mark Gales

What is your major and minor?

- Major: Social Work
- Minor: Gerontology

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?
I was a peer mentor during my sophomore year and also a mentor coach during my junior and senior years for Step Ahead with the SASS Office. Step Ahead takes place the five days before first-year orientation and is a summer bridge opportunity for first-year students enrolled in the SASS Office. This program helps students begin to establish important connections within the college community while becoming equipped with the academic, social, and independent living skills necessary for a smooth transition to college.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?
During my time at McDaniel, I have been an active member of Best Buddies, Student Alumni Council, and Phi Alpha (social work honors society). This year I have been co-president of Best Buddies with one of my best friends, Olivia Elbers.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?
Yes! I enjoyed my time here at McDaniel immensely and the last four years have been some of the best years of my life. Everyone is so accepting and has pushed me to be the best student and person. I value all of the friendships and memories that I have made, and McDaniel has definitely help to shape me into the person I am today.

Who do you think is/was your best mentor(s)?
That is such a difficult question because I have had so many good mentors in the last four years here and I am forever grateful for them all. In the Social Work Department, Professor Michelle Young, Dr. Cathy Orzolek-Kronner, and Dr. Jim Kunz have been incredibly helpful to me and willing to talk about everything from clarifying confusions on upcoming assignments, life advice, and helping me find my true passions in the social work field. I also owe a great amount of gratitude to the staff in the SASS Office, especially to my academic counselor, Dana Neville. I have had weekly meetings with Dana over the past four years and she has gone above and beyond in helping me with anything I ever needed and for believing me, even though I wanted to give up sometimes. I don’t think I would be where I am today without all of their constant support and encouragement. I also want to thank Dr. Henry Reiff, who I completed an independent study with during the Fall 2017 semester. As a result of the papers I wrote and research he has completed, we were able to co-author a 30-page research article for the Journal of Postsecondary Education and Disability titled “Self Awareness of Cognitive Style and Learning Strategies: A Model for the Development of Personal Autonomy among Individuals with Learning Differences.”

What is your best memory at McDaniel?
This is also a difficult question

because I have made countless memories at McDaniel that I will remember for the rest of my life. If I have to pick just one, I would choose tailgating during football games with my friends and family. McDaniel’s tailgate scene is incredible, and I love the aspect of having a drive-in football stadium.

What were some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?
Having a learning disability related to reading comprehension and slow processing speeds can be very challenging, especially in college. It is frustrating when I have to read my textbooks a couple of times to fully process and understand what I am reading or during a lecture and I have to listen and take adequate, detailed notes simultaneously. However, I overcame these difficulties once I learned that a huge part of being able to navigate college with a learning disability is being a self-advocate. I received continuous supports from the SASS Office as well as my friends, parents, and the understanding my professors had toward students like me who do not have typical learning styles.

What are your plans for after graduation?
Starting in August 2018, I will be attending University of Maryland School of Social Work in Baltimore to receive my Master’s in Social Work. I got accepted into the competitive advanced standing program and will graduate in July 2019 with the clinical concentration and behavioral health specialization. After receiving my MSW, I want to



Photo courtesy of Mark Gales.

work on a multidisciplinary team as a social worker either with co-occurring populations or older adults in a long-term care facility.

What advice can you give to those not graduating?
Enjoy your time at McDaniel while you can Everyone always says that four years flies by and it certainly does – especially senior year. McDaniel has so many opportunities, so take advantage of them while you can. Also, it is important to balance school and fun. Even though your education is the most valuable thing you can receive, the memories you make with your friends are everlasting.

Is there anything else you want to share with the McDaniel community?
Don’t compare yourself to others. Instead, you should compare yourself to the person you were yesterday. Be proud of YOUR accomplishments – even the small ones.





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