

The McDaniel Free Press

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A welcome from the *Free Press*

Emma Carter & Atticus Rice
Co-Editors-in-Chief

On behalf of our editorial team and writing staff at the Free Press, we'd like to officially welcome all McDaniel students to the Fall 2018 semester!

As both of us are beginning our senior year on the Hill as co-editors-in-chief, we know that every year presents new challenges, rewards, and lasting memories. College is the time, and the place, to push yourself and to learn from your mistakes, to find your niche and to make your presence known. Your years here are an incredible and unique experience.

We hope the *Free Press* can be a compelling part of this experience.

McDaniel is a special place for each of us in its own way, and at the *Free Press* we do what we can every day to highlight that in our online and print publications. As a core part of the College, it is our goal to be an outlet for students to read about campus happenings, as well as an outlet for students to contribute their creative and technical work to enhance our campus community.

Here, students can contribute writing, editing, photography, videography, blogging, investigation, and graphic design, and grow their expertise in any area that interests them.



Students from the class of 2022 and transfers to McDaniel College gather in Red Square ahead of the Convocation and Candlewalk as part of New Student Orientation on Friday, Aug. 24, 2018 in Westminster, Md. (Marya Topina / McDaniel College).

We invite all interested students – no matter year, major, or skillset – to join us and see where it takes you. Reporting is indeed hard work, but our trained editorial staff is here and eager to help those from all parts of the community come together to hone the craft, and to make the *Free Press* what it is.

Though known by different names throughout the years, *The McDaniel Free Press* has been

the College's student-operated newspaper since 1924, and we take this student-centric aspect seriously.

Whether you write one article or become a regular contributor, we are here to work with you. Without contributors, the Free Press would not be here – so as you consider what you're interested in getting involved in, come give us a visit.

And, for that matter, explore all the great organizations that

McDaniel has to offer. Though small, McDaniel does an excellent job creating opportunities for students of all interests, providing outlets for community service, composting, campus programming, dancing, and cultural exchange, among many others. Make sure to take your time and give each thing you might like a proper chance – you'll never know what will happen.

Here's to the new school year!

President Casey is positive about widespread changes this year

Emma Carter
Co-Editor-in-Chief

McDaniel College President Roger Casey is looking forward to significant transformations that multiple areas of the institution will see beginning this school year.

These sweeping changes include updates to the school's brand, international curriculum, and community involvement initiatives. Casey is optimistic about the potential these changes have to bring growth to the school.

One of the more noticeable updates that Casey is eager to see the impact of is the shift in the school's image: green and yellow banners that carry phrases such as "Fear the Green Terror" and "What will you see from the top of the Hill?" have been added to lamp posts across campus.

"I'm looking forward to seeing what the results of our campaign with our marketing will be, because [the Class of 2022 will be the first class we've tried to recruit with the new messages]," the president said of this rebranding initiative.

These new messages aim to show off the College's identity more pointedly than before, as well as to establish a brand tailored to the characteristics of the school – hence the metaphors around climbing and hills, which intend to

represent the diverse opportunities for personal and professional growth that the school touts. Casey said he believed it is important for students to see these messages no matter their location on campus; banners with the new phrases are now scattered across McDaniel.

"I think it's really important in terms of building a sense of camaraderie, or esprit de corps, a love for the institution," said Casey.

Also speaking of the Class of 2022, President Casey said he is pleased with the new McDaniel Commitment. The incoming class is the first to come in under the recently developed program that focuses on getting McDaniel students involved with the Westminster community.

An integral part of the McDaniel Commitment is McDaniel Local, a summer program in which a high percentage of the new class met local leaders, visited downtown Westminster, and took part in environmental activities at Singleton-Mathews farm, a large piece of land owned by the College a few miles from campus.

"I think that's going to make a big difference for many of these students just in terms of their comfort level with where we are," Casey said. "Lots of our students come from places that don't look or



McDaniel College President Roger Casey addresses the first-year class during the Introduction Convocation inside Baker Memorial Chapel on Aug. 24, 2018. (Marya Topina / McDaniel Free Press).

feel anything like Westminster, Md."

Beyond Westminster, however, Casey is looking forward to big changes on the school's Budapest, Hungary campus. This year, the College will open its Budapest campus to other American university students, including a group from nearby Gettysburg College.

The Budapest campus, which will celebrate its twenty-fifth anniversary in 2019, will also begin instruction of its Crossroads of Europe curriculum, which includes classes tailored specifically to Central European culture, such as courses on migration or European history, that fulfill general education requirements.

"So now when [students are] in Budapest, [they are] not just studying courses in Budapest, [they are] actually getting a much greater understanding of central Europe and taking advantage of where Budapest is located," the president, who will be at the Budapest campus

at the start of the semester, said.

Another international plan the school has in the works this year is a partnership with Anhui University in Wuhu, China: starting this fall, a cohort of Chinese kinesiology students will begin their first two years of college at Anhui, then come to McDaniel to finish their studies.

Another change in the kinesiology department is the Gill Center renovation.

"Our faculty in that area, our phenomenal researchers – they do all this undergraduate research work," Casey said of the largest major on campus. "They didn't have the appropriate space to be able to do that."

Renovations include new classrooms, research labs, and offices.

"It's spectacular," he said. "It has transformed now into what's hands-down the top-notch facility on campus."

The Gill Center revamp, along with the rest of the extensive changes the College is beginning to see, is one of the many changes that greet the new class.

Casey said he is excited to see the Class of 2022 mature on campus as they transform into confident college students.

"I love watching that happen every year," he said.

www.mcdanielfreepress.com

SGA launches new mission, outlook, plans for fall semester

Atticus Rice
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Members of the Student Government Association executive board have announced a new mission statement and organization outlook ahead of the start of the academic year.

The statement reads “We, as student leaders, strive to facilitate strong communication and transparency among administrators, faculty, staff and the student body. We promote student activities and provide a forum where student groups can gain assistance and support. The Student Government Association aims to secure student needs, improve community welfare, and maintain the Spirit of the Hill.”

The new model, said Nsangou, is “lead by example,” specifically when it comes to requirements that SGA mandates registered student organizations abide by in order to receive funding through their annual allocations process.

“We can’t hold clubs accountable if we’re not doing it,” Nsangou said of community service.

SGA announced last spring that they would be requiring all organizations to show how they give back to the community, including those with ulterior missions.

While not formally listed as a requirement anywhere, SGA officers did make it clear during the allocations process that the distribution of nearly \$30,000

would depend on an organization’s intentions to provide service to the Westminster community.

Nsangou believes working with the Boys & Girls Club or the Human Services Programs of Carroll County’s cold weather shelter, once it opens, would be great outlets for members of SGA.

“[Alpha Phi Omega Service Fraternity] and [Asian Community Coalition] did it,” she said. “Maybe we can partner with them? Partnership is important, you can’t do everything by yourself.”

To assist with new requirements and an increased level of expectations from student organizations, SGA has partnered with the Office of Student Engagement to offer Student Leadership Institute on Sept. 15.

The institute, according to student engagement, will teach students different strategies to be an effective leader at McDaniel.

Nsangou said that SGA came up with the institute over the summer to help student organization leaders who lack the proper training to run their organization.

Though the partnership between student engagement and SGA is new, the former has been hosting a similar conference and even days-long retreats for a number of years now.

To increase attendance, SGA will be giving \$50 to each student organization with members present at the institute.

Topics of discussion will mostly cover programming, and how to properly plan a program, Nsangou said.

“We were very successful when we planned the spring formal last spring,” she said. “We’ll go over the little stuff we assume [organization leaders] know but they don’t actually know.”

Registration will open on OrgSync ahead of the event.

SGA is also hoping this semester is a time that they can begin to be a voice for students by gathering feedback.

“Feedback is such a great idea,” said Vice President Kathalyn Urquizo.

Though one of SGA’s core tenets is to speak for students to the president and board of trustees, fulfillment in that has been lacking in recent years.

“Moving forward, we actually want to abide by our mission,” said Nsangou. “We want to connect students with the board of trustees.”

While Nsangou recognizes that students have lost their voice, she doesn’t believe SGA is entirely at fault.

“A lot of students don’t feel like they’re being heard,” she said, “but it’s hard for us to hear you if you don’t speak to us.”

To combat this apparent issue, SGA plans to table outside of the dining hall twice a month to get feedback to bring to the administration.

“I really want to emphasize and focus on transparency and consistency in this organization,” said Urquizo of helping students be

heard. SGA is also considering meeting with student organizations on a monthly basis, a service largely already available through engagement peers in the Office of Student Engagement.

Beyond structural and leadership assistance, Secretary Amara Foster is looking forward to the role that SGA will play in this year’s homecoming.

“We’re really excited this year,” she said. “We’re trying to do a spirit week where we have events each day.”

Last year, the week leading up to homecoming was cut short by fall break over Monday and Tuesday, despite the College’s 150th anniversary celebration.

Foster also believes that it’s important students understand what SGA does, what they stand for, and why it’s important to get involved, no matter the organization.

During New Student Orientation, members of SGA were given a few minutes during an optional event to address students and introduce themselves and their organization.

There they announced the opening of two first-year representative positions open to all first-year students in the coming weeks through an open election.

SGA will be holding weekly meetings on Wednesdays in Merritt G05 at 8 p.m. These meetings are open to the entire student body.

Read more articles at
www.mcdanielfreepress.com

New McDaniel Local program introduces first-year students to community

Aidan Finnerty
Staff Reporter

Students who found themselves on campus over the summer may have noticed a group of early newcomers to the Hill this year. Their welcome intrusion comes to us courtesy of the McDaniel Local program and the Center for Experience and Opportunity.

Erin Giles, an omnipresent force for good on McDaniel’s campus, has risen to Associate Director of Community Engagement, a position which makes her the point person for the McDaniel Local program.

“We created McDaniel Local as a new pre-orientation experience to give students the opportunity to get connected on campus and with Westminster sooner and more thoroughly,” Giles explained.

During the three days and two nights students spent on McDaniel’s campus, they participated in a schedule geared towards a blend of fun and educational activities. These included a stop at the Singleton-Matthews Farm, a meeting with the producer of children’s show “Zoboomafoo,” and many opportunities for forming new ties both on Main Street and on campus.

While the name itself, McDaniel Local, implies a meshing of the campus and the surrounding

community, participants and organizers seem to agree that the true charm in the program lies in giving students more of a chance to make friends and soak in the Hill – and Westminster – before the everyday grind of college life takes over. Giles evidenced this by pointing to a first-year student that had attended the program, Harrison Greer.

Greer attended the fourth and final summer session of McDaniel Local. He described the program with a collection of memories that make it clear that this was a positive experience for him.

“I was really nervous, of course, coming, but that three-day local thing completely cooled my nerves,” Greer said. “So coming to Orientation I knew people and I was more open to meeting new people, so it helped a lot for me, at least.”

The program was piloted in the fall of 2017 and was followed by a larger rollout this summer. The last session, specifically for those whose homes are at least 300 miles away, fell right before Orientation and allowed those who attended to avoid making the trip to McDaniel more than once. The other sessions occurred earlier in the summer.

Due to the success of both the pilot program and the summer sessions, McDaniel Local will continue next year with an expected attendance of at least 400 students.

Letter to the Editor: A welcome from Campus Safety

Dear Students,

I want to first convey a warm welcome to all of our first year students of the Class of 2022 and transfer students, and to welcome back from summer break all of the returning members of our student body!

You will find that McDaniel College is a beautiful and safe setting to live, work, study, and recreate, but no place is completely insulated and immune from crime, especially crimes of opportunity. So while the dedicated men and women of the Department of Campus Safety work around the clock to ensure the safety of our students and community members, our success is largely dependent upon your help to make us aware of criminal activity, and suspicious persons and circumstances. So I’d ask of you...if you see something...say something! Please help us by immediately calling the Department of Campus Safety at 410-857-2202, or by stopping by our office located at 152 Pennsylvania Ave. (at the corner of Monroe St., directly across Pennsylvania Ave. from the Garden Apartments).

Also, since the vast majority of

crimes are crimes of opportunities, you can be the first line of defense by utilizing some simple, common sense practices of shutting and locking your room door when away, not leaving valuables unattended in public areas, walking with others at night in well lit areas, and not engaging in risky behavior such as overindulgence of alcohol which increases the risk of both victimization and the perpetration of crime and policy violations.

Our campus police officers are professionals that take pride in maintaining a high level of trust and rapport with our students. We are here to serve and assist you 24 hours a day, seven days a week, so please get to know us, and take some time to learn more about the many services and educational programming that our department offers.

I look forward to getting to meet our new students, and I wish you all the very best for a safe, successful, and enjoyable campus life experience as we begin this new school year!

Best regards,
James K. Hamrick
Chief of Police/Director
Department of Campus Safety

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Letter to the Editor: Making the most of college

So you’ve done it. You’re in college now. Many of you probably feel nervously excited, anxious, or perhaps gleeful about your newfound independence. A lot stands ahead in the next few years.

Even as a recent McDaniel graduate, I have realized that the world, McDaniel, and I have all changed to a surprising extent since my first move-in day. Looking back, there is a lot I wish I could have told myself and understood – so I would like to offer current students, first-years, and even upperclassmen some advice about how to make the most of college.

As a McDaniel student, you have a special opportunity to shine at a smaller school. Here, your efforts will be more easily noticed, you’ll be able to see more familiar faces—for better or for worse—and you’ll be closely connected to opportunities within the college community.

However, it is challenging starting out at a new place, especially if you’re like me and arrived here knowing no one. In this situation, a good first step is to get involved in extracurricular activities. It’s important to find one that feels natural, as many can feel forced. This process can take time – finding a calling and social group isn’t easy. For example, I initially joined the Free Press and didn’t intend to stay, but it eventually became a source of opportunity, how I met many friends, and a major source of pride.

As you settle in, remember to keep challenging yourself.

Ultimately, one of the major goals of a liberal arts education is to cultivate the self and develop deep thinking skills. It helps tremendously when you go above and beyond just passing your classes.

If you have difficulty deciding what to study and pursue professionally, don’t force this either. Allow for some academic exploration—perhaps by taking classes in new disciplines for McDaniel Plan credits—and see what excites you or peaks your interest. Campus involvement can also do this – I picked up a journalism minor due to my activity with the *Free Press*, even when I was already majoring in history and minoring in Spanish.

As you begin to find your calling (and even if it’s not coming easily), it can be helpful to begin engaging in forms of professional development. Overt self-promotion during my studies didn’t come easily, but anyone can benefit from familiarity with this process – this definitely would have helped me in the weeks after graduation. Carefully monitor the internet for opportunities you might be interested in and start getting yourself out there. Remember that summer and winter breaks are great times to pursue special opportunities.

Essentially anything you do while in college can be to your immediate and future benefit. Volunteering can be a quick way to build up experience and further

explore where you’d like to go in life. Part-time jobs you hold while a student can also have this effect. Again, go out of your comfort zone and pursue opportunities, even if they make you nervous at first or you doubt your ability to succeed. It gets easier with practice.

Of course, in the midst of this you still need to study hard. A considerable degree of your growth will be the direct result of what you learn through coursework. From my experience, sometimes your dorm room is the place you can be most productive, but it’s worth trying the library, empty classrooms, or even random tables around campus – focused environments never hurt.

One last thing: please get enough sleep. When busy, the easiest part of your routine to chip away at is sleep. Sometimes this becomes necessary, but don’t make a habit of it – by my junior year, this contributed to some health problems. I regret not realizing this sooner, but I urge you to save yourself the trouble and get enough sleep.

Overall, it is much more satisfying to leave a campus community you made major contributions to. Even if you only made minor contributions to various organizations throughout your college career, you will still have the satisfaction that you did a great job and can begin to assemble a future from that experience.

Best of luck for a great college experience!
Kyle Parks ‘18
Editor-in-Chief, 2016-18

McDaniel Compliments

“Welcome to all the new students that are part of class of 2022! It’s always so exciting to meet all the new freshmen and hear about why they fell in love with McDaniel. I hope you have a great first semester!”

“Thank you to the First Stop team for working so hard this summer! I know you have put in a lot of hours to make the incoming freshman class feel welcome, answer all their questions, and make sure their transition to college goes smoothly. I’m sure it will all pay off tomorrow as they settle in to their new home here on the Hill.”

“I have had the privilege of having all female professors this semester who also all are doctors. As a female student, it is always inspiring to see women so committed and high-achieving in their field. To all the female professors here are McDaniel, thank you for being so amazing!”

“Shout out to all of the amazing librarians who support students and faculty on campus!”

Want to brighten someone’s day? Need a way to fulfill your random act of kindness for the day? Message *Dean McDaniel Compliments* on Facebook with a compliment, and we’ll post it anonymously for you. Here to spread some happiness on the Hill, we’ll make sure your friend, classmate, or professor has the chance to smile and feel appreciated. Your compliment could be featured in the next issue of the *Free Press*!

Multi-million dollar renovations completed in Gill Center



Multi-million dollar enovations have been made to the Gill Center. (Atticus Rice / McDaniel Free Press).

Gunnar Ward Sports Editor

Following a span of construction that has lasted from the Spring 2018 Semester and throughout the summer, the 6.6 million dollar renovation of the Gill Center has finally been completed.

The goal of the renovations was to create additional classrooms for McDaniel’s kinesiology department, which is currently the most popular program at McDaniel. With an estimated 102 declared kinesiology undergraduate students, McDaniel will benefit from these renovations both academically and professionally.

“The [new] classrooms provide much-needed space for teaching and research activities,”

Kinesiology Department Head Jennifer McKenzie, Ph.D. said. “These spaces also enable growth potential for our department and add to the available classroom spaces on campus.”

Renovations included completely striking the mezzanine bleachers of Gill Gymnasium to install three new classrooms. Two of the new classrooms in the mezzanine hold up to 40 students. The basement level of the Gill Center was also renovated, bringing in one additional lab and updating seminar rooms.

However, with a 6.6 million dollar price tag on renovations to primarily benefit the kinesiology majors, students outside of the department have raised concerns over funds for their respective departments.

“Giving less money to other departments makes me feel like my major is less important,” sophomore Anna Odell, an English and theatre arts double major, said. “I feel as if I am getting screwed over.”

Overall, students from the kinesiology department believe the renovations will benefit their department both in the short-term and long-term.

“I’m extremely thrilled with the renovations,” junior kinesiology major Rachel Pigott said. “By completing this renovation, it will encourage more people to take classes in kinesiology.”

The renovations are designed not only to benefit academics, but also athletics, as the upper mezzanine classrooms can now be utilized as skyboxes for indoor sports matches, which include volleyball, basketball, and wrestling.

In addition to athletics, the classroom/skybox combo facilities can be used as a quiet and isolated viewing space for events such as graduation.

Renovations were also completed in the Old Gill Gymnasium, bringing air conditioning and floor improvements designed to allow for improved playing conditions.



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New Student Orientation Photos

Emma Carter, Co-Editor-in-Chief & Marya Topina, Co-Features Editor & Copy Editor



The Move-In Crew, which consisted of peer mentors and members of McDaniel ROTC, helps new students move in at Rouzer Hall.



The Move-In Crew helps unload a car at Whiteford Hall.



A Campus Safety officer talks to incoming students in Whiteford Hall.



First-year students group with their peer mentors and First Year Seminar classmates.



Peer Mentor R.J. Kimmerle directs first-year students to their First Year Seminar groups.



Peer mentors Taylor Hoey and Matt Hopson pose for a selfie.



First-year students wait in Red Square before the Introduction Convocation.



President Casey looks at first-year students as he walks to Big Baker for the Introduction Convocation.

New Student Orientation Photos

Emma Carter, Co-Editor-in-Chief & Marya Topina, Co-Features Editor & Copy Editor



Two students share a high five during the Indtroduction Convocation ceremony.



Students capture a photo of the Candle Lighting Ceremony.



Students walk through the McDaniel College Arch as part of the Candlewalk Ceremony.



A new student rings in at the Old Main Bell.



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Summer content from our website:

Westminster’s inaugural Pride Festival boasts huge turnout



Alex Maragos (right) pauses to visit a vendor’s booth at the Pride Festival in Westminster, Md. on Saturday, July 7, 2018. (Marya Topina / McDaniel Free Press).

Marya Topina
Copy Editor & Co-Features Editor

Preparing for Westminster’s Pride Festival, McDaniel senior Alex Maragos was not anticipating a large event. She packed some sunscreen and an extra water bottle, but did not plan on staying too long.

“I wasn’t expecting a lot because it was Westminster’s first ever Pride,” said Maragos, “but I was blown away by the experience. Everyone was so friendly and accepting and it was so amazing to be in that atmosphere.”

This past Saturday, the city of Westminster blocked off East Main Street to hold its first ever Pride Festival. Local businesses, political candidates, and various nonprofit organizations set up booths along the street to offer

resources, support, and celebration for members of the LGBTQ+ community.

The event was a safe space for festival goers to express their sexuality and gender identity while enjoying music, food, art, and local vendors. Several organizations such as PFLAG, Rape Crisis, LifeBridge Health, and Carroll County Health Department offered educational materials and other resources for both mental and sexual health.

“I think this was huge for the LGBTQIA+ community living in Carroll County, because it gave them a platform to express themselves,” said Maragos. “And especially for people who are questioning, it gave them a great environment to explore their identities and be around people who are confident in their own sexuality.”

The festival committee loosely kept track of attendance by passing out stickers with the Westminster Pride logo. Within the first hour, nearly 1,500 stickers had been distributed.

Event organizer Jason Garber said he felt overwhelmed with the huge turnout.

“It’s more than we expected. I’m so happy,” said Garber.

Before the event, Garber had said he hopes “that this festival opens the eyes of this town. We want people to know that we are here, we matter, and we will not be going away anytime soon.”

Following Saturday’s festivities, feedback on their Facebook page has been overwhelmingly positive.

Maragos also left feeling satisfied. Although she will be graduating this year, she hopes to return to Westminster for next year’s festival.

“Based on the turnout and how much everyone seemed to be enjoying themselves, I think this has a chance to really become big,” said Maragos. “I’m really excited to see what happens next year, and if they eventually start a parade.”

And with support from local politicians, businesses, the police department, and the community as a whole, it seems that may become a reality.

“There is absolutely no way that this festival won’t grow to be an annual event,” said Garber. “We want this little one-day street festival to transition to a week-long affair ending in a parade and street festival. I am beyond grateful in the direction that this event is heading in.”

Free Press to partner with Contrast

The Free Press is excited to announce a new partnership with Contrast, McDaniel’s literary magazine and purveyor of the literary arts.

We’ll be working closely to bring you the latest creative short stories and poems written by McDaniel students. Each issue, we’ll publish a creative writing prompt for you to respond to, and you’ll have one month to submit for the chance to be published.

Feel free to come to Contrast weekly meetings on Thursdays at 9 p.m. in Hill 208 to workshop your writing and receive feedback from fellow creative minds on campus.

Email your submissions to mat005@mcdaniel.edu. Winner(s) will be chosen based on the discretion of Contrast editors Marya Topina and Emma Driban.

This month’s prompt:

Describe something ordinary in an unrelated genre style. For instance, you could describe your dorm room in the style of an epic fantasy, a squirrel in the style of a western, your breakfast in Glar as a steamy romance, or an academic building on campus in the style of a sci-fi thriller.

Please submit either a short story no longer than 500 words or up to 50 lines of poetry.

JOIN OUR STAFF

The Free Press welcomes all students interested in writing, photography, editing, videography, design, and more! No experience necessary.

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Here are some of our favorites for students:



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Focus Aromatherapy Roller

Get the focus you need to tackle the semester ahead with this specially developed blend of essential oils.



Lavender Linen Spray

Rest well AND buy yourself a little more time between laundry days with this linen spray.



Anti-Anxiety Aromatherapy Roller

Feeling anxious? This special blend of essential oils will help you roll away feelings of anxiety, so you can take on your day.

Mayor of Westminster addresses incoming first-year class



Westminster Mayor Joe Dominick greets the class of 2022 atop the Longwell Parking Garage in downtown Westminster, Md. on Saturday, Aug. 25, 2018. (Marya Topina / McDaniel Free Press).

Marya Topina
Copy Editor & Co-Features Editor

As first-year students continued along their busy Orientation schedule this Saturday, they unknowingly fol-

lowed President Casey and his wife Robyn Allers down Main Street and into town. Many thought they were simply strolling through town, but the surprise that awaited them at the end of the walk was a meeting with

Joe Dominick, the mayor of Westminster and McDaniel alumnus.

The surprise event was a chance for students to hear from Dominick about his experiences at McDaniel, connect with the community by visiting the Boys & Girls Club of Westminster, and learn about other opportunities to give back.

“I’m trying to strengthen the relationship between the city and the College,” said Dominick ahead of the event.

Addressing the first-year students, Dominick explained that he grew up in Baltimore County and was initially “coaxed out to Westminster to attend McDaniel,” then Western Maryland College. It was the only school he applied to.

“I have McDaniel to thank for helping me forge many lifelong relationships,” said Dominick.

Dominick went on to say that without McDaniel, he would not have lived in Westminster or even become mayor.

“McDaniel is the greatest asset to this city and has enhanced the quality of life for all those living here,” he said.

Students also heard from Erin Bishop, the marketing director of the

Boys & Girls Club. She challenged them to reflect on the mentors they had in high school and to join the Boys & Girls Club as role models for the next generation.

McDaniel students have partnered with the Boys & Girls Club of Westminster since Nov. 2010 and “have been a tremendous source of support for the Club, serving as mentors, academic tutors, and program facilitators,” according to the organization’s website.

The work completed by McDaniel students and other partners at the Club has been recognized by the White House and the national chapter of the organization, said Bishop.

After the speeches, students were invited to visit inside the Boys & Girls Club before heading back to campus. They toured the dance studio, radio station, and recording studio located within the former bank building.

Event organizers hope that Saturday’s activities, coupled with the new McDaniel Local program from this summer, will encourage students to explore the surrounding community and find ways to get involved through internships, volunteer work, and part-time jobs.

Big Baker
Baker Memorial Chapel
The church in front of the fountain.

Chicken Tender Thursday
Englar Dining Hall serves chicken tenders every Thursday for lunch.

Free Press
The College’s student-run newspaper, that you’re reading right now. We’re always looking for writers!

Free Shelf
A bookshelf next to the mailboxes where people can put things they don longer want and others can take. No trash, please!

GTP
Green Terror Programs
A student organization on campus that puts on free events for students, planned by students, such as trivia, Weekend Blitz trips, crafting, and game shows.

ILL
Interlibrary Loan
A way you can borrow books, articles, and magazines from other schools thorough the Hoover Library website.

I Love the Hill
February is I Love the Hill month when students, faculty, staff, and alumni alike celebrate why we love our college.

Innovation Challenge
A Shark Tank-style competition where students pitch business ideas to win a cash prize, hosted by the Encompass Distinction.

McDictionary
Erin Pogue
Co-Features-Editor
Read more at mcdanielfreepress.com.

Jan Term
January Term
The three-week term after Winter Break when students can enroll in a single course either on campus or abroad. You are required to take at least one to graduate.

Little Baker
Baker Chapel
The church between the theater and Peterson Hall.

McSwager
A term coined by McDaniel College President Roger Casey, often used during rather formal speeches.

OrgSync
A website showcasing all of the student organizations McDaniel has to offer including meeting times, contact info, and event calendars.

PA Ave.
Pennsylvania Ave.
A street that boarders campus along the Gardens Apartments and many North Village apartments.

Pub
Another dining option located across from the bookstore where you can pay with meal exchanges, McDaniel Bucks, or cash/card.

Red Square
Another name for Memorial Plaza, located by Hill Hall and the library.

WMC
Western Maryland College
The original name of McDaniel College, named 1867-2002.

From the archives: the millenium’s first welcome issue

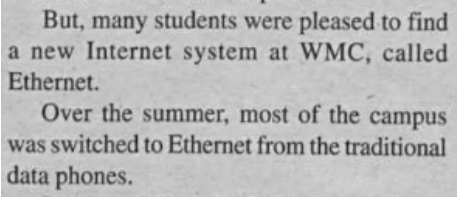
Emma Carter
Co-Editor-in-Chief

It is tradition here at the Free Press to kick off every school year with a welcome issue. Here’s a look at the paper’s, then called the Phoenix, welcome issue from 2000: the year of the PlayStation 2, of “Oops!...I Did It Again,” and – of course – the year majority of our Class of 2022 was born.

“Fall semester brings changes”

Students in the fall of 2000 had mixed reactions to the changes with which they were greeted when they returned to campus. Skeptical of the school’s motive to increase the parking permit price – from \$30 to \$40 – one sophomore complained that “you can’t even find a parking space.” The Pub also sharply reduced the number of items on its menu to increase its efficiency, which students surprisingly did not find to be a diffi-

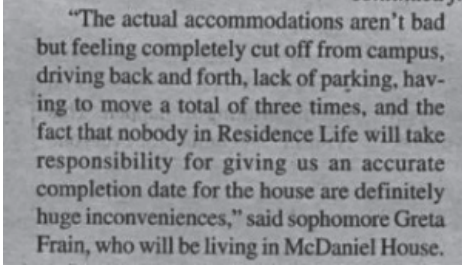
cult adjustment. The Fall 2000 semester saw the introduction of Ethernet to campus as well.



“Crowded rooms and room service: Students encounter temporary housing shortages”

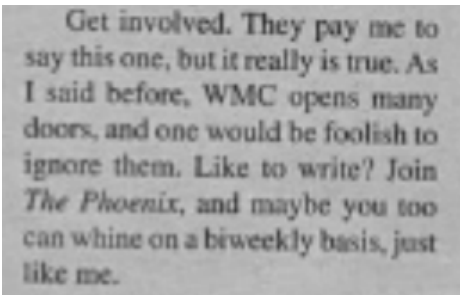
Resident students at McDaniel, then called Western Maryland College, found themselves in close quarters at the start of the 2000 school year. Not being able to predict the amount of room openings because “some students decide at the last minute to live off campus or leave the college all together” was the reason for overcrowding, according to the Dean of Admissions at the time. 32 double rooms in Rouzer Hall and Whiteford Hall were converted into

triples, and some students were even put up in the local Best Western while they waited for renovations to their on-campus houses to be completed. Below is a testimony from a student who stayed at the hotel.



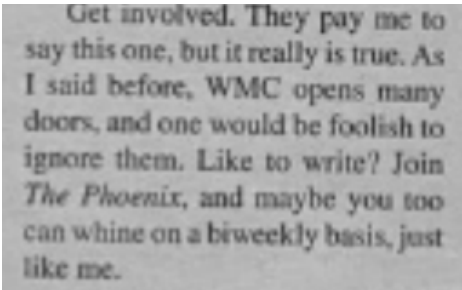
“Tiger Woods: the 200 million dollar man?”

Just four years after Woods’ professional start, one of Western Maryland’s sports writers was highly critical of the golf star. Comparing Woods to Jack Nicklaus, a previous golf champion who had earned his living playing, the writer notes that most of Woods’ earnings came from endorsements rather than the actual game. Further spelling out his distaste for repeat-tournament-winning Woods, the writer said, “No person should win all the time, because that just gets boring.”



“Friendly advice for incoming students”

Here, a staff reporter provided guidance for the newcomers on the Hill, the Class of 2004. His advice is timeless: balance studying and fun, forge relationships with your professors, and don’t leave essays until the night before – and, “get used to that smell” in Rouzer Hall.





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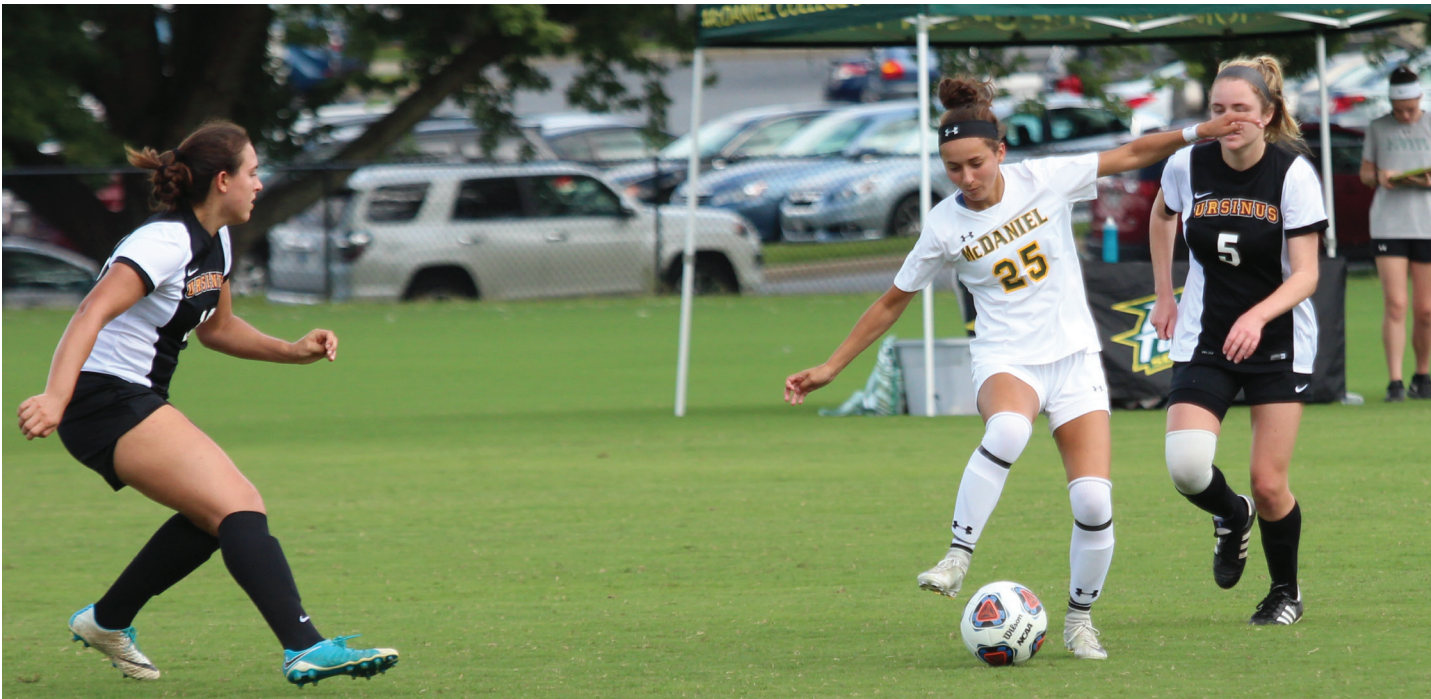
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The McDaniel Free Press

Volume 22, Issue 2 | September 19, 2018

INSIDE: Student Affairs, Academic Affairs merge (pg. 2) | Student comics (pg. 6) | From the archives: '70s headlines (pg. 11)



Sophomore forward Kristen Worry defends the ball in a Centennial Conference match against Ursinus College on Saturday, Sept. 15 at McDaniel College. The Green Terror women's soccer team opened conference play with a 2-0 win over the Bears. The team has reached the NCAA Tournament in the last three seasons. (Atticus Rice / McDaniel Free Press).

Process for new campus dining services provider has begun

Atticus Rice
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Six vendors visited campus on Aug. 31 to learn about the College and begin the process to submit proposals for all campus dining services.

"The plan is to have a decision made by early December," said Tom Phizacklea, vice president for administration and finance. If a new vendor is selected, they should

be operating by the first day of the spring semester.

Among the companies was Sodexo, the current provider that has faced harsh criticism from students and families of the College community.

Also on campus were Aladdin Food Management Services, Aramark, AVI Foodsystems, Bon Appétit, Metz Culinary Management, and Parkhurst Dining.

The companies saw Englar Dining Hall, the space in Klitzberg Pavilion where Vocelli Pizza operated, Caseys' Corner, and the Pub, said Phizacklea.

They each have one day to visit campus and collect information to put together their proposals. Visitations were completed by Sept. 12.

Once proposals are sent to a consultant hired by the College, an on-campus committee will aim to hand off two or three finalists to the College for "full blown" presentations, Phizacklea said. The See **DINING**, page 3

New partnership, curriculum underway at Budapest campus

Emma Carter
Co-Editor-in-Chief

McDaniel College Budapest is in its third week of the new semester, and recent changes regarding the satellite campus in Hungary are underway.

One of these is the welcoming of more American students, from schools other than McDaniel, to the Budapest campus.

"[McDaniel Budapest] is sort of a hidden gem that we have," said Director of International and Off-Campus Programs, Elizabeth Davis, "and we thought it would be a good opportunity for other schools."

While McDaniel Budapest has hosted students from other American schools here and there in the past, such as Baltimore's Notre Dame of Maryland University and the University of Washington, this year is different.

The College has a new, more organized approach for getting American students to Budapest.

This comes as a partnership between McDaniel and the University of Central Florida, a state school in Orlando with more than 50,000 students. Though no students from the university have taken advantage of the new partnership so far – this is its first year – it will ease the credit-transferring process between McDaniel Budapest and Central Florida.

"It's a way to bring more people in and to share what we have," said Davis.

Even without the Floridian students, the Central European campus is in fact seeing higher-than-usual numbers of Americans.

"This is certainly our highest level of [other American] students," said Executive Director of the Center for Experience & Opportunity, Josh Ambrose.

Junior Justin Arter, who is currently studying in Budapest, lives with several students from Gettysburg College and said he has made friends with a number of other Americans there.

"We've all gotten along well," Arter said in an email. "We get to experience the culture, and when we find things that we needed – like See **BUDAPEST**, page 3

Say 'Bonjour' to McDaniel's French Film Festival

April Mitchell
Staff Reporter

For the month of September, McDaniel College hosts the Tournees French Film Festival, a unique festival that has been going on since 2007.

Silvia Baage, a professor of French in the department of world languages, literatures, and cultures, is the coordinator of the festival this year.

"The French Film Festival is expected to happen every year now, but it is a nice responsibility to have," Baage said. "We want our students to see international movies."

This French film festival consists of six French films that have English subtitles from a variety of different genres, including musicals, documentaries, dramas, and even an animated film. They feature an international and interdisciplinary approach to film, which is perfect for a liberal arts college.

"These movies represent artistic visions and a variety of viewpoints that teach us a lot about others and ourselves," said French Professor Martine Motard-Noar, the co-coordinator of the festival. "It also allows our students and the overall community to see movies from African directors, something you do not get to see in most movie

theaters."

The first film featured is *Felicite*, screened on Sept. 4. This two-hour film follows the main character, Felicite, who is a singer at a bar, and her financial struggle after her teenage son is hospitalized after a serious accident. Felicite opens the French film festival on a very serious note.

Sept. 6 saw the screening of *L'atelier*. This film is also a drama, but more of a thriller. It tells the story of a summer workshop where a group of young students write a crime story with help from a famous novelist. The main character of the film is a student named Antoine who has evident talent but extremely aggressive behavior. He stands out from the rest in an unusual way and the novelist cannot help but feel drawn to him.

The third film, *Les Maitres fous* screened on Sept. 10. This 1956 documentary is only a half hour long but depicts the Hauka movement in Niger that occurred as a way to challenge British colonialism in this time period. The fourth film featured in the festival is *Le grand mechant renard et autres contes*. This film will be shown on September 19 and is the only animated film in the lineup. It tells multiple stories regarding the lives of farm animals in France.

The next film is *Une vie violente*, which will be screened on Sept. 24. It is a drama that follows the story of a man named Stephane who left his life in Paris to escape his troublesome past, only to return many years later to attend the funeral of his childhood friend.

The final film in the festival will be presented on Sept. 26 and is titled *12 jours*. This documentary gives viewers an inside look on the psychiatric hospitals of France and how thousands of people are placed under psychiatric care without their consent.

Viewers will be introduced to interesting movies, post-screening discussions, and international topics that they may not have engaged in before.

"I went to the film festival last year and I had never been to an event like that before," said Sade Segovia, a sophomore. "It was a really cool experience and I'm looking forward to going again this year."

All films begin at 4:30 p.m. in the Decker Auditorium.





Acting Dean of Students Liz Towle speaks at the Introduction Convocation on Aug. 24, 2018. (Marya Topina / McDaniel Free Press).

Student Affairs, Academic Affairs merge into Academic and Campus Life

Atticus Rice
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Over the summer, the College made a number of administrative and staff changes. They affect mostly structural and organizational operations rather than students’ daily lives.

Gone are the Academic Affairs and Student Affairs divisions, replaced by Academic and Campus Life, which reports directly to Provost Julia Jasken.

“The goal is for those two areas to work more collaboratively,” said Acting Dean of Students Liz Towle, “because there’s no separation in [the student’s] life between in classroom and out of classroom student involvement. I think our current structure reflects the reality of the student experience more. That’s the goal; to better meet the needs of students.”

It’s easier to help the students when everyone doing so is part of the same area said Towle, formerly the associate dean of student affairs before the summer changes.

In addition to the merger of the student and academic bodies,

the position of vice president for student affairs has been eliminated. Beth Gerl, as a result, is no longer with the College. She had been a member of the campus community since 2006.

The senior leadership and the Board of Trustees worked together to make these “difficult” decisions, President Roger Casey said in an Aug. 30 email to the student body.

Towle will now oversee the Student Government Association, replacing Gerl.

“I haven’t been involved in SGA for a couple of years so it’s nice to get back into that,” she said.

With the changes, Executive Director of the Center for Experience and Opportunity Josh Ambrose also takes on the role of associate dean of campus and community engagement. The new position puts both the CEO and Office of Student Engagement under his jurisdiction.

“It’s all a lot of leadership and experiential learning,” said Towle. “It made sense that there would be a closer connection between those two.”

Greek life, however, will

remain under Michael Robbins, associate dean of students and director of residence life and student engagement. He had been overseeing both the student organization and Greek life sides of student engagement since last fall when he assumed the dean role.

Robbins will also take on the student conduct process to relieve Towle in favor of new responsibilities. This includes training and instruction of the Honor and Conduct Board, a body made up of both students and faculty to hear violations of the code of student conduct.

Though Towle will still work with the College’s sexual misconduct and violence process, she has also been relieved of overseeing the Wellness Center. Former Director of Counseling Services Heidi Huber has transitioned to the director of the entire wellness operation.

“That allows me to take on the role of dean of students which involves spending as much time as I can with students,” said Towle. “I really appreciate that because that’s why people like me get into

these jobs, but very often the longer you’re in the field, the less time you spend with students.”

Towle has been with McDaniel for 18 years.

On the academic side, Associate Professor of Psychology Wendy Morris has been named the acting dean of the faculty for the fall semester.

Chair and Professor of English Pamela Regis has been named acting dean of the faculty for the spring when Morris takes a scheduled sabbatical.

For the last three years, Morris has split her time between teaching and as the associate dean for faculty development. The new role takes her away from teaching and into what was once part of Jasken’s dual provost-dean position.

“I see her as a superhero,” said Morris of Jasken, “because there doesn’t seem like enough time in the day [to do both positions].”

In her position, Morris will continue to support faculty development in their teaching and research.

“All of that work has come into this position,” Morris said of her associate dean work. “In addition, I’m doing things that are more about curricular initiatives.”

Echoing Towle’s statement of unit, Morris is excited about the merging of Academic and Student Affairs.

“I was very much focused on Academic Affairs,” she said. “Now that we’re Academic and Student Life, all under the provost’s leadership, there have been some really cool productive opportunities for collaboration.”

One example she pointed to was the McDaniel Local pre-orientation program that was rolled out this past summer. The College offered it to about 120 students and plans to scale up to 400.

“There are pieces that will be academic and pieces that will be student life,” Morris said.

She also noted that it has been much easier to put committees together now that the two divisions have merged.

“I’ve really enjoyed getting to know people on that side,” she said.

Cheer alumna takes head coach position

Amara Foster
Staff Reporter

Amanda Thiell has been named as McDaniel’s Cheer Team head coach for the 2018 season. The announcement came after a vacancy in the position following former head coach Julia Linko’s departure from the college. Thiell is a 2017 graduate of the team and served as its captain while majoring in mathematics.

Taking on a head coaching role, Thiell has had a quick rise of success in cheer, having only three years of cheer experience. Thiell was also a member of McDaniel’s dance company as an undergraduate.

Thiell loves the atmosphere at McDaniel and missed the school so much, she said. With a connection

to her alma mater, the College recognizes Thiell’s ability to lead, despite having no prior coaching experience.

“I want to add more structure, I want [the team] to have fun, I want us to grow and for people to not look at us as a joke,” Thiell said.

Under new leadership, goals for this season include wanting the team to participate in competitions and add more dance into the cheer routines. Building into the extremes, the team also looks to experiment with new stunts.

Captains My’yah Mitchell, Ka’mari Robinson, and Rocellys Sanchez are excited to have their former captain back to coach their team.

“At first I was skeptical because she had just graduated not too long ago and I didn’t know if she had



Amanda Thiell. (Photo courtesy of McDaniel Cheer Team).

any experience coaching,” Robinson said. “But now that she’s here and I see what her ideas are for the team and how serious she is, I’m loving it. I think she’ll be really good for us and help us to be taken seriously.”

Ultimately, cheer members say they want to be recognized as a serious team in McDaniel athletics. Thiell’s proclaimed mission is to

help the team reach that point.

“[Coach Thiell] already has great relationships with a lot of the girls on the team being a former teammate,” Sanchez said. “She knows what’s best for the team and is going to help achieve it.”

New partnership, curriculum underway at Budapest campus

BUDAPEST, *From page 1* where to find an adapter, or buy school supplies – we all let each other know.”

This semester is also the second semester that the new “Crossroads of Europe, Crossroads of the World” curriculum has been taught in full. With the name “Crossroads” referring to Hungary’s diverse history and its central location in Europe, Davis said the curriculum aims to give students a European-focused education.

“[The school] wanted to offer something unique about Hungary,”

she said. “[Crossroads] is taking on and capitalizing on our location and our unique position there in Hungary – building on that and helping students learn a little more deeper about that part of the world.”

Davis, who with Ambrose speaks regularly to the director of the Budapest campus, said that the curriculum so far has been a success. “The students are really enjoying it,” she said. “I think the faculty who are teaching really enjoy it.”

Suggested by McDaniel College

President Roger Casey several years ago, the Crossroads curriculum, which offers courses with focuses on Central European culture and politics, incorporates experiential learning such as field trips and study tours. The courses also fulfill McDaniel Plan requirements.

The school has also developed a program for students in the Honors Program to study in Budapest, primarily targeting freshmen and sophomores. Now these students can study in Hungary during the spring and take their Great Works course, a requirement for the Honors Program.

“We really want to see more first- and second-year students going abroad because, honestly, you actually have more flexibility in

the McDaniel Plan early on in that regard,” said Ambrose.

Both Davis and Ambrose said they hope that with these new programs in place, they will see more students travel to Budapest and gain experience studying abroad.

“It’s so cool that our students, and other people’s students, can go and experience such an international campus,” said Ambrose.

For questions about McDaniel Budapest, contact Elizabeth Davis at edavis@mcdaniel.edu.

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The Hungarian National Gallery. (Photo courtesy of McDaniel Center for Experience & Opportunity).

Process for new campus dining services provider has begun

DINING, *From page 1* College will then review financials and make the “early December” decision.

The committee is made up of eight professional staff members from various divisions; Kelly Chase, associate director of advancement engagement; Julia Jasken, provost of the College; Heidi Reigel, director of admissions; Michael Robbins, associate dean of students and director of residence life and student engagement; Kim Seeley, director of financial planning and budget; Liz Towle, acting dean of students; Valerie Westbrook, coordinator of conference, camp, and events scheduling; and students Sylvan Greyson, a senior, and Treyana Johnson, a junior. Four additional students were invited but couldn’t make the first meeting.

“Being a part of this committee shows how dedicated McDaniel is by acknowledging students’ input,” said Johnson.

So far, the committee has only been introduced to the possible vendors, and have provided input about what the campus wants from their provider, according to Johnson.

Bidding providers are expected to submit their plans for all food venues on campus, including the

former Vocelli Pizza space.

“Each vendor has been asked to submit a proposal and their ideas for how they will use the Vocelli space,” said Phizacklea.

Students have reportedly suggested a smoothie bar to better compliment the neighboring fitness center.

The space is expected to remain unfilled through the end of the academic year, according to Phizacklea.

Caseys’ Corner, Green and Go, and the Pub will also be a part of each proposal.

“Caseys’ Corner isn’t broken, so I don’t expect anybody to fix that,” Phizacklea said.

He also stated that Green and Go won’t go away in any fashion, but could be better incorporated into the Pub should that be renovated.

“We are looking for ideas to modernize,” he said. “The Pub’s tired. There’s definitely an opportunity for the Pub to be revitalized, and hopefully students can weigh in.”

Johnson would like to see her committee select vendors who can give more options to the campus.

“I hope the committee chooses a vendor who will provide an edible and flavorful variety of foods, with

more healthy options for students,” Johnson said.

The junior would also like to see a provider who cares about their workers and customer satisfaction.

Phizacklea, new to overseeing dining services, was unable to comment on if criticism from students and their parents impacted the decision to open bidding.

Acting Dean of Students Liz Towle, however, has interacted with a number of students and families unhappy with Sodexo’s operations.

“I always say to students, if you have concerns about anything with the operations, find the general manager or the operation manager,” said Towle.

She emphasized the importance of reporting an incident the moment it happens so it can be appropriately resolved.

Under tough scrutiny last spring, Sodexo sent officials to review operations at McDaniel. No announcements were made if the review left any lasting results.

“They have been total professionals,” said Phizacklea of Sodexo during the open bidding process. “As you imagine, they’re not happy we’re doing this. In that business they’re in, they’re often the hunter, not the hunted. Now they’re the hunted.”

Sodexo has been McDaniel’s dining services provider for 20 years, according to Rita Webster, former general manager of food services.

James Hamrick, chief of police and director of campus safety, has left McDaniel

Atticus Rice
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Chief of Police and Director of Campus Safety James Hamrick is no longer with the College as of Aug. 29. He leaves after three years at McDaniel.

“I appreciate very much all that Jim [Hamrick] did in the Campus Safety operations in his three years with us,” said Acting Dean of Students Liz Towle.

Eric Immler, who has served a variety of roles in different stints with Campus Safety, will return to fill the vacancy Oct. 1.

“We’re very fortunate that Eric Immler has accepted the position,” Towle said. “The College is very fortunate that he was willing and wanting to be back with us. He’s an amazing asset to the Campus Safety operation.”

Immler’s ability to return to Westminster once again is a welcome sight to the College.

“A director of Campus Safety is not a position that you want to have vacant for an extended period of time,” said Towle, “so we did move quickly to fill that role.”

College officials confirmed Hamrick’s status as early as Sept. 6.

Immler was last with McDaniel in 2017. Starting in 2013, he held the roles of detective sergeant, lieutenant and assistant director, and captain and deputy chief.

He first started with the College as the community policing supervisor and shift supervisor in 2001. When former Director Mike Webster departed in 2014, Immler took over in his role as assistant director.

Immler has also held positions in the Westminster, Manchester, and Maryland Capitol Police departments. He is currently in a role with Garrison Forest School, an all-girls boarding school outside of Baltimore.

The staff changes are not expected to impact campus operations.

Behind the ‘Tartan’ branding

Christian Garruppo
Staff Reporter

As students walk around campus this semester, it is easy for them to see that McDaniel College made some changes in ways to showcase school pride.

From changing the look of many windows and staircases, to putting new banners up on light posts around campus, the school is changing the look that students and faculty have grown accustomed to seeing.

These banners are a new way that McDaniel is branding the College. Some of these banners have quotes such as “Tout the Tartan” on them, while others showcase different McDaniel students.

Naturally, students have been wondering what the purpose is of having these banners around campus.

“They look okay, but I don’t understand why they are all over campus,” said Kevin Keane, a junior. “They are hard to understand. What does ‘Tout the Tartan’ even mean?”

Associate Vice President of

Communications and Marketing Gina Piellusch said the new campaign is simple.

“‘Tout the Tartan’ is a rallying cry for showcasing the McDaniel colors of green and gold,” she said. “The tartan plaid is a way to represent those colors in a new and compelling way.”

The tartan also refers to the school name’s Scottish roots.

“We decided that we really needed to fully embrace all of the trappings that ought to go with a name like McDaniel,” said McDaniel President Roger Casey in an interview on Aug. 24. Before the rebranding, he noted, there was almost nothing on campus that reflected this. On that account, McDaniel adopted the tartan – a traditional Scottish plaid cloth, often seen on kilts – in the school colors.

The new signs are part of McDaniel’s new “BECOME” campaign, which is based on how McDaniel wants to inspire students to become the best students and people they can be, no matter what they are striving to succeed in.

Last year, the signs around



McDaniel has been decked with new signage from the lightposts to stairways, showcasing the College’s new branding initiative which focuses on the student experience. (Emma Carter / McDaniel Free Press).

campus were all about showcasing how it was the 150th anniversary of the College. With this no longer being the case, it was a great time to change it up and unleash the new brand.

Not only is the new brand on signs around campus, but it is also going to be in advertisements in newspapers such as *The Baltimore Sun* and the *Carroll County Times*. There will soon be billboards with the new brand as the headline put up on Md. 27, 30, and 140.

Most of the recruitment of new students to McDaniel starts through the mail and at places such as

college fairs and it utilizes the new “BECOME” brand. So, the effort is much more than just a few signs on the campus’ light posts.

There was a lot of effort put into getting the new branding up, including the school working with Ohio-based company Ologie. The entire process of developing the branding took around a year, and the effort was worth it, according to freshman Adam Gibbs.

“The signs look good,” said Gibbs. “You can tell it took a lot of effort.”

Emma Carter contributed to this article.

Chinese cherishment: How a new class teaches students about a foreign world

Justin Hayes
Staff Reporter

Debra Lemke has always had a natural affection for China, even from a young age.

“When I was a child the *National Geographic* would come out every month, and the stories I was always interested in was the stuff on China,” she said. “Some of my friends say I must have been Chinese in a different life.”

The Cultural Excursions: China course is taught by Lemke, a professor of sociology at the College. Three years ago, McDaniel decided to add a new course that was designed to help educate students on cultures and other ways

of life different from those of their own.

Lemke received her Ph.D. from Iowa State University. She made her way to McDaniel College when the school was looking for a theorist in the field. She currently teaches the research methods and theory classes within her department, as well as Wealth, Power, And Prestige, and Cultural Excursions: China.

Lemke has been to the China four times in her life, seeing some of the country’s most famous landmarks and cities.

“I think Shaanxi is my favorite city,” she said. “It houses the Wild Goose Pagoda and the Terracotta Soldiers. I love that ancient part of

China.”

Lemke’s appreciation for the country has not gone unnoticed by her pupils.

“She is passionate for sure about China” said Michell O’Conor, a student of Lemke. “She generally enjoys teaching the class, which is nice to see.”

Lemke got the idea to start the Cultural Excursions: China course after a few of her students approached her and were enthusiastic about wanting to learn more about China and its culture. For a while she taught a course titled Along the Great Wall. That class focused, mainly intended for sociology majors, heavily on China from a sociological perspective.

More recently, Lemke has transformed the course into what we see today, with less of a focus on sociology and more on China, its culture, and its rich history. Topics covered in the course include the

history of China, its different provinces, and the practices and beliefs of the people who call China their home.

One requirement of the course is that each week students get to choose an article from the Chinese newspaper and explain how it relates to class.

“I really just want them to have an appreciation for a culture that most people don’t get exposed to,” Lemke explained. “China is something to appreciate, not something to fear.”

As of 2018, China is currently one of the largest markets in the world. Lemke believes that this class may help students become used to a culture that they may have to work with in the future.

“It’s something that I never really looked at before,” O’Conor said of Chinese culture and history. “And I’m excited to see what new things I can learn.”



(Emma Carter / McDaniel Free Press).

The possibility of a smoke-free campus

Ciara O’Brien
Staff Reporter

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, cigarette smoking causes about 480,000 deaths every year in the U.S. As scientists learn about the negative side effects of smoking, more and more colleges have decided to ban smoking on their campuses. Smoke-free and tobacco-free college and university campuses

have more than doubled from 2012 to 2017. Towson University went smoke free about eight years ago, and Goucher College just made the change this fall.

So why hasn’t McDaniel made the switch?

McDaniel’s current smoking policy forbids smoking “of any kind, including e-cigarettes and all other electronic smoking devices,” within 25 feet of any building.

Not only would going smoke-free help limit the social acceptability of tobacco use, but it would also protect non-smokers from secondhand smoke. According to the CDC, most smokers start smoking before the age of 26, which makes implementing smoke-free campuses even more important. Although cigarettes are being replaced with more popular alternatives such as vaporizers, electronic cigarettes, and hookah, those too can have serious health side effects.

McDaniel’s Nurse Practitioner Bonnie Bock says that these still pose dangers.

“A lot of them have toxins in them that cigarettes don’t have, so you’re still spewing chemicals and things into the air and other people are having to breathe it.”

“Smoke is smoke,” she said. “[A smoke free campus is] very important for the health and well-being of students. You don’t want to encourage smoking, or the exposure to second-hand smoke

and how dangerous that can be for people who don’t smoke.”

However, if McDaniel ever does decide to become smoke free, it would be a major process.

“Transitioning to a smoke-free campus would be a decision made at the level of Dr. Casey and the various vice presidents, probably with input from SGA, the Faculty Senate, and the Staff Advisory Board,” said Associate Dean of Students Michael Robbins.

Both Towson and Goucher took years to make the shift because of the pushback from the small group of students who do smoke.

“I’ve heard of other campuses really having some difficulties implementing it because it’s a huge change, and there’s often push back,” Bock said.

Freshman Henry Hayden is against McDaniel going smoke free.

“I like to smoke,” he said. “I wouldn’t like a smoke-free campus because I would have to walk all the way off campus when I can easily just smoke here.”

Writer of the Week: Jorge Luis Borges

Colin Lyon
Assistant Editor

Never one to defy expectations, Jorge Luis Borges, in his 86 years, managed to become one of the most prolific authors of Latin American literature. His life began as humbly as most; born in a Buenos Aires suburb to Leonor Suarez and Jorge Haslam, Borges was raised in the Palermo region, then a poorer section of the city. At only nine years old, Borges’ interest in literature manifested when he translated *The Happy Prince* by Oscar Wilde into Spanish and had it published in a local newspaper. This inspiration likely stemmed from his father, who held dreams of publishing. However, Borges noted that his father “tried to become a writer and failed in the attempt.”

Jorge’s interest in education and literature continued into his teen years. By 11, he was bilingual in English and Spanish, and by 12 he had developed a keen interest in Shakespeare. In 1914, when Borges was a mere 15 years old, his family moved to Geneva in Switzerland. While there, Borges learned even more languages: French for conversation and German for

philosophy.

At the age of 18, Borges graduated from the College de Geneve (now known as College Calvin) and, with their oldest finished with school, the Borges family decided to wait out the remainder of the Great War in Switzerland. Borges’ criticism of communism during this period would color his writings for the remainder of his life.

Borges’ literary work expanded in volume, ranging from fiction to a pair of journals: *Prisma* and *Proa*, both based back in Buenos Aires. It was only in the mid-1930s, however, that Borges branched out from his former styles and began to study existential fiction. As with many Latin American writers of the time, he developed a style popularly known as Irreality, a structure that shares much in common with postmodernism.

1933 marked a drastic shift in Borges’ career; he moved to an editorial position of a branch of the *Critica* newspaper. It was here that he first published his collection of writings, famous as the *Universal History of Infamy* today. Again showing his postmodern and anti-authoritarian leanings, Borges’

pieces were written in two styles: one a collection of non-fiction essay and stories, and the other a set of forged documents passed off as translations of seldom-read essays.

Borges’ unique style of writing continued for a long while. He gained initial renown overseas from his poems translated to the “Collected Fictions” anthology as well as his acceptance of the first Prix International award. After a spike in interest, Borges went on several tours of the United States, lecturing to aspiring writers.

He published quickly and prolifically, often earning awards for the poetic and existential nature of his writings. Borges’ writings, immersed in themes of mazes, time, and sexuality, are fantastical works designed to manipulate the concept of narration. This unique style persisted and intensified until he stopped writing, shortly before his death.

Borges passed away in June of 1986 in his Geneva home. Although he is considered a writer of the twentieth century, his work still has profound meaning and shines light on the modern and postmodern movements.

McDaniel Compliments

“Thank you Jackie White for working so patiently with students in the Writing Center. You help me realize all that I am capable of. In fact, all the Writing Center tutors do a great job!”

“Thanks to all the academic departments on campus that allow Federal Work Study students to work for them. We owe it to you!”

“It may be another rainy day here on the Hill, but at least we’re in good company! I’m glad I’ve already met so many great people and lifelong friends here. I’ll face any storm for you guys.”

“Just wanted to remind everyone that we’re all highly functioning adults capable of great things and we’re unstoppable!”

“Emily Renfro is such a wonderful person! They never fail to cheer me up and they’re super smart and funny! I love them so much!”

“Lauren Beckjord is such a beautiful human being. I love her smile! I saw her at the Involvement Fair and she was just so positive and welcoming to everyone, making sure to always say hi.”

Want to brighten someone’s day? Need a way to fulfill your random act of kindness for the day? Message *Dean McDaniel Compliments* on Facebook with a compliment, and we’ll post it anonymously for you. Here to spread some happiness on the Hill, we’ll make sure your friend, classmate, or professor has the chance to smile and feel appreciated. Your compliment could be featured in the next issue of the *Free Press*!

McComics: Student artist biographies

Free Press Staff

This semester, the *Free Press* is excited to partner with the communication department’s Communication and Culture course, taught by Associate Professor Robert Lemieux. Each week, students create their own comic strips, which we will share on our website every Sunday. Select comics will also be featured in our print editions (pages 6-7 of this issue).

Tori Arcilesi: Tori is from Bel Air, Maryland and is a member of the Women’s Lacrosse Team. She is a communication major and marketing minor. She is also involved in the Alpha Sigma Tau sorority, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, and Love Your Melon. Tori works part-time as a marketing intern for SURVICE Engineering. Her hobbies include spending time at her beach house in Ocean City, playing piano, and shopping.

Jeremy Crowley: Jeremy claims to be nobody in particular, but we know better.

Jill Courtney: Jill is a sophomore from Cumberland, Maryland, and she is majoring in communication and minoring in political science. She is the vice president of McDaniel Live Music Club and a member of the Radio Club, Student Alumni Council, and she works as a student ambassador for the College. Jill hopes to pursue a law degree upon graduation.

Olivia Culver: A senior from the D.C. area, Olivia is majoring in communication with a Spanish minor. She enjoys traveling, hanging out with friends, listening to music, and working out in her free time.

Tom Daly: Tom is from Haddon Heights, NJ and is majoring in communication. He is the catcher on the Green Terror

baseball team.

Tucker Evans: Tucker is a senior majoring in communication. When he’s not making comic strips, you can find him daydreaming about snowboarding.

Sydney Gonsalves: Sydney is a senior majoring in communication. She’s from Silver Spring, Maryland and is excited to make comics!

Jakob Katzen: Jakob is a junior from Wilmington, Delaware pursuing a major in communication, with a dual minor in Spanish and journalism. He is the goalie on the McDaniel Men’s Lacrosse team. He’s been playing lacrosse for over 10 years and enjoys giving back and growing the sport by providing instruction to youth players, assisting with lacrosse tournaments and different high school and recreational teams. During his free time, he enjoys cooking, going on vacations to Maine and Florida, and keeping up to date on the world of sports.

Stuart Landis: Stuart is a senior studying communication, and he considers himself to be media-savvy with how well he is able to draw parallels between real life events and what he watches on TV. Stuart is interested in the construction and distribution of messages, and he hopes to become better at understanding their impact.

Dayne Llamas: Dayne is a junior majoring in communication and minoring in sports management. He is also part of the Green Terror football team. In his free time, Dayne enjoys fishing and traveling around in search of new and interesting places to eat. He owns three pugs back home that are hilarious.

Hannah Maxwell: Hannah is a senior from Towson, Maryland, and she is majoring in communication. She is also a member of the field hockey team. Her favorite things are

Christmas and her cat Gucci.

Matthew Ogorzalek: Matthew is a junior hoping to double major in communication and art. He recently learned how to use Photoshop and Multimedia Design. You can find him floating around campus with a smile on his face and saying hi to everyone. He grew up in Maryland and was adopted from Russia when he was two.

Sophia Senge: Sophia is a senior from the Baltimore area, and she is majoring in communication. Her passions are caregiving and human rights. She loves spending time in the Maine woods and spending time with her family. Before taking Communication and Culture, she wasn’t very interested in comic strips, with the exception of her childhood favorite, Calvin and Hobbes. She is excited to learn more about creating comics and to share her work with the *Free Press*!

Kofi Siga: Kofi is a junior from Largo, Maryland, and he is majoring in communication. He’s a member of the football team and loves to play and watch sports. He is also interested in movies and

filmmaking.

T’ana Williams: T’ana is a senior from Baltimore, and she will be graduating with a degree in sociology and communication.

Clint Wright: Clint is a senior majoring in communication, and he is the Chapter President of McDaniel’s Young Americans for Liberty, a club dedicated to promoting individual freedom. In addition to being involved at McDaniel, he also serves on the South Western School Board, a school district in Pennsylvania. His interests include hunting, going to the gym, listening to classic rock music, and coaching wrestling.

Nathan Wright: Nathan is a junior working toward a communication degree.

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

McComics

Wall Wisdom

Name: Tommy Daly

all doing homework on normal weekday night when...

Dude, all of this homework is really stressing me out. I feel like I have no time to get it all done.

Well what if you just skipped class to finish your work?

Yeah man, just do that. We skip class all the time to finish work because we don't do it at night.

Plan ahead Jason and eliminate distractions, that way you don't have to skip class like one of these guys.

The Wise Wall said...

Did the wall just give me wise advice?

That's a great idea! Thanks!

Problems of the basic

Karen you really need to start eating healthy

I don't know what you're talking about Liz. This meal has almost all the food groups.

The Crust is bread. Bread is Carbs. Carbs give me energy.

The Tomato sauce is from a tomato, which is a fruit. Fruits are healthy sugars.

Cheese has milk. Milk has calcium. Calcium strengthens your bones.

Sausage is meat. Meat is protein

..... I don't think it works like that, Karen.

COLLEGE LIFE

BY JEREMY CROWLEY

THE GREEN TERROR

HERE ON THE HILL WE NEVER STOP CLIMBING

FRESHMAN

SOPHOMORE

SENIOR

MUSCULAR DEVELOPMENT

Photo by Bill Corbett

THE CHRONICLES OF GRANDPA RON

HAPPY BIRTHDAY RON!

WHAT YOU GOT THERE FOR ME SON

HE'S GOING TO LOVE THIS NEW TOY I SPENT ALL MY SAVINGS ON..

I KNOW WHAT I'M DOING, I DON'T NEED INSTRUCTIONS

LET'S MAKE SURE EVERYTHING IS SYNCED CORRECTLY ON THE DRONE SO THAT WE CAN FLY IT RIGHT

WOW ISN'T THAT THE NEW \$2000 DRONE?

YES JUST FOR YOU GRANDPA, LET'S GO TRY IT OUT!

WHERE IS THE DRONE GOING?

No Input Signal

SHOULD'VE READ INSTRUCTIONS

IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE...

OOPS. THAT THING REALLY TOOK OFF, HOW DO WE FIND IT NOW.

DON'T EXPECT A GIFT LIKE THAT AGAIN.

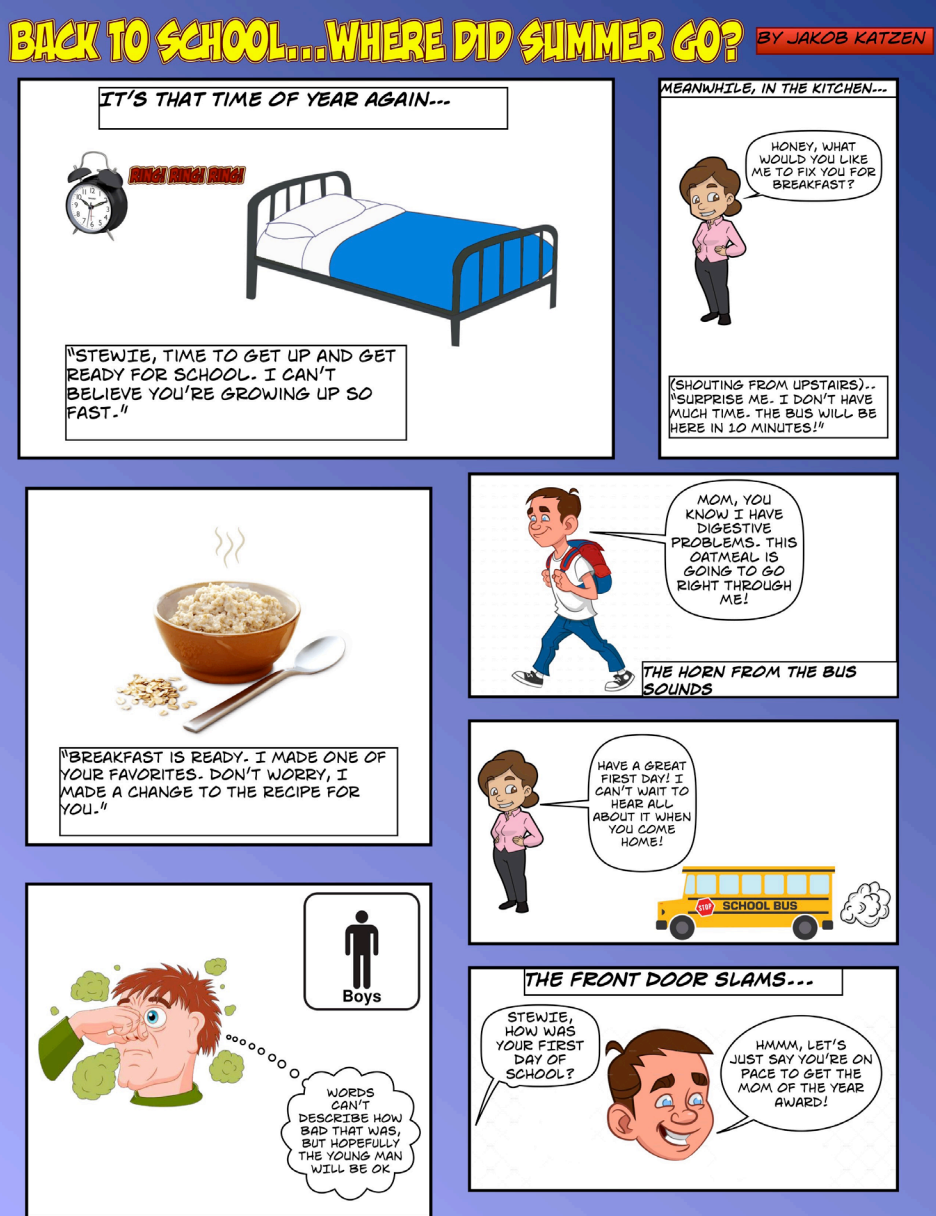
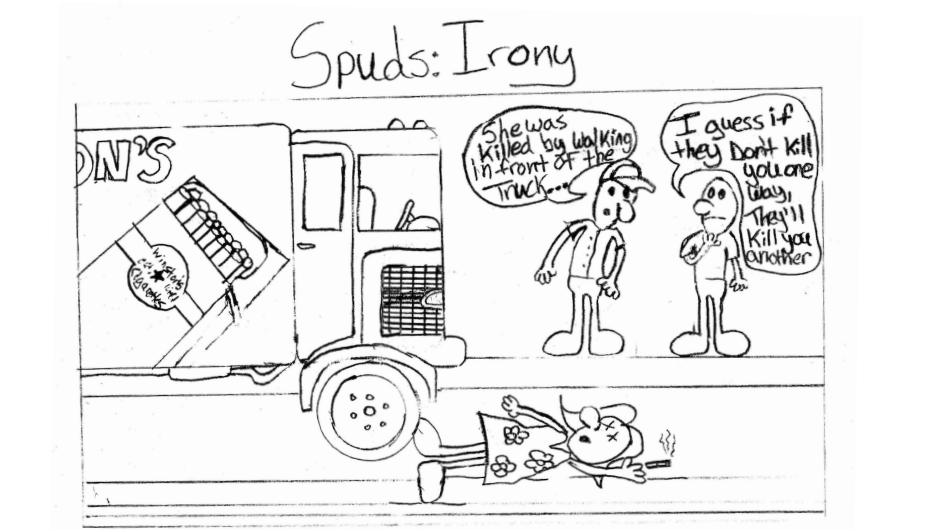
ONE YEAR LATER...

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

WHAT YOU GOT THERE FOR ME SON

FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS FOR DUMMIES

BY: TORI ARCILES!





Air conditioning is often reserved for spaces like practice rooms for musicians in Levine Hall (above) or offices. (Emma Carter / McDaniel Free Press).

Air conditioning: A want or need?

Emmanuel Brown
Staff Reporter

As a new school year begins, students are presented with both old and new problems. One issue that never seems to go away is the heat, and at McDaniel College, one of the first observations that students often make is the lack of air-conditioned buildings.

Currently, the majority of residence halls do not have air conditioning. This includes Rouzer (with the exception of the fourth floor), Whiteford, Albert Norman Ward, and McDaniel Halls, the Pennsylvania Avenue houses, and Forlines House. The halls that do have some form of air conditioning are the Garden Apartments, the North Village apartments, and Daniel MacClea and Blanche Ward Halls.

The only way students who do not live in dorms with any air conditioning can get a window unit in their dorm is if they have a medical condition. Once they get a doctor’s note, the College then reviews the document to determine if they are eligible to have a window unit.

Due to the lack of air conditioning, many students find it challenging to endure the first few weeks of the fall semester. This has caused students to find activities to avoid going back to their rooms.

The biggest reason why the College has not been able to fix this solution is because of money, admitted Michael Robbins, the associate dean of students and the director of residence life and student engagement.

“[Switching] over the buildings

to air conditioning would require a pretty big capital investment,” Robbins said.

When the College tried to get a price quote on installing central air conditioning in Whiteford, the cost was over \$1 million, he said. This is because many modifications would have to be made to the building.

Robbins also said that installing air-conditioning window units in every room would not be any easier, since most of the buildings do not have the electrical capacity to hold that amount of power.

He believes that air conditioning is more of a want than a necessity since it is only for the first and last month of the academic year.

“It’s hot, it’s frustrating,” Robbins said. “I grew up in a house without air conditioning; it was hot.”

Students, however, are conflicted on the issue.

Anniki Murray, a sophomore

living in McDaniel Hall, said she has faced many difficulties because of the hot living conditions.

“At night,” Murray said, “it’s so hot to the point where I cannot go to sleep. And If I do go to sleep, it’s only for, like, an hour or two.”

She even mentioned that taking cold showers does not work because of the amount of humidity in the bathroom.

“During the hot seasons, air conditioning is definitely a necessity,” said a resident assistant who asked to remain anonymous. “Maryland is a hot, humid place.”

She went on to say that because the dorm she oversees does not have air conditioning, it negatively affects some of her residents. For example, one of her residents had to take her service animal back home until the weather cooled down.

Even though many students find it hard to adjust without air conditioning, there are some students that are not fazed by the heat.

Junior Elise Simons has not allowed the weather to affect her during her time at McDaniel. Although she currently has air conditioning and had a unit her freshman year, she did not have air conditioning her sophomore year.

“It honestly wasn’t that big of a transition,” said Simons.

During her sophomore year, she said she was satisfied with having the window open and using her box fan to keep cool.

According to Robbins, there has been talk in the past among student groups and President Roger Casey about installing air conditioning in every residential building. But Robbins said the students thought it would be better to endure the heat than invest millions of dollars to keep the buildings cool for just the first and last month of the year.

Contrast: McDaniel’s purveyor of the literary arts

Ryan Hess
Staff Reporter

Senior Emma Driban, the co-editor of *Contrast*, has been a member since her freshman year. “I’ve always been a big fan of reading other people’s work and trying to improve their writing,” Driban said with a smile. “I think I like helping people with their writing more than I like writing myself.”

Driban was involved in a similar organization at her high school and wanted to tackle bigger projects with her editorial skills when she came to McDaniel.

With over 35 active members and almost 60 people subscribed to their email list – and not to mention their annual magazine – *Contrast* has been the opportunity Driban hoped for.

Contrast not only aligned with Driban’s desires, but also allowed her to continue her passion of helping others with the skills she has already obtained as an English major.

“That’s what it’s all about,” Driban said. “The editors won’t be judgmental if the authors don’t

want us to be, but the whole idea behind *Contrast* is to promote everyone’s interest and improve everyone’s skills in creative writing – especially if you don’t have a starting point or are hesitant to begin.”

With her passion fueling her commitment, and her English experience as a powerful resource, Driban plans to continue the expansion of *Contrast*.

Marya Topina, Driban’s fellow co-editor of *Contrast*, has also been involved with the magazine since her freshman year. Her high school didn’t have an organization centralized around creative writing, so *Contrast* was a big deal to her when she joined.

After two years in the club, Topina felt that she had some thoughts that could greatly improve the club, and worked hard to earn the co-editor position her junior year. She detailed these expansionary plans: writing workshops.

“In the past, *Contrast* really only existed in the spring semester... there was no sense of community,” Topina said. “The idea behind these writing workshops is to give



Copies of *Contrast*’s magazine printed each spring semester. (Marya Topina / McDaniel Free Press).

people a chance to meet the other members of the club, learn from each other, and improve their writing together.”

Topina implemented these plans starting this semester, and so far, the workshops have been met with positive feedback.

Maddie Lee, a freshman and new member to *Contrast*, particularly enjoyed the element of random story prompts. She says she is never really working on any long-term writing efforts in her free time.

“The random prompts are more of a workout, instead of playing an entire game,” Lee said. “They keep your skills up, but don’t exhaust you.”

Lee was immediately drawn to

Contrast after speaking with Topina at the Involvement Fair and learning of the organization’s focus on group creative writing.

“[Creative writing] is a habit that one can easily fall out of when trying to do it individually,” Lee said.

Editor’s notes: Marya Topina, Contrast’s co-editor who has been interviewed for this article, is also on the editorial staff of the Free Press as our co-features and copy editor. She was not involved in the editorial process of this article.

Contrast is also introducing a new partnership with the Free Press this semester. Read more about the new monthly writing contests on page 11 of this issue and on our website.

Cultivated: A business and a dream

Mikayla Whitehead
Staff Reporter

When walking up to Cultivated’s storefront, customers are greeted by a welcome sign and plants. Once inside, they can instantly tell what the store is all about because of the colorful and unique displays. Cultivated sells clothes, jewelry, bath products, room decor, and stationary with a bohemian chic style.

In the ever-growing hip atmosphere of Westminster’s Main Street, a new small business opened in October of 2015. Tiombe Paige opened Cultivated, which was a dream she had starting in her early 20s to remedy the fact that Westminster had no real boutiques that were targeting the younger demographic.

Her goal with the store was to create an Anthropologie-meets-Francesca’s vibe.

“I really wanted the ‘cool factor’ and to be the neighborhood place to go,” Paige said.

Her customers say she has met and exceeded this expectation. “I get a homey and uplifting vibe from the store,” said Lauren Heineman, a visitor of Cultivated. “To make this atmosphere successfully, I think she had to carefully choose a color palette as well as arrange the layout to make it feel welcoming. [Paige] also had to select specific pieces to sell in the store that were in familiar styles to create a certain aesthetic.”

For Paige, a workday starts 2 hours before her store even opens, when she tackles her administrative tasks, finds new products, and develops advertising.

“Once the business opens, I work in my business, devoting time to customers – getting to know them, engaging in conversation, essentially just making friends,” Paige said. “Customer service is very important to having a successful company.”

Paige’s customers are well aware and grateful for the effort she and



Cultivated’s storefront in downtown Westminster, Md. (Mikayla Whitehead / McDaniel Free Press).

her employees put into customer service.

“They were very friendly and knew how to get the customers’ attention,” said customer Audrey McComas. “Good customer service is being able to help the customers even if it doesn’t lead to them buying the products. And good customer service makes me more willing to return.”

Overall, Paige’s dedication to her business outside of open hours, and her exemplary customer service skills led to her success as an

independent small business owner.

Her advice, however, to young entrepreneurs wanting to get a start on their business may seem contrary to common wisdom.

“The advice I normally give is not to open a business just to be your own boss. You work harder for yourself than you will for anyone else.”

Instead, Paige recommends starting a business if you have a deep passion for something and feel that it’ll make the world a better place.

From Transfer to Terror

Janice Deniel
Staff Reporter

This new school year, there are a lot of familiar faces on campus and new students, too, including a significant portion that are transfers from other four-year and community colleges.

This year, McDaniel welcomed 416 freshman and 55 transfers, which totaled 471 new students.

The number of transfers vary from year to year, and from where they arrive. They are thrust into a new environment, which can take time to get used to.

A key factor to help these transfers are peer mentors. Desiray Sweeney is a junior who works as a peer mentor. Before being a peer mentor, she was a transfer herself just last year. She came to McDaniel as a sophomore after attending Frederick Community College.

“I had no idea what I wanted to do,” said Sweeney, explaining her decision to put off attending a four-year school immediately after high school. “I was not ready for college.”

Frederick Community College served as a tool for her to prepare and, after a year, she transferred to McDaniel.

“McDaniel was the place I was supposed to be,” said Sweeney. “I love the small town feel.”

She decided to become a peer mentor to share her experience and help others settle into college, which can be a difficult process. Sweeney was very lonely her first year at McDaniel and regretted not participating in activities because she felt like she was dropped into the middle of something.

She wants to inspire transfers to enjoy McDaniel and help them find their place.



Desiray Sweeney. (Photo courtesy of Desiray Sweeney).

“I love helping people,” said Sweeney. “It’s just kind of my nature. I remember coming in as a transfer student, and I want to help transfer students because I want it to be relatable to them.”

A fellow peer mentor, Logan Clough, described Sweeney as a ray of sunshine.

“She always had a positive attitude and eagerness to learn how to fulfill her duties,” said Clough. “She is hardworking, intelligent, and an overall good influence on everyone around her.”

Abigail Hayden, a mentee of Sweeney, thinks of her as a crucial resource.

“She’s always a friendly face,” said Hayden. “I ask her a lot of questions and she always has an answer.”

Sweeney advises transfer students “to get out there and get involved.”



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Why US military involvement in Venezuela would be foolish

Mario Fernandez
Commentary Editor

According to a news piece from *The New York Times* on Sept. 8, 2018, the Trump administration has been meeting with rebellious Venezuelan military officials to plan an overthrow of Nicolas Maduro, the Venezuelan president. Committing such an egregious abuse of sovereignty would be purely idiotic, irrational, and not unexpected from the current administration for a plethora of reasons.

Such actions hearken back to the Cold War and the many times that the U.S. meddled in countries where it should not have, and in the process promoted dictatorships, mass murder, violations of human rights, and even genocide, all in the name of “fighting against communism.”

This history still scars Latin America today; however, the current administration either does not care about history, or is illiterate. To see why this proposed coup would cause more harm than good, one must look into the recent history of Venezuela.

In 1998, Hugo Chavez came to power in what was the last real election in Venezuela. Chavez ran

on a populist platform and he appealed to the uneducated masses, all while stabbing them in the back. Chavez gave his supporters a people to unite against, these people were the educated classes, the foreigners, the rich, and most importantly, the U.S.

Following his election, Chavez began to violate the rule of law. He changed the constitution at will, incarcerated his opposition, and blacklisted government workers who did not vote for him. Chavez did this with the idea of a socialist revolution in mind, a revolution for the masses. However, under his regime, the economy suffered, crime rose alongside poverty and hunger, and even though it was the masses – his supporters – who suffered most, they still venerated him.

Come 2013 and the economy was on its last leg. What was once one of the richest countries in Latin America became one of the poorest, and Chavez had died.

Step forth Nicolas Maduro, a man whose only experience in government was being the leader of the bus driver’s union. Under his regime, crime has risen exponentially, people are consistently hungry, and Venezuela

has hit unprecedented levels of inflation, yet Maduro and his cronies are still getting richer.

The most damaging aspect of Maduro’s regime has been the creation of the National Assembly. This assembly is run by Maduro sympathizers and is meant to pass over the now opposition-run legislature, foregoing the only chance to legally overturn anything done by Maduro.

The situation in Venezuela cannot seem to get worse, yet anyone who reads anything about Venezuela knows that it will. However, the U.S., especially under this administration, appears to have the solution to making situations exponentially worse. A violent coup attempt in Venezuela would simply cause more instability and resentment towards the U.S.

First and foremost, an overthrow attempt in Venezuela would only bring more violence to a country that already has a plethora of violence. Just last year, Venezuela experienced 100 days of protest in which 90 protesters were killed and hundreds were injured, incarcerated, and disappeared. Having the U.S. fund violent confrontations will only lead to thousands of deaths, unnecessary spending, and will only

galvanize support for Maduro – who claims that the U.S. is waging a secret war against Venezuela.

Second, such involvement could not be a purer violation of sovereignty. I know that the U.S. clearly does not care about such things – which the invasion of Afghanistan showed – yet in this moment in time, the U.S. is not in its best position to violate such aspects of international law. With Trump’s childish and erratic behavior alienating allies, the U.S. would be set on a collision course once it would fund violence in another country. With the ultra-nationalistic, bellicose, and racist tendencies of this administration, a regime supported by Trump is not one that would be benevolent. With such aforementioned tendencies, the U.S. is bound to encourage more violence, strain international relations, violate international law, and prompt knee-jerk reactions by the Latin American community.

I do not know what the best solution to the Venezuelan crisis would be. I do know, however, that a violent coup supported by Trump’s U.S. would inflame the crisis.

For an administration that is so isolationist, it is hypocritical that it would get involved in another country’s problem. Yet again, childish and erratic behavior is bound to lead to hypocrisy and inadequacy in policy.

From the archives: 1970s headlines

Emma Carter
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Headlines are, of course, the first text our readers see when they pick up a copy of the newspaper. Writers at the *Gold Bug*, Western Maryland College’s name for its student-run newspaper from 1925-1975, certainly had several attention-grabbing headlines for their readers in the 1970s.

The truth about Rouzer comes out

March 8, 1971

The “truth” about Rouzer Hall — which was, at the time, an all-men’s dorm — is less ominous than this headline makes it seem. This article profiles the “practical joke season” that took place in the residence hall. Most of the pranks students played on each other involved throwing darts: they threw them at doorknobs, bulletin boards, and at the occasional resident (the writer reported no injuries). The reporter attributed the behavior in Rouzer to boredom, as it “causes one to do weird things...and you will find guys [in Rouzer] doing weird things. That is because they are bored.”

People didn’t run fast enough

Nov. 20, 1973

This *Gold Bug* sports writer wasn’t being snide when she titled her article about Western Maryland’s cross-country team — she was quoting the coach. After the team finished its season with a 4-9 record, Coach Mick Mekkelson attributed the losses simply to people not running fast enough,

which was “[logical] enough,” according to the writer. While disappointed — “we planned on doing better” — Mekkelson said he was looking forward to the next season.

It was...a good time

April 11, 1974

While this staff writer gave no hints about his mysterious use of the ellipses, he detailed the “extremely good time” that Western Maryland students had at the student-written play, “Oh No, My Igloo Is Melting.” This winter-themed play created by the Class of 1975 included original songs and dance numbers. The play was a success, and according to one of the lead cast members, it brought the class together, which “[hadn’t] been this close since freshmen [sic] year.”

Nutritious meal, under proposal

Sept. 26, 1974

Despite the health-related title, this article is about potential curriculum changes. The writer began with a quote by a professor: “Liberal learning has always been a ‘Moveable Feast.’” That professor had proposed several new ideas regarding educational reform at the College. These included dropping the freshman English course requirement and making gym classes optional. By nixing a number of requirements, he said he did not want to “terrorize students with new freedoms,” but, according to the writer, “to make the Moveable Feast as rich as possible.”

Your article could be printed here!

Join us at the *Free Press* to get involved on campus and leave your mark on McDaniel.

Learn transferrable skills through student journalism and start building your resume toward a successful career today.

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Jose Pac. (Photo courtesy of McDaniel Athletics).

Jose Pac’s escape

Eric Chung
Assistant Editor

All he ever wanted was to fit in. It’s hard to believe that Jose Pac, an international student from Guatemala and swimmer for the Green Terror, was once struggling to find stability and happiness in his life. Those who know Pac are quick to talk about his exciting energy and naturally competitive spirit. On campus, the biology major is known to flash people his trademark smile. He carries himself with a cool demeanor, yet possesses a personality that is gentle and welcomes people with a hospitable warmth. “He’s got the tools you need to be exciting,” Men’s Swimming Head Coach Jeff Hiestand said. “He’s very exciting and ready to swim fast every day.” Pac maintains a heavy schedule. Along with swimming, he works as a resident assistant, is part of

Global Fellows, studies in the Honors Program, and serves as the recruitment director of Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity. He’s popular, too. Pac loves the people and the people love Pac. Surprisingly though, the signature energy he has become known for on the Hill is the result of years of working tirelessly to find acceptance and happiness. Growing up in his early years at school, Pac felt isolated from his peers and fellow students. “Back home, I didn’t fit in with the people in my school. I felt like I was very different from them,” Pac said. “I was alone.” Struggling daily in facing his personal roadblocks, Pac did find solace at the pool. Swimming became his go-to stress-reliever. The activity let him clear his mind and allowed him not only to achieve physical fitness but to sharpen his mental fitness as well. “I was happy to go swim after school. That was my big thing. I feel like swimming was my base to find value in myself,” Pac said.

He found in swimming what he couldn’t find in other people. It was an escape from the pressures of school and living up to the expectations of others. It was his love and commitment to the sport that allowed him to develop his talents as a top swimmer in high school and to eventually make his way to McDaniel. Since stepping into Harlow Pool, Pac has been all systems go. If there is one word that perfectly describes Pac, it’s exciting. “Everyday, he always has that ‘race’ mentality. He always has that competitive edge that a lot of people lack,” said teammate Grayson Blanchard. “He’ll pump everyone up and get them going.” Much of that excitement and electricity that Pac has about him is a big reason why he is training to potentially represent the Guatemalan National Swim Team at the 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo. He wasn’t sure what he wanted to do with swimming when he got to McDaniel, but the decision to pursue this goal was

motivated by his desire to set an example and make his family proud. “I came here to McDaniel and joined the swim team unsure of what I wanted to do,” Pac said. “The team had a good season and a lot of people were supporting me. Then I thought to myself, ‘I want to do something.’ Something that I can tell my children ‘I was able to do this.’ I also have two younger siblings, and I want them to achieve even greater things than I could achieve. If I can help them out, they can go even farther. If I can make the Guatemalan National Team, I can set those foundations for my family.” Despite all the monumental changes in his life, Pac remains modest and sticks to his roots. His mother works as a small businesswoman, and his father, who Pac considers his hero, is a chemical engineer.

“My whole entire life, when I was struggling, when I wasn’t doing well in school, swimming, or anything, my dad was the one that always kept me going,” Pac said. “He’d do anything for our family. He wouldn’t eat so we could eat. When we had some economic hardships, he did anything he could. He’s a very hard-working man and he still works hard for me.” Even though he is chasing his Olympic dreams, Pac is still very ambitious in planning what he will do after his days at McDaniel are over. His ultimate goal is to become a dermatologist. “My dream is to go to medical school. A big goal for me is to attend The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine,” Pac said. “I’d like to be a dermatologist. Back home, there’s a lot of need. If I can help people with skin problems, I can improve their lives.” Through school, work, and swimming, Pac has found a balance that satisfies him. With a brand-new swim season coming up and three more years on the Hill, Pac likes to live by a John F. Kennedy quote: “Do not pray for easy lives. Pray to be stronger men.”

Contrast contest

Each issue, *The McDaniel Free Press* partners with *Contrast*, McDaniel’s literary magazine, to showcase student writing based on a prompt from the previous issue. *Contrast* editors will review submissions and together we publish the winning submission.

This month’s prompt:
One day, when you’re bored in class, you start tapping your fingers on the underside of your desk. There, you find a taped note with your name on it. In up to 500 words of prose or up to 50 lines of poetry, write what happens next.

Please email your submission to mat005@mcdaniel.edu. Winner(s) will be chosen based on the discretion of *Contrast* editors Marya Topina and Emma Driban.

Please also feel free to attend *Contrast* meetings Thursdays at 9 p.m. in Hill 108 to workshop your writing and receive feedback from fellow creative minds on campus.

Congratulations to Maddy Lee, winner of last month’s contest!

“Into the Green Terror”
by Maddy Lee

It’s been over seventy-two hours since I left the faint and familiar landscape of the homefront. And since then, I have been met with chaos and conundrum and college. The new crop of fresh-faced greenies are as baffled as I, and in some I have found companionship. In others, I have found deep-riden blood feuds. These tend to be the elite, experienced, and known owners of unspoken gold: air conditioning.

My entrance into their ranks has been slow, but steady. They often ask my name and age and numerical rank among them. Some offer advice. Some offer condolences. Most are harmless, I would say. I have had but one nightmarish encounter with the less than harmless of these locals.

Sleep had escaped me in the previous night. The call of the native

insects as they burrowed into the trees had been omnipresent, and I laid awake to their arrhythmic melody. I was expected in the Hall of Hills at high noon, and they held no sympathy for my weary plight. As I clamored up the seemingly never ending heights, I felt the pressure in the air decrease. Breath escaped me, thighs straining with this cardiovascular torture.

At last, I reached the summit of Everest and relished in my victory. All that stood between me and my station now was a singular doorway. I bested it in dramatic fashion with a flourish of the leg--though I lost a flip-flop in the motion. The first of many possible casualties over the next four years. I reclaimed the fallen soldier and continued on with the mission. I strode with pride, yet not arrogance. This land was a jungle. Anything could happen. I rounded the corner.

I was met with the locals. Foreign and red-eyed, weary from the

early academic hours, and yet clearly well into this ritual of lecture and listening. They stared at me with contempt. Perhaps rightfully so. I surveyed my surroundings, strange coded symbols covering the walls in chalk and comic-sans font posters. Their stares became deadly. I had no choice, feet glued to the ground beneath me. The time for actions was now. I was not certain if I would come back. Hopefully my comrades back in base camp would know I went down bravely--fighting till the bitter end. Hopefully they would think kindly of me. I was thinking of them as the locals began to grow more and more infatuated with my presence. I opened my mouth to speak. I prayed someone would tell my mother I love her.

“This isn’t Soc, is it?” I asked.

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The McDaniel Free Press

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The Student Government Association's Homecoming Pep Rally in Red Square on Wednesday, Oct. 3, 2018 ahead of the Oct. 6 main event. Students participated in rap battles, egg races (above), dance performances, and games of tug-of-war. (Photo courtesy of Brandon White).

Academic programs under review, reallocation of resources expected

Emma Carter & Atticus Rice
Co-Editors-in-Chief

McDaniel College has begun a faculty-led review of departments and programs which is expected to reveal areas for cuts and new funding alike.

"The intent is to reinvest dollars," said Steve McCole, professor of kinesiology and co-chair of the Strategic Thinking Group for Pedagogical Value. "It's not about cutting to try to save the money. It's reinvesting. Reallocating some funds

to a program that can really grow."

The process started last May by a charge from the trustees at their final meeting of the academic year. It also ties into the strategic program that the College put in place in 2015.

"This is really another piece of that," said Martine Motard-Noar, professor of world languages, literatures, and cultures and co-chair of the STGPV, which is overseeing the review.

The STGPV began its evaluation See **REVIEW**, page 2

Homecoming court winners announced at Pep Rally

The court of eight will make an appearance at the Oct. 6 Homecoming football game

First Year Eminence:

Elva Joya and Nashanti Harris

Sophomore Royalty:

Delaney Ford and Nate Alston

Junior Majesty:

Onesha Smith and Kris Murphy

Senior Highness:

Samnetta Nah and Jed Fowler

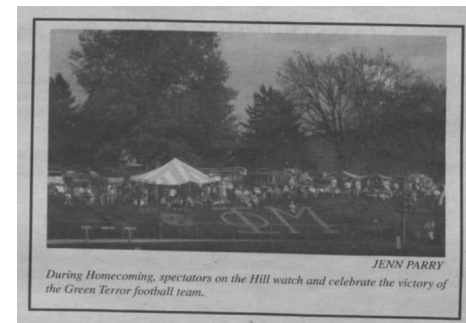
From the archives: Homecoming throughout the years

Emma Carter
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Homecoming on the Hill has always been packed with events that McDaniel and Western Maryland College newspaper staff have put into print – here are the highlights from 15, 30, and 50 years ago.

Nov. 12, 2003: "Homecoming on the Hill: Warm weather and Green Terror Football victory delights spectators."

The "abnormally warm weather" for this November celebration was the icing on the homecoming cake, according to the account of the *Phoenix's* news editor at the time. Aside from the ideal temperature for tailgating – which cost \$5 – Green Terror football defeated Franklin and Marshall's Diplomats 21-7, and the homecoming parade down Main Street, an annual tradition, drew a crowd. The preceding Spirit Week included a showing of the film "Bring It On" sponsored by the SGA as well as a bus trip to Spring Grove, Pa.'s Haunted Mill, which one student was quoted saying had her "scared [expletive]."



Oct. 27, 1988: "Homecoming has its ups and downs"

This staff writer actually only highlighted one "down" from Western Maryland's homecoming in 1988: Western Maryland's football team lost to Dickinson's. The year's parade winners – floats were awarded first, second, and third prize – included the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity with their "Ghostbuster"-themed car, which "came complete with four Ghostbusters."

See **ARCHIVES**, page 2

Over 4000 people were in attendance, and tailgating proved to be as prominent a theme as 100 years of Sports. Greek organizations partied well into the evening with their alumni despite the football team's loss to Dickinson 41-20.

A student's concern: cutting departments may lead to lack of the liberal arts

Allison Isidore
Contributor

At least some of McDaniel's students have taken a religion class with either Professor of Religious Studies Greg Alles, Ph.D. or Assistant Professor of Religious Studies Brad Stoddard, Ph.D.

Before coming to McDaniel, I never thought I'd go anywhere near religious studies, until the spring of my freshman year. I needed to fulfill a McDaniel Plan requirement and Introduction to Religious Studies did just that. After having that class with Stoddard, my perception on religious studies changed and I wanted to further that.

These two professors are very passionate about what they teach and want to help every student succeed to the best of their ability.

The department itself offers some amazing classes like Religion and Violence or Sex, Drugs, and U.S. Religions. Classes like these are open for everyone, not just religious studies majors or minors, which gets me to

the point of this piece –these classes might not be offered in the future.

The college is thinking of cutting the religious studies department.

If we were to get rid of small departments like Goucher College did, would we still be considered a liberal arts college? I personally don't think we can call ourselves that if we get rid of the smaller departments. Having a department like religious studies helps introduce new ideas about religion and changes perceptions on it like it did for me.

It's the core part of a liberal arts experience; being able to study different subjects opens up new horizons about the world. Religious studies opens students' minds to different cultures and the impact they have on peoples' lives. At McDaniel, you can learn about the relationship religion has with American law and our prison system, or you can learn about a variety of religions from Hinduism to Zoroastrianism.

These are classes that assist students in finding a path they want to study. It might not be majoring in re-

ligious studies, but it could be helping students go down a path leading to law school or graduate school to study a variety of subjects. Religious studies gives students the tool to ask the critical questions needed for in-depth research.

It would be devastating if President Casey and the Board of Trustees decide to get rid of any of the smaller departments on campus.

This holds true not only for students, but for the faculty as well. The faculty members of the small departments are very passionate about what they teach. If the school gets rid of these departments, they lose these passionate teachers. That's something McDaniel has always prided itself on: having the best student-professor relationships. If the departments are cut, then these great relationships built between professors and students will dissolve.

The school cannot be called a liberal arts college if they cut departments like religious studies and those like it.



CEO moves to Handshake for web-based job and internship database

Zachary Pierson
Staff Writer

The Center for Experience and Opportunity has partnered with Handshake, an online career networking platform to help students find jobs and internships. It replaces the CEO Connect database which was in use until mid-August.

Associate Dean of Campus and Community Engagement and Executive Director of the CEO Josh Ambrose believes the breadth of opportunities Handshake brings to students will confer unique opportunities to both incoming and outgoing students.

“I think it is most helpful in what it shows,” Ambrose said. “It also helps students connect with more national opportunities outside of the state of Maryland.”

While out-of-state opportunities could be posted on the old database, most listings were closer to Westminster.

“A third of the student body has signed up for [Handshake],” said Ambrose. “All McDaniel students

are already registered with the system with their basic McDaniel ID and password.” This helps students register because they don’t have to create their account from scratch.

Zachary Heiser, a business major, was happy with his first Handshake sign-on experience.

“It’s great!” he said. “All my school information popped up first thing and started to ask what it was I was looking for.”

One of the key features Handshake offers is for those signed up to market themselves as specific individuals rather than part of a general group.

“It gave me a quick questionnaire to fill out and then I was ready to go,” Heiser explained.

Handshake is not just for job opportunities after graduation. The platform also provides full-time, part-time, and on-campus job opportunities, as well as internship offerings. This gives students the ability to get some job experience and a paycheck while getting their education.

“Handshake is really helpful,” said cinema and communications major Jeremy Crowley. “It gave me a large option of places on campus to contact or go to. This made job hunting easy.”

The CEO advertises and recommends Handshake to students of all class years. Ambrose hopes that with new opportunities presented to students, their chances of success both immediately out of college and far into the future will increase dramatically.

“McDaniel has to offer platforms like Handshake that are relevant and help you take classes that are relevant to your future to help you succeed in your future,” said Ambrose. “And much like a liberal arts education, Handshake helps with that.”

Handshake is accessible via web browser and is downloadable from both the Apple App Store and Google Play. Students can login to their Handshake accounts by visiting ceo.mcdaniel.edu.

Atticus Rice contributed to this article.

From the archives: Homecoming throughout the years

ARCHIVES, *from page 1*

Oct. 25, 1968: “Homecoming comes again”

50 years ago, this writer recapped Western Maryland’s homecoming weekend festivities, which most notably saw an SGA-sponsored concert featuring singer Mitch Ryder and appearances from local political candidates at the parade. The Green Terror defeated Lycoming College in the football game, and the College held a homecoming party, which was for the first time in 1968 free for students, faculty, and alumni, and which was “enjoyable from all angles.”



Academic programs under re-view, reallocation of resources expected

REVIEW, *from page 1*

by collecting enrollment data for each of the College’s majors, minors, and independent programs. These data were forwarded to all faculty last week, and department chairs will have until November to review this information and send the STGPV individual analyses.

“This is to look at all of the majors,” said McCole, referring to the review.

The aim of the departmental analyses is to determine each department’s role at the College: they examine the current status of the departments – number of students, how well they meet their goals – and their success in meeting the needs of the campus and its students.

With this information, Motard-Noar and McCole hope to get a better idea of why a number of accepted students do not ultimately enroll in the College, and of what programs would appeal to current high school students.

The two are also looking at the post-college environment and how to update academic programs to better match the wants of employers.

“[The STGPV is] trying to do a holistic approach,” said McCole.

This approach includes current students at McDaniel as well.

Stephanie Madsen, associate dean for sophomore students, who is involved in the process through her role in Academic Life, sent out a survey asking for feedback on existing majors and minors via email to the student body on Sept. 26.

A follow-up email was sent to select student leaders asking for their participation in a focus group to further discuss what programs they value at McDaniel and what programs they would like to see.

Focus groups were offered to available invited students through Oct. 5, and asked those present to provide thoughts on the College’s current programs that could be expanded, as well as new programs that could be added.

The results of the College’s efforts will be a shift in the existing budget – funds from majors that are found to show little growth will likely be reinvested in majors with higher enrollment, for example. The school would then use the reinvested funds to expand or add majors where it deems appropriate.

“We don’t have any target in any way,” said McCole. “We’re looking at all the programs.”

If the College does look to add new majors, the process of accreditation through the Maryland Higher Education Commission is long enough that current students are unlikely to see new offerings before graduation.

“Even an awesome major that everyone wants is not gonna come on board in September,” said Motard-Noar.

It is also possible that some majors could be combined, which would, according to the STGPV, create budget flexibility for the school. The potential for majors to be eliminated also exists.

“There’s no doubt that we’re responding to [trends in] higher ed,” said Motard-Noar.

Other regional colleges have recently seen significant changes in their departmental offerings as well: Goucher College eliminated several majors including math this year, and Lebanon Valley College is looking at retiring a handful of language and humanities majors.

At the same time, the College’s graduate level is conducting their own process of review, said McCole.

Despite the potential for removal of majors, McCole said students who are currently enrolled in a program that could be cut are guaranteed the ability to complete that program.

“The College is absolutely committed to that,” said McCole.

The Office of Admissions is also aware of this process, and may look into an extension of program protection to students being recruited on the merits of McDaniel’s current program offerings.

“The hope is at the same time we’re attracting other students with other programs,” said McCole.

The trustees will make the ultimate decision regarding the changes, which Motard-Noar and McCole expect to come in February.

Write for us!

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Bringing music to life

Steven Bullock
Staff Writer

Jake Fine, president of the Live Music Club, plans to start his year off with a bang. The club’s first-ever concert is planned for Dec. 1, right here on campus, with a lineup of talented indie bands, rock bands, and hip-hop artists. The Live Music Club formed in the spring of 2018 and by the end of the semester, with only a small following of 10 or so members, began fundraising for their first concert. After the Involvement Fair in August, the club has grown to 51 members.

“It’s a great feeling, having amazing connections with so many great people,” Fine said. “This much growth in such a short time shows a lot of promise for the music scene on campus.” The focus of the meetings will be on fundraising and event organization. Shaquille Tairellil, an active member, said she loves the club’s atmosphere. “Jake Fine and Jill Courtney have created an energetic and upbeat atmosphere where anyone can jump right in and feel welcomed,” she said. According to Vice President Jill Courtney, the new group is also more than willing to host other events such as karaoke, open mics,



Jake Fine, president of Live Music Club, sits with his guitar. (Steven Bullock / McDaniel Free Press).

and collaborations with other clubs with the hopes of expanding McDaniel’s music community. The Live Music Club stated that they will be donating the proceeds from its first concert to a local charity. “I was inspired by the do-it-yourself music scene,” Fine said, “It’s important to bridge the gap between the College and city music communities, and that’s what I want to do.” This is no easy task. Both Fine and Courtney admitted that it can be difficult to find the time to manage the club along with their other obligations. But both stated they would not change a thing because they truly love what they are doing. Through club fundraising, they were able to pay for private bands to come and play on campus with ticket prices around \$12. Playing at this first concert will be the punk rock band Skapparoneday, hip-hop and rap duo Timi Turnup, and Jizza Raw, indie rock band Foggy May, and the alternative rock band Modern Nomad. Fine and Courtney brought this club to life with their mutual love of music and their desire to be involved with campus communities. With Westminster having a limited music scene, mostly ruled by

blue grass and jazz music, Fine and Courtney want to bring new musical life to the city. “You should come check it out, you definitely won’t regret it,” Fine said. *The Live Music Club’s meetings will be held every other Monday night, starting on Sept. 10, from 9:15 p.m. to 10 p.m. in Hill Hall 110.*

Read more articles at
www.mcdanielfreepress.com



Bernie Vogel leans over the pastry case at his 42 W. Main St. joint, JeannieBird Baking Company opened in 2014 and has since been a hit in Westminster. (Ryan Hess / McDaniel Free Press).

Businessman, baker, barista: Bernie

Ryan Hess
Staff Reporter

When walking down Main Street from McDaniel College, there are a few parts of Westminster that are hard to miss. The Westminster

Veterans’ Memorial, the Carroll Arts Center, the old firehouse bell – every one represents an intrinsic part of Westminster’s identity. And, of course, the smiling face of Bernie Vogel, co-founder and owner of JeannieBird Baking Company. Bernie and his wife, Jeannie Vogel, opened JeannieBird in November of 2014 to fulfill a lifelong dream. Inspired by the mom-and-pop pastry shops in Seattle, Bernie and

Jeannie wanted to bring a taste of their favorite vacation destination back with them to Westminster. How, do you ask? According to Vogel, by providing a friendly and welcoming atmosphere. “Our mission at JeannieBird is to build a sense of community, one relationship at a time,” Vogel said. “Knowing people’s names is very important to me.” Between questions, Vogel paused multiple times to say hello to customers, to ask them how their day was going, and how their kids were doing. He greeted them all by name, and spent a minute or two in conversation. Speaking from his experience, Vogel said that these small chunks of time are priceless to him as a business owner. “You really can’t help but go beyond the typical customer relationship in a town like Westminster,” Vogel said, as he sipped from his JeannieBird coffee cup. “You learn about customers’ lives, what sports their children play. We watch their children grow up.” Vogel sees his customers and his employees as his family, and wants his employees to enjoy working at JeannieBird as much as he does.

Soli Barrera, a McDaniel junior who has been working at JeannieBird for over a year now, has loved every

minute of it. “I love the idea of JeannieBird,” Barrera said with a smile. “Bernie emphasizes that we are in the ‘making people happy’ business, and he says so every day I work with him.” Within just the first month of working, Barrera had had experience in every aspect of JeannieBird, and could easily recognize all of the regular customers. She attributes all of this to Vogel’s training and the amazing work environment he has built. “Bernie facilitates the mindset of small business success,” Barrera said. “He encourages his employees to strive for the best in the workplace.” Such commitment to customers does not go unnoticed. Donna Eckard, who has been living in Westminster for 40 years, has been coming to JeannieBird since it opened. “Bernie is my favorite, and he always greets me at the door when I walk in,” Eckard said. “He keeps me coming back.” *Editor’s note: JeannieBird is one of many campus partners that accepts McDaniel Bucks. JeannieBird is an ad partner of the Free Press. No special consideration was given to this article as a result of that relationship. We thank Bernie Vogel and his entire team for their continued support of the paper and all of McDaniel.*

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McComics

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DAYNE LLAMAS

Problems of the Basic

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CAT LIFE

BY: OLIVIA CULVER

MR. BUSH'S 'THROW BACK' THURSDAY



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Read more comics every Sunday on our website.

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sound check



Writer of the Week: Neil Gaiman

Colin Lyon
Assistant Editor

For some authors, writing seems to be instilled in their blood. Literature colors everything they do throughout life, from early childhood to the last stages of their career. This is exactly how Neil Gaiman sees the world: through a lens of writing. Born on Nov. 10, 1960, he took pleasure in reading at an early age.

“I was a reader,” he said in an interview with biographer Cherie Abbey. “I loved reading. Reading things gave me pleasure. I was very good at most subjects in school ... because normally on the first day of school they’d hand out schoolbooks, and I’d read them.”

Elementary and middle school further ingrained literature into him. Gaiman continued to find solace in literature throughout his college

years at Ardingly College and the Whitgift School.

Gaiman’s career began not with a tremendous explosion of support, but as a humble journalist. He pursued interviews and wrote book reviews, partially to garner experience and partially to make connections that he hoped would allow his work to be published. In addition, he wrote for several short story publications, not the least of which were the British Fantasy Society and Imagine Magazine journals.

Alongside his publications to journals came his first two books: “Ghastly Beyond Belief,” a quote book co-authored by Kim Newman, and a biography on the hit synth-wave band Duran Duran. While both books sold well — “Ghastly Beyond Belief” fully sold out its first edition — Gaiman’s true success lay in his comic series.

Between 1989 and 1996, Gaiman

was hired by DC Comics to reinvent the character Sandman and, in doing so, reached critical acclaim. Gaiman successfully tenured his writing skills at DC and works with them intermittently to this day.

Gaiman’s success with the “Sandman” series enabled him to reach higher than ever before. In 1990, at the age of 29, Gaiman published “Good Omens” with fellow author Terry Pratchett. Nearly six years later, Gaiman released his first solo novel, “Neverwhere.” From then on, his writing became more and more frequent; in addition to publishing with DC and other comic studios, he released three more novels, all of which (“Stardust,” “American Gods,” and “Anansi Boys”) received critical acclaim. Gaiman has also written several children’s books, including “The Graveyard Book” and “Coraline,” both notable for their adaptations into movies.

Gaiman is noted to have an ever-ephemeral style, one that refuses to be constrained by any one medi-

um. He says to Mia Funk in an interview with “The Creative Process” — Funk’s exhibition that features interviews with authors — that “I’ve never stopped. I like making stuff up and I like being all over the place ... people would probably be happier with my career if I just stuck to one thing.”

Despite his wide breadth of writing, his works rarely fail to deliver on quality. Where “Sandman” spawns an entire series of philosophical and family-oriented musings, “American Gods,” a standalone novel, is more in line with urban fantasy novels. His general writing style has its barest roots in Terry Pratchett’s and Douglas Adams’ — an American author — writings, likely due to his collaborations with them in the past.

For more information on his upcoming projects, visit www.neilgaiman.com.

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Laura Oliver’s ‘Broken Things’

Emma Driban
Contributor

In the small town of Twin Lakes, two girls committed a horrible crime, brutally murdering their best friend Summer Marks as part of a ritual sacrifice in the woods...or did they?

Since they were 13, Brynn McNally and Mia Ferguson have been reviled as the Monsters of Brickhouse Lane, even though they were cleared by the police. It was believed that, driven by their obsession with a particularly violent novel called “The Way into Lovelorn,” the three girls had imagined themselves into the magical world where their fantasies became twisted, even deadly. Now, on the five-year anniversary of Summer’s murder, the girls discover a secret that just might lead them to the real murderer. To clear their names, Brynn and Mia must return to the fantastical Lovelorn, and the sequel they wrote to uncover the deceptions hidden in the pages.

“Broken Things” flips between the perspectives of Brynn and Mia, both past and present, to spin the winding tale of Summer’s death and their involvement with her.

Quiet Mia, who has trouble making her voice heard, and hotheaded Brynn, who has trouble keeping her anger in check, must work together again after years of silence to uncover the truth and unmask the mysterious Shadow that threatens violence if they do not act quickly. Both girls are riddled with insecurities and struggle with maintaining healthy relationships, making them relatable

characters.

This book is a definite thriller. You can almost feel the glaring eyes of neighbors as they watch the poor vilified girls, with the help of their ragtag friends, try to prove their innocence. The looming presence of the Shadow, the evil force which they believe killed Summer, is present on every drama-soaked page of this novel.

There is a beautiful mix of reality and fantasy as you see the girls act out scenes from “The Way into Lovelorn,” a fake book written by the fictitious Georgia C. Wells. Lauren Oliver does an excellent job sprinkling excerpts from the fantasy book throughout, as well as snippets of the sequel written by Summer, Brynn, and Mia in their youth.

“Broken Things” by Lauren Oliver, released on Oct. 2, is the author’s fourth stand-alone novel and has already received some positive attention, as it has been awarded as a New York Times Bestseller. Known for her dystopian “Delirium” trilogy, Oliver has been a published writer since 2010 with the release of “Before I Fall,” which holds over 20 awards including *New York Times Best Seller* and *Publishers Weekly Bestseller*. “Broken Things” is an engrossing psychological thriller, full of betrayal and hidden meanings.

With a four out of five rating, I would definitely recommend this book to people who like young adult fiction or a nice suspenseful mystery. The book is a well-written, beautifully plotted tale of friendship and murder that will leave the reader hanging on until the last page.

actors, technicians, and managers. With a combined interest and dedication to the production, all involved with the show agree that “Saints and Sisters” offers a unique perspective on the performing arts.

“[“Saints and Sisters”] is a redefinition of what an audience can expect when they go to the theater,” Sautter said. “You have never seen See **THEATRE**, page 7

‘Saints and Sisters’ explores the expectations of theatre

Gunnar Ward
Sports Editor

“Saints and Sisters,” a series of three one-act plays written by Gertrude Stein, opened Oct. 3 at McDaniel’s Alumni Hall.

Theatre faculty member Richard Sautter serves as the director for the collection of works that blended a cast of students from all years as

Jeremy Saulnier’s third major feature keeps the gore and suspense, but loses the punch

Weston Funk
Contributor

Jeremy Saulnier’s “Hold the Dark” dropped on Netflix this past week with no fanfare to speak of. Unless you are a Saulnier fan, you’d have no idea that a devastating Alaskan film noir had appeared on the platform. As of the morning of Sept. 28, it wasn’t even in Netflix’s New Arrivals section. I had to search for it, and part of me is disappointed that I did.

“Hold the Dark” features the eternally undervalued Jeffrey Wright as an aging wildlife nonfiction author. He has killed a wolf; it felt bad. A desperate mother (an inscrutable Riley Keough) urges him to come out to Kelut, Alaska to track down the wolves that took her son, one of several children who have gone missing in the past few cold, dark, seemingly interminable months.

Slow and deliberate, the film builds like last year’s frozen mystery “Wind River,” and reaches explosive twists that are just as gut-wrenching with sequences that top the brutality of Taylor Sheridan’s directorial debut.

Unlike Sheridan’s “Wind River,” however, “Hold the Dark” is muddled, and possibly meaningless. The

lack of comprehension might be part of the point, but that makes the film more of an exercise than a fulfilling experience. Though Saulnier’s hand is more elegant, the script (adapted by Macon Blair, from a novel by William Girardi) lacks Sheridan’s heart.

The film also lacks the tightness of Saulnier’s previous films, “Blue Ruin” and “Green Room.” “Blue Ruin” is a strict and moving revenge tragedy. “Green Room” is a seething, best-of-the-year, vital, claustrophobic thriller. “Hold the Dark” sprawls in comparison, and though Saulnier has no problem with the wide-open landscapes, the story flounders into nothingness.

There’s simultaneously too much story and not enough. Details don’t connect, sequences are drawn out, and character motivations are inexplicable. Saulnier provides even more shocking violence than before, but that doesn’t make the movie a better one.

Though “Hold the Dark” is beautifully shot and emotionally enthralling, I can’t recommend it wholeheartedly. Fans of dark thrillers will find something to admire, but I don’t know that anyone will find something to enjoy. Watch “Green Room” again instead.

McDaniel Compliments

“Linda Wood is a very kind person with a bubbly personality and also her hair is great.”

“Happy Respect Day! Let’s all work to be a little kinder to each other today and every day.”

“Kady Baker is such a joy to work with at the Writing Center! She will always brighten your day.”

“Professor Zajac always brings high levels of energy and enthusiasm to all his classes. Thanks for keeping me engaged!”

“Tommy Schoolman is doing a great job in his new role in First Stop.”

Want to brighten someone’s day? Need a way to fulfill your random act of kindness for the day? Message *Dean McDaniel Compliments* on Facebook with a compliment, and we’ll post it anonymously for you. Here to spread some happiness on the Hill, we’ll make sure your friend, classmate, or professor has the chance to smile and feel appreciated. Your compliment could be featured in the next issue of the *Free Press*!

Contrast contest

Each issue, *The McDaniel Free Press* partners with *Contrast*, McDaniel's literary magazine, to showcase student writing based on a prompt from the previous issue. *Contrast* editors will review submissions and together we publish the winning submission.

This month's prompt:
Start with the phrase "It was a dark

and stormy night." In up to 500 words of prose or 50 lines of poetry, write the rest of the story.

Please email your submission to contrastlitmag@gmail.com. Winner(s) will be chosen based on the discretion of *Contrast* editors Marya Topina and Emma Driban.

Please also feel free to attend *Contrast* meetings Thursdays at 9 p.m. in Hill 208 to workshop your writing and receive feedback from fellow creative minds on campus.

Congratulations, Danielle Wendt: winner of last issue's contest!

"The Notes"
by Danielle Wendt

There once was a girl named Giselle,
Who sat in the lecture of hell
Perchance she reached down
And look what she found
But a sealed note that called out her name.

From underneath the desk she took,
And daring to take a quick look,
At a glance she did see
The inside was empty.
And suddenly Giselle was awake.

She showed everyone what she'd found,
How quickly the word travelled
'round,
But no one spoke up,
So Giselle was stuck.
The mystery made her uneasy.

In a different class the next day,
She discovered with great dismay
A note was held fast
Under the desk, like the last.
The one simply marked with: go

The day had not yet met its end,
When a note was discovered by a friend.
The next said: you
And Giselle's fear struck her true
She wondered when this torture would end.

'With' and 'will' followed suit
Her anxiety was absolute.
She wanted to cry.
She just wondered why
Somebody was leaving the notes.

Not even two hours later,
She prayed for someone to save her.
Though she barely opened her eyes,
The note's existence was no surprise,
'Out' was scribbled on the next.

The fear was getting to her head.
She felt under the next desk with dread.
The last said 'me?'
And Giselle still didn't see
Till her best friend appeared with the roses.

'Saints and Sisters' explores the expectations of theatre

THEATRE, from page 6
anything like this."

The show's distinct performance angle is reflected by the uniqueness of Stein's material. "Saints and Sisters" is a collection of one-act plays: "Accents in Alsace," "Three Sisters Who are Not Sisters," and "Saints and Singing."

Development of a production always involves a certain process the cast goes through, building on various ideas and finding what works best to be performed.

The production process, which explores unconventional theatrical material, was reflected in the show.

"It was a really weird process, I'm not gonna lie," cast member Ellie Davis said. "We just read through the script multiple times for about three weeks [exploring] different read throughs until Richard finally settled on a concept."

Despite the uniqueness of the "Saints and Sisters" collection, the dedication to the production process by all involved with the shows did not go unnoticed.

"Everyone has been bringing their A-game to the production process," Sautter said.

In the midst of productions, the McDaniel College theatre department recently underwent changes, hiring two new adjunct professors: Max Doolittle, who works on lighting design, and Andrea Ball, who focuses on set design.

With Doolittle and Ball only recently arriving on the Hill this semester, the two have dived right into

the production process and their work remains promising.

"To imagine that we have two designers on staff who have never worked here before and for this to be the first production they work on, they have had to hit the ground running," Sautter said. "They both embraced the opportunity of working with an unusual piece of material and I am thrilled with the results."

As the production process begins to finalize, the cast has said that the production process has been much more than simply creating a show.

"[The cast] is absolutely the most talented group of people that I have seen," Davis said. "Being able to spend time with the cast and getting to know them has been awesome."

Ultimately, with the show now in performance for audiences, looking back on the production process proved to be a chance to grow as a cast, all with a common goal.



"Everyone brought something new every day," Stage Manager Mara Flynn said. "It was a joy to see and to see [the cast] grow and to see this turn into a show, you can see the growth from the beginning of the process to the end."

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The Free Press welcomes all students interested in writing, photography, editing, videography, design, and more!


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The McDaniel Free Press

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Clery Report reveals rise in reported sexual violence crimes

Marya Topina
Copy and Co-Features Editor

The recent allegations against Brett Kavanaugh and the continued surge of the #MeToo movement dominating the news, coupled with last month's release of McDaniel's annual fire safety and security report, have reportedly left many students feeling uneasy.

On Sept. 27, Campus Safety released the 2018 Clery Report, detailing the services they provide, information on security policies and procedures, crime data from the past three years, and crime preventative information.

According to President Casey's statement in the Clery Report, "[our First Principles] values require we share responsibility for each other, including the responsibility for maximizing our collective safety. In fact, safety on campus is one of the highest concerns."

However, a number of students say they feel the College is not doing enough to ensure campus-wide safety, especially in regards to preventing sexual violence crimes.

"McDaniel College is failing to acknowledge that sexual assault and rape cases have become a serious problem on this campus," said one female student, who wished to remain anonymous. "They beg students to go through the student conduct process, and then they do nothing about the case in general."

This student reported her attacker to campus police and,



Dangersauce alumni and current members joined together on Homecoming for their annual improv comedy show in Baker Memorial Chapel on the evening of Saturday, Oct. 6, 2018. (Marya Topina / McDaniel Free Press).

despite finding him guilty of multiple counts of sexual assault, campus authorities merely placed him on probation.

According to the Clery Report, the minimum recommended sanction for "any student who is determined to have committed non-consensual sexual intercourse" is suspension. Sanctions for a student guilty of committing "non-consensual sexual contact or any other prohibited form of conduct" range from a disciplinary warning to expulsion. The full list of recommended procedures is included in the Clery Report and is outlined in the College's Title IX policies.

The victim then reached out to See **CLERY**, page 2

Olympic gold medalist Christie Pearce visits campus

Gunnar Ward
Sports Editor

Three-time Olympic gold medalist and two-time FIFA World Cup champion Christie Pearce visited campus on Friday to share a world-class knowledge of athletics and a lifelong story of achievement built upon overcoming challenge.

Pearce's visit to campus began with what she knows best, soccer. Offering a once in a lifetime opportunity to the women's soccer team, Pearce hosted practice with the Green Terror to share her extensive knowledge of the game.

"At first we were all really nervous," sophomore and forward player Kat Dixon said. "This woman is a world cup champion and gold medalist and we are just these division three soccer players, we didn't know how to train with her."

Despite the list of achievements, Dixon added that Pearce could relate to the team as she too was once at a small university, attending Monmouth College in her home state of New Jersey. However, Pearce's athletic journey began in her youth.

See **PEARCE**, page 9

Alina Fernández, daughter of Fidel Castro, tells a story of two Cubas

Mario Fernandez
Commentary Editor

On Thursday, Oct. 11, the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, alongside the Hispanic-LatinX Alliance, welcomed the daughter of Fidel Castro to the McDaniel campus. Alina Fernández gave an account of her time in Cuba, her father, and the changes taking place on the island now.

She began by introducing herself, but importantly included her maternal last name, "Revuelta" meaning "revolted" or "rebelled." Further going into the meaning of "revolution," she explained it in social sciences as a "moment in history, a transition." Most "bizarre" for her, however, is that she comes from a country in which the revolution is "endless." She aimed to use her story as a vehicle for the campus to understand her "Cuban fellows, and an island, the Cuban island, so close to America and at the same time so

far away and so distant."

The military coup by Batista, a Cuban general, threw the country into chaos, she said. Due to the regime's violent and inhumane tactics, many Cubans created underground opposition groups, one of which was Fidel Castro. Due to such a movement, her mother and Fidel's relationship began, as she gave Fidel's movement a safe meeting place and also distributed political manifesto, stored and bought weapons, and created uniforms.

Fernández spoke of her mother's and Fidel's developing relationship through love letters while Fidel was in prison. She recalled one morning in which she was watching cartoons, and the channel changed to shouts of "Viva Cuba Libre" meaning "Long Live Free Cuba." Such chanting came because Batista, the aforementioned dictator, fled the country the night before, and Fidel's revolution triumphed. However, for many,



Alina Fernandez speaks of two Cubas during a talk on campus on Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018. (Mario Fernandez / McDaniel Free Press).

this is where Fernández's account becomes highly insightful.

She spoke of Fidel's charisma throwing the people into a fervor of happiness, however, those same people, once shouting "Viva Cuba Libre" then began shouting "paredón" meaning "execution wall." For Fernández and thousands of other Cubans, the previous dictatorship had been changed into a similarly brutal regime. Executions of previous military members became commonplace, and Fernández's family, aside from her mother and Fidel,

had fled the country.

She claimed that the "streets themselves had changed," and "everything had disappeared." There was destruction of hotels, parking meters, and other pieces of private property, because they were "symbols of tyranny." "Even Christmas became something bad, it was a capitalistic celebration," she claimed.

During such a time, Fidel's visits to Fernández's home became commonplace, with her claiming that "he would move from the TV to the See **FERNANDEZ**, page 4

Clery Report reveals rise in reported sexual violence crimes

CLERY, *from page 1*
Westminster police to file a report, hoping that these authorities would enforce sufficient punishment. Her case is just one of many reported to McDaniel in recent years.

According to the Clery Report, there were two reports of rape in 2015, 16 reports in 2016, and eight in 2017. It is important to note that 10 of the 16 reported cases in 2016 involved the same complainant and the same respondent, which means there were seven cases of rape with unique complainants in 2016. There were also zero reported cases of fondling in 2015, one in 2016, and four in 2017.

An evaluation of the daily crime log from January 2018 through September 2018 showed that the number of reported sexual crimes is continuing to steadily rise. So far this year, a total of 29 sexual violence crimes have been reported, including seven rapes and six instances of fondling. As of early October, 11 of these 29 cases were still active.

Campus officials, however, argue that these numbers indicate a positive change. Director of Campus Safety Eric Immler believes that the number of crimes is not increasing each year; rather, the resources McDaniel offers are encouraging victims to feel more comfortable to step forward and report these crimes.

“The main goal for me, for my department, for the Title IX Coordinator, and for the College overall is to do what’s right for both the complainant and the respondent in each case,” said Immler.

Another female victim, who also wished to remain anonymous, said she feels this response is typical of the College’s desire to preserve their

own image and protect the accused, rather than honor the victim first and foremost. She chose not to report either of her assaults on campus because she was not sure whether officials would believe her.

“I didn’t want to relive what happened to me,” she said. “I also didn’t want to invite the ostracism that I’ve seen other survivors who have reported their assaults endure.”

According to Dean of Students Liz Towle, “some people might feel uncomfortable reporting or coming forward because it is a small school where they feel like everyone is in their business and they’ll be overexposed under a microscope during the investigation.”

Towle explained that coming forward despite these fears is imperative because it would allow victims to access a full range of “crucial and critical types of support” including counseling and academic accommodations, not just an investigation and punishment for the abuser.

She believes more education on bystander intervention and available resources can help encourage victims to come forward, citing that first-year students in their first six weeks of college report more cases than any other population on campus.

According to Towle, more students are hearing about bystander intervention in high school, so more students are coming into college with knowledge of what to do. They then go through a program as part of new student orientation that focuses on sexual misconduct and abuse, which solidifies intervention skills and helps victims feel more comfortable reporting.

“I think it’s a topic that has just

become more prominent in the education of students,” Towle said. With October being Domestic Violence Awareness month, several groups on campus are working to extend the campus community’s education on sexual assault prevention. For instance, on Oct. 9, the Progressive Student Union held an open discussion on sexual violence.

“The purpose of the event,” said Sylvan Greyson, president of PSU, “was to bring together students in order to identify how sexual assault impacts the environment on our campus, recognize how the reporting/investigation process takes place, and brainstorm questions/ideas to address how our community and administration can respond better to cases of sexual assault.”

The event also brought up conversation regarding victims’ reasoning behind not reporting cases of sexual assault to the College.

“I think that many people do not feel as if reporting through the official college channels will result in tangible change or justice,” Greyson said. “There are certainly sentiments of distrust, skepticism, and sometimes betrayal among students regarding how the College handles cases of sexual assault.”

Parents are echoing these beliefs, saying that McDaniel is silencing key conversations that need to be brought to light. In late September, several posts across various Parents and Families at McDaniel College Facebook pages encouraged parents to talk with their children about sexual assault, with one parent even alleging that the College had “swept things under the rug.”

These posts have since been taken down by College staff, with the official statement explaining that “the College made the decision to remove the posts because this is an ongoing process. Additionally, the

purpose of this group is to serve as a resource and not a place to share personal information.” Still, this left parents unsatisfied, with several arguing “this is a cop out by McDaniel” and demanding “to be made aware of the name of the person assaulting the McDaniel girls” in Facebook comments on the post with the official statement.

Towle asserts, though, that she does not want these topics silenced and “would much rather have a conversation with students than have students assuming the college doesn’t care [because] that’s not true.”

“If there are ways that accessing that support can be made easier to students, I want to consider how we do that,” she said. “I want students to feel like they can come forward and share what happened.”

The Clery Report states that “McDaniel College recognizes the often-sensitive nature of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking incidents. We are committed to protecting the privacy of any individual who makes a report... [and] will do [our] best to comply with the wishes of an individual who believes that they have experienced sexual violence.”

Despite this policy, students are becoming increasingly insistent on urging victims to turn to local authorities, rather than campus police.

“Something has got to change on this campus,” the first student said. “We should be coming to a college that we feel safe to be at, and we don’t.”

The Clery Report also lists confidential resources available to all students and staff. The Department of Campus Safety can be reached at 410-857-2202. The Wellness Center can be reached at 410-857-2243. Off campus, the Rape Crisis Intervention Service of Carroll County can be reached at 410-857-7322.

McDaniel celebrates National Coming Out Day

April Mitchell
Staff Reporter

McDaniel College, despite its small student population, is a diverse campus. Students from many different backgrounds consider McDaniel home every school year.

Celebrating these differences is very important at the school. On Oct. 11, the Office of Diversity and Inclusion hosted a special lunch in Englar Dining Hall to celebrate the 30th anniversary of National Coming Out Day.

Jose Moreno, the director of the office, coordinated the event along with the help of the McDaniel College Gender and Sexuality Alliance and Sodexo dining services.

“I feel that it is important because at McDaniel we strive to celebrate and appreciate all cultures, races, ages, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and religions,” Moreno said. “The coming out process is a very important step for people to be their authentic self and a very important part of their identity.”

The event included a special themed lunch and giveaways. There were also multiple Maryland organizations that support the

LGBTQ community at the lunch who provided information for interested students.

The whole event was organized to not only inform, but to celebrate National Coming Out Day. This year marks the 30th anniversary of the March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay rights. This march is significant for the LGBTQ community because it led to the creation of many LGBTQ organizations.

Students all around campus feel as if though events like this one are beneficial for the entire student body.

“I think this is an important event because everyone should feel equal and welcomed on campus,” said Cera Tarr, a sophomore at McDaniel. “I also think it will be cool and fun to interact as a whole McDaniel community.”

Events such as this one help remind our school community that it is not only okay to be different, but that we are encouraged to be. It is truly our differences that make our campus such an amazing and welcoming place. Everyone, no matter what their differences may be, should feel safe and appreciated here at McDaniel.

The Office of Diversity and Inclusion hosts a variety of different events throughout the school year, much like this one, that focus on unifying and appreciating the entire school community. The McDaniel Gender and Sexuality Alliance also puts on events throughout the year, including Pride Week, which was held the week of National Coming Out Day.

“Being someone who’s struggled


in the past with accepting my sexual orientation, events like this one really make me feel like I belong here at McDaniel,” said a current sophomore at McDaniel who wishes to be kept anonymous. “It makes me happy that people like me who have struggled or are struggling are able to look around and see that they are accepted no matter what they identify as.”

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The entrance to Liberatore's and adjoining outdoor patio seating. (Atticus Rice / McDaniel Free Press).

Where in Westminster: Liberatore’s Ristorante

Janice Deniel
Staff Reporter

Westminster, Maryland is the home of many Italian pizzerias and restaurants. One that not many know of is Liberatore’s Ristorante. Located on Jermor Lane, it is in the corner of a shopping center off of 140, which includes Dunkin Donuts, Shoppers, and Five Guys.

It’s a “hidden Italian gem in Westminster” said Kelsey W., who left a very positive Yelp review.

Liberatore’s Ristorante is a family run restaurant. The location in Westminster is one out of eight, found all over Maryland. It first opened in 2002, and 16 years later, the restaurant is undergoing renovations while still staying

open to continue catering to their customers’ wants.

The restaurant organizes numerous parties during the weekends and caters to various individuals. It also counts on a large influx of regulars, whose names are basically engraved into their booths. All of this is thanks to the staff and particularly the owner, Pino Liberatore, who makes it his job to visit with all the customers and make their experience magically Italian.

The Liberatore family is of Argentinean and Italian origin. The father, an Italian immigrant, moved to Argentina where he raised his three sons, Pino being the eldest. Their restaurants personify the family’s history and have an Italian home feel that comforts the

customers.

The first ever location opened in Eldersburg in 1988. Before that, the Liberatore men worked in the restaurant business as bussers, line cooks, and anywhere else they could.

Pino believes “we always have to give back to the restaurant.” He is working on modernizing the dining room and the menus.

“Italian food is always good,” said Pino. “What we do here in Liberatore’s is with passion” and love. The restaurant itself “is a family.”

The family unit is built of the owner, the general manager, the servers, and all the cooks, who do what they can to make the restaurant the best it can be.

Kathy Hercek has been the

general manager at “Lib’s” for 15 years. Some of her duties include scheduling and managing staff, booking parties, correspondence, banking, and bookkeeping.

“Fridays and Saturdays are busy and always fun,” said Hercek. “But the weeknights are ... more intimate [while] all nights are perfect for date nights.”

Hercek also keeps records of the reservations and has counted an average of 30 graduation meals for McDaniel graduates each year.

She is very excited for the changes coming with the renovations. “The new restaurant will be modern, sleek, and classy, while still being warm and intimate,” said Hercek. She hopes business will soar after the remodel.

One of its former servers, Zachary Wraase, worked there for over a year. He still goes in to help out when he can.

“The food is especially good,” said Wraase. “The appetizers are great.” His favorite is Lib’s famous grilled calamari.

People come to the restaurant because they like the grilled calamari. Most restaurants only serve fried calamari, so the grilled style is unique to Liberatore’s.

Wraase hopes the best for the owner and the manager. “Both of them are great people and deserve the best,” he said. He is excited to go back and see how business is after the renovation.

To those who have never been, “you’ve been missing out,” said Pino. “I know you’ll be back once you give it a chance.”

Read more from our Where in Westminster column at www.mcdanielfreepress.com

Prince Mohammed bin Salman distances self from Khashoggi murder as evidence mounts

Colin Lyon
Assistant Editor

The ongoing investigation into the death of Saudi Washington Post journalist Jamal Khashoggi in Turkey seems to have reached a new climax this Wednesday, after the Saudi crown prince publicly denounced the killing as “heinous.”

At an investor’s briefing in the Saudi capital Riyadh, Saudi Arabia’s crown prince Mohammed bin Salman called the death of Khashoggi a heinous crime. This comes just days after some of bin Salman’s closest confidants and advisers were accused of complicity in Khashoggi’s death. Bin Salman’s comments are finding fewer and fewer footholds, however, since the investigation into the incident began.

The Khashoggi incident has become the center of international attention in recent days. Turkish investigators began probing Riyadh and the Saudi consulate in Istanbul on Oct. 15. Saudi officials began by denying any death whatsoever, and that Khashoggi’s subsequent disappearance was mere happenstance.

Doubts were cast upon the Saudi government, however, when the Turkish forensics team related that “certain evidence” had been found

that effectively proved Khashoggi had been killed.

On Oct. 18, this news was followed by surveillance footage of a member of bin Salman’s entourage entering the consulate just before Khashoggi was estimated to have disappeared. During Turkey’s second investigative sweep on Oct. 20, Saudi officials eventually acknowledged that Khashoggi was killed in the consulate.

Their explanation was a fistfight that got out of hand.

Another two days passed with news, but on Oct. 22, Turkish officials released a report that stated one of bin Salman’s aides made a series of calls to bin Salman’s office around the time of Khashoggi’s death. There was also a leak of new surveillance footage that showed a man wearing Khashoggi’s clothing. The man, who remains unidentified, but is suspected to be another member of bin Salman’s entourage, hurriedly left the consulate concurrently to the calls to bin Salman’s office.

On Oct. 23, the investigation continued as President Erdogan of Turkey announced that Saudi officials instigated Khashoggi’s murder, the first official announcement of the sort from Turkey. Erdogan also called for

those involved with the murder to be tried on Turkish soil, stating that there should be clear justice for the “savage murder.” Around the same time, Saudi Arabia’s state-run news station announced that the Khashoggi family would be meeting with bin Salman and his father, King Salman, in Riyadh.

After Saudi officials admitted that Khashoggi had been killed, five of bin Salman’s high-ranking cabinet members were dismissed, including the deputy head of Saudi Arabia’s intelligence service.

Such an action implies that bin Salman’s men, and bin Salman himself, did have some knowledge of the incident, and that by distancing himself from his aides, bin Salman is attempting to save face in the wake of the murder.

If Saudi Arabia is responsible for the assassination charges leveled against them, it makes sense that Khashoggi would be their target. Once a Saudi journalist and editor-

in-chief of the Al-Arab News Network, Khashoggi became heavily critical of the Saudi government some time before his self-imposed exile in 2017.

This incident, amid Saudi Arabia’s harsh punishments for open talk of dissent in the nation, joking about kidnapping Lebanese Prime Minister, and the much-criticized war with Yemen, is one more scandal in a slew of international controversy regarding the Middle East.

The United States has not remained silent on the matter, either. Amidst President Donald Trump’s insistence that U.S. officials would “get to the bottom of it,” Secretary of State Mike Pompeo met with King Salman and bin Salman.

He noted that Saudi officials vehemently denied any knowledge of the incident. The United States has not made any further interference in the investigation, although President Trump recently stated that Khashoggi’s death was the “worst cover-up ever.”

Investigations are still ongoing, and formal trials have yet to be announced.

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Polish and Glam debuts on the Hill

Tasha Williams
Contributor

Polish and Glam is finally getting started on campus.

Polish and Glam is an upcoming organization that made its first appearance this semester. Although the organization has yet to have major events, there have been plans in the works, and the organization’s executive board has been mapping out the future of the organization. The intense planning that the board has undertaken will only lead to success for Polish and Glam on the Hill.

The campus community can benefit from learning about the background of the organization, its goals, and how organizations such as Polish and Glam and Phenomenal Women aid in the advancement of women’s empowerment, equality, and success on college campuses.

College campuses are often male-dominated. However, although McDaniel prides itself on activities such tailgating, which supports the male football team, the number of women in leadership positions and the number of organizations that bring awareness to females’ relevance and roles are impressive. It leads students to wonder: is there a connection between women’s leadership and liberal arts education?

The three biggest focuses of Polish and Glam are fashion, beauty, and modeling.

Polish and Glam seeks to promote creativity through artistic projects and teach, explore, and practice three skills including beauty (makeup

& self-care), modeling, and fashion exploration which in turn should boost students’— particularly women’s – confidence, self-esteem, and create a platform to express their inner queens/divas. The five overall goals of the organization include:

1. Focus on the creative exploration and expression of the members of campus and the organization through beauty, fashion and modeling.
2. Focus on women’s and men’s relaxation and pampering, as well as health and wellness. Students will plan and participate in events and activities that involve self-care and self-enhancement. Students will understand the meaning behind pampering themselves.
3. Focus on students’ planning for their future and outlining their goals, wishes and desires – mostly in the fashion and beauty industry.
4. Students will discuss and debate issues regarding college culture and norms centered on women’s images and issues within the beauty and fashion industry currently and historically.
5. Students will promote social interaction for McDaniel’s general population and members of the organization by assisting in the planning of social gatherings.

As president of Polish and Glam, I have a lot of plans for the future. We are hosting Fashion Race, similar to that of Amazing Race, on Nov. 4, which will be held in a total of six places around campus.

Secondly, we have a heel dancing class on Nov. 10, where students will meet in the dance studio to learn a choreographed dance in heels.

There are several more events planned for the future.

Meetings are held on Sundays at 12 p.m. and Wednesdays at 4 p.m. in Merritt 109.

Cutting the religious studies department would be a mistake

Soli Barrera
Contributor

Before coming to McDaniel College, I never knew that religious studies was a real academic department. I did not realize that there is a clear distinction between studying religion (commonly referred to as the study of theology or the study of a religion in order to be able to practice it more fully) and religious studies (an academic field that solely analyzes religious peoples, practices, institutions, and beliefs).

Even before I arrived at McDaniel, I was immediately influenced by the novelty and objectivity which the discipline seems to portray. My first-year seminar professor, Dr. Gregory Alles, encouraged me to take classes in the department in order to broaden my understanding of different cultures and to expose me to the variety of disciplines that a liberal arts college provides.

I was not disappointed. After my first semester at the college, during which I took two religious studies classes, I quickly decided to declare a minor in Religious Studies. I now love learning about the study of religion. This brings me to the point of this article – McDaniel is consid-

ering cutting the religious studies department and I do not think that we can allow this. How can we consider ourselves a liberal arts college when we get rid of the departments that help to diversify student’s education?

How can we promote ourselves as a college that challenges a traditional education when we cut departments that help to change students’ perceptions of the wider world? The religious studies department has opened my eyes to different cultures, different ways of thinking about the world, and different conceptions of human relationships. To not offer classes that broaden our education in this way would be a misstep on the college’s part, in my opinion.

McDaniel prides itself on its standing as a liberal arts college and markets itself based on the diversity that a liberal arts education implies. However, if the college begins to cut departments such as the religious studies department, it can no longer predicate itself on diverse education. Furthermore, McDaniel College would lose two of the most passionate professors that it employs, Dr. Alles and Dr. Brad Stoddard, which would be a great loss.

Sexual assault awareness on college campuses

Taylor Holmes
Contributor

According to the Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault, one in five women and one in 16 men are sexually assaulted while in college, numbers that only represent the incidents that have been reported.

Sexual assault, including cases of rape, is not taken seriously enough for how often it occurs, especially on college campuses.

This topic is very important to me, not only because I am a part of the most affected population, but because I feel like there are many people out here that have not spoken up about it because they don’t know where to go and what to do. It is a college’s duty to provide outreach information so that students are aware of where to go for help.

According to MCASA, college-aged female victims knew their offender in about 80 percent of rape and sexual assault cases. That statement alone tells me that there isn’t much being done about the problem.

MCASA also states that first-years and sophomores are at greater risk for sexual victimization than juniors and seniors. That fact tells me that because they are young, they are not aware of the dangers when they first enter college because they are not warned. It would do the colleges and their students some good to incorporate seminars on rape and sexual assault for first year students.

Unfortunately, sexual assault happens on college campuses a lot more than it is reported. Colleges can spread awareness and let students know that they provide resources for their students so that they know where to get help for not only them-

selves, but those around them.

Students also need to know how to be cautious and aware of their surroundings. While the campus may be a safe place, we have to remember that our campuses are not gated and that anyone can walk onto it. Most first-years are oftentimes new to the area and may want to be cautious when going out or off campus at night by themselves. Just having general knowledge of the area you will be living in for the next four or more years is crucial.

While I may attend a small liberal arts college, there are obviously more colleges in Maryland that have a larger enrollment where sexual assault can be more prevalent because of their size.

And even still, according to MCASA, less than five percent of completed or attempted rapes against college women were reported to the police. This means more than half of those victims never come forward.

The seminars that I mentioned previously should be held at least once at the beginning of each school year. They could include statistics for their area, safety precautions, how to reach campus police, resources on how to get helped if they or their friends have been the victim of sexual assault and providing counseling resources for those victims as well.

This is just an example of what should take place. I feel like if high schools hold assemblies for bullying and assault, then colleges should, too because the problems do not stop after high school. If anything, they are more prevalent than ever.

We must hold colleges and universities accountable for informing and providing their students with the necessary resources.

Editor’s note: opinions expressed in the Commentary section do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Free Press or McDaniel College and are solely representative of their respective authors.

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Congratulations, Maddy Lee: winner of last issue’s contest!

It was a dark and stormy night. Thunder rumbled and lightning cracked outside. I wasn’t scared of the dark anymore, but he was. That’s why I wasn’t surprised when my son --only five years old--stood in the doorway. He was trembling, clutching his plush dinosaur in front of his mouth. He liked to suck on the tail. It barely had any fabric or stuffing left intact.

I pulled the duvet back and patted the mattress. He clamored up by my side. I rested my palm on the back of his head, petting his hair. He always loved that. It would put him to sleep in seconds. I was hoping it might have the same miracle effect tonight.

But the storm kept wailing. He trembled and jolted at the particularly loud snaps. I shushed him. I told him the thunder couldn’t hurt him. I told him I would never let anything happen to him. He stiffened at that.

He knew I was lying. He had been sick since the day he was born,

and there was nothing I could do about it. I hadn’t known I was pregnant with him until it was too late. I had more than my share of liquor, dope, and worse. He came into the world frail and purple, eyes swollen shut. He didn’t cry. The first time I held him was in my palm.

The nurses in the NICU offered their condolences the next morning. I wanted so badly for him to pull through. His father packed it all in the next morning and drove home to Georgia. He left me alone with the responsibilities. How do you even find a--crib--for a baby that small?

He liked trains. He liked cats. He liked to cut his own bananas. He didn’t like loud movies. He didn’t like peaches. He didn’t like to be picked up, unless it was his idea. Above all, he’s scared of thunder.

The loudest crack yet came. It was so close that I could physically feel the floor beneath us shake. I found even myself knuckling the sheets, wondering if a tree was about

to fall on the house. My son yelped and launched himself into my lap, crying. I kissed his temple. Caught his scent.

I immediately wretched, pushing him off me with the reckless abandon one uses for a mangy dog. He caught himself on the sheets, turning to look at me with those big, swollen-shut eyes. I screamed. These nights were the worst. I loved him; I missed him; I never wanted to see him again. He watched as I carried on. He always did, just like his father. He waited until I had tormented myself into silence and laid back on the pillows. I rested my hand on his head, hoping to put him to sleep. Hoping he would stay asleep.

My son is five years old. When he was born, he was small enough to fit in my hand. He never once cried. His father left us for Georgia and wrote me a blank check. I had to have his casket made special. I buried my son in the cemetery, next to his grandparents. But he’s scared of thunder.

On dark and stormy nights, he comes back to me.

Contrast contest

Each issue, *The McDaniel Free Press* partners with *Contrast*, McDaniel’s literary magazine, to showcase student writing based on a prompt from the previous issue. *Contrast* editors will review submissions and together we publish the winning submission.

This month’s prompt:
You realize a shop you walk past each day is only visible to you and no one else. In up to 500 words of prose or up to 50 lines of poetry, write about what awaits you inside.

Please email your submission to contrastlitmag@gmail.com. Winner(s) will be chosen based on the discretion of *Contrast* editors Marya Topina and Emma Driban.

Please also feel free to attend *Contrast* meetings Thursdays at 9 p.m. in Hill 208 to workshop your writing and receive feedback from fellow creative minds on campus.

Read more articles at www.mcdanielfreepress.com

S.O.S.: Find Fenty Music

Amara Edwards-Foster
Staff Reporter

It has been two years since Robyn “Rihanna” Fenty has released an album, and let’s just say her Rihanna Navy – the name of her fan group – is not too happy about that.

Rihanna’s last album, titled “Anti,” was released January 2016. Since then she has not put out any music of her own, and has only been featured on three songs: “Loyalty” by Kendrick Lamar, “Wild Thoughts” by DJ Khaled, and “Lemon” by N.E.R.D, which have all been smash hits.

“She always does this, she makes us wait forever,” said huge Rihanna stan, a word describing a super fan, Brandi Dupree. “She needs to put a move on it before she has kids.”

This is not the first time she has done something like this. There was a four-year gap between 2012’s “Unapologetic” and 2016’s “Anti.”

According to Rihanna, she will soon be releasing a dancehall album. Fans’ fingers are crossed, as they hope this to be true, because they have been waiting a long time and are getting impatient.

Many students here at McDaniel, both female and male, love Rihanna and her music. Students’ responses included “I love her,” “she’s so beautiful,” “she’s tough,” “if you don’t like Rihanna, that’s crazy,” and “I still listen to ‘Anti’ all of the time.” Anytime a Rihanna song comes on, there is just a burst of energy that comes over the room, along with loud singing and dancing. A new Rihanna album may just be the thing to unify McDaniel even more.

“When [she] comes on, I start dancing,” said student Michael Corninaldi. “Everyone here likes Rihanna.”

When “Work” or “Wild Thoughts” comes on, all you hear is a loud “ayeeeeee” from all corners of the room, from all different types of McDaniel students. She crosses

barriers and reaches all audiences of students.

Over these past two years, Rihanna has been focusing on and putting her efforts and time into other ventures. She has partnered with Puma and has a shoe line with them, called Fenty by Puma. A year ago she released her makeup brand, Fenty Beauty and just a few months ago, she released her lingerie company, SavageXFenty. She also starred in the movie “Ocean’s 8” earlier this year and just became an ambassador of Barbados’ government. She plans on releasing Fenty furniture as well.

“It’s kind of sad she hasn’t released anything, but her makeup brand is doing really well, so it’s okay,” said sophomore Mackenzie Goaneh.

Fans are still trying to support her by buying her products while they wait. Besides her old music, this is fans’ only current source of Rihanna.

“I bought a pair of her sneakers before school, I want to buy her highlighter,” said Dupree. “To see that Fenty box, I feel a little connected to her.”

Stans on social media are always on Rihanna’s case about her releasing what they now are calling “Fenty Music.” They are complaining how they have been listening to Anti on repeat for two years now.

One stan let her know that she is tired of waiting and asked on Instagram where the “m.u.s.i.c.” is. Rihanna actually replied to her saying, “I know sis. I’m doing music. Simultaneously doing lingerie, makeup, film, amongst a couple other things that I enjoy. When the music is ready, you won’t have to ask for it. But it’s coming. Just not today sis. I’m hype too tho, it can’t come soon enough for me. #Navy4Life.”

Yet some fans are not even that pressed for music. “I didn’t even know that it’s been two years since she’s written anything or put any music out,” said McDaniel student La’Raye Francisco.

Which side are you on? Are you ready for new music right now or can you stand to wait a little longer?

Alina Fernández, daughter of Fidel Castro, tells a story of two Cubas

FERNANDEZ, *from page 1*
living room, just like that. And that became the beginning of the endless revolution in Cuba.”

Fear had become such a customary emotion, that parents worried for the safety of their own children, therefore, many were sent away to families in the U.S. With such a statement, Fernández claimed that the “family was the first institution that was destroyed by the revolution.” People were blocked from leaving the country, religion was suppressed, and was later followed by the shutting down of freedom of speech and the press.

As an adolescent, once the country knew that Fernández was Fidel’s daughter, she would be approached by people with their “petitions, problems, and tragedies, hoping that [she] would be the messenger to the man that had absolute power over their lives,” she continued, “those are always the victims, you must be in real desperation to approach a child expecting him to be helpful.” She added that it was “hard to go to

school, and there is a line in front of your house, and what is worse is that you can’t do anything to help.”

Because of the Cuban crisis, Fernández tried to avoid her parental ancestry; though efforts were futile. She publicly joined the dissident movement, becoming one of the “gusanos” or “worms” that betrayed the revolution.

She concluded with a short summary of Cuba during the 90’s after the fall of the Soviet Union. Food and water became scarce, life became harder overall, and her daughter could not receive an education, so Fernández “abandoned” her country in 1993. Her daughter followed mere months later.

Fernández returned to Cuba after more than 20 years to take care of her sick mother, only to find a Cuba “with the will to change.” There are changes occurring in the country, small changes, but Fernández is hopeful that such change will lead to a “different way of life and different society, in which freedom will prevail.”

McDaniel Compliments

“Danny Grimes is so cute and talented! And I can’t wait to go to another Danger Sauce show to see how all the new members work together. Rachel Gunnerson has really gathered a great team together.”

“Brenna Gutshall is a fashion icon.”

“I want to thank InterVarsity at McDaniel for their kind words surrounding the recent news of sexual assault. Their letters to anyone affected were very heartfelt and caring.”

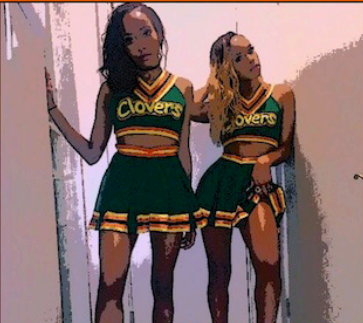
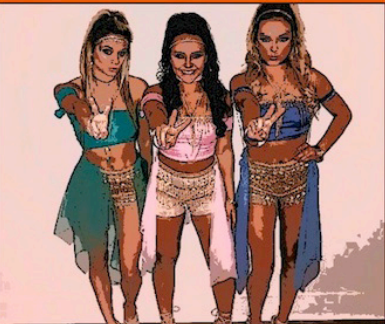
“Mohamed Esa does so much for his students, he’s an amazing professor.”

“Jade Enright is so awesome, whenever I see her it makes my day!”

Want to brighten someone’s day? Need a way to fulfill your random act of kindness for the day? Message *Dean McDaniel Compliments* on Facebook with a compliment, and we’ll post it anonymously for you. Here to spread some happiness on the Hill, we’ll make sure your friend, classmate, or professor has the chance to smile and feel appreciated. Your compliment could be featured in the next issue of the *Free Press*!

McComics

Problems of the Basic A HALLOWEENED EDITION



ARTIST: HANNAH MAXWELL

THE CHRONICLES OF GRANDPA RON



ARTIST: TORI ARCILES!

Defend the Aux

ALTHOR: KOFI SIGA



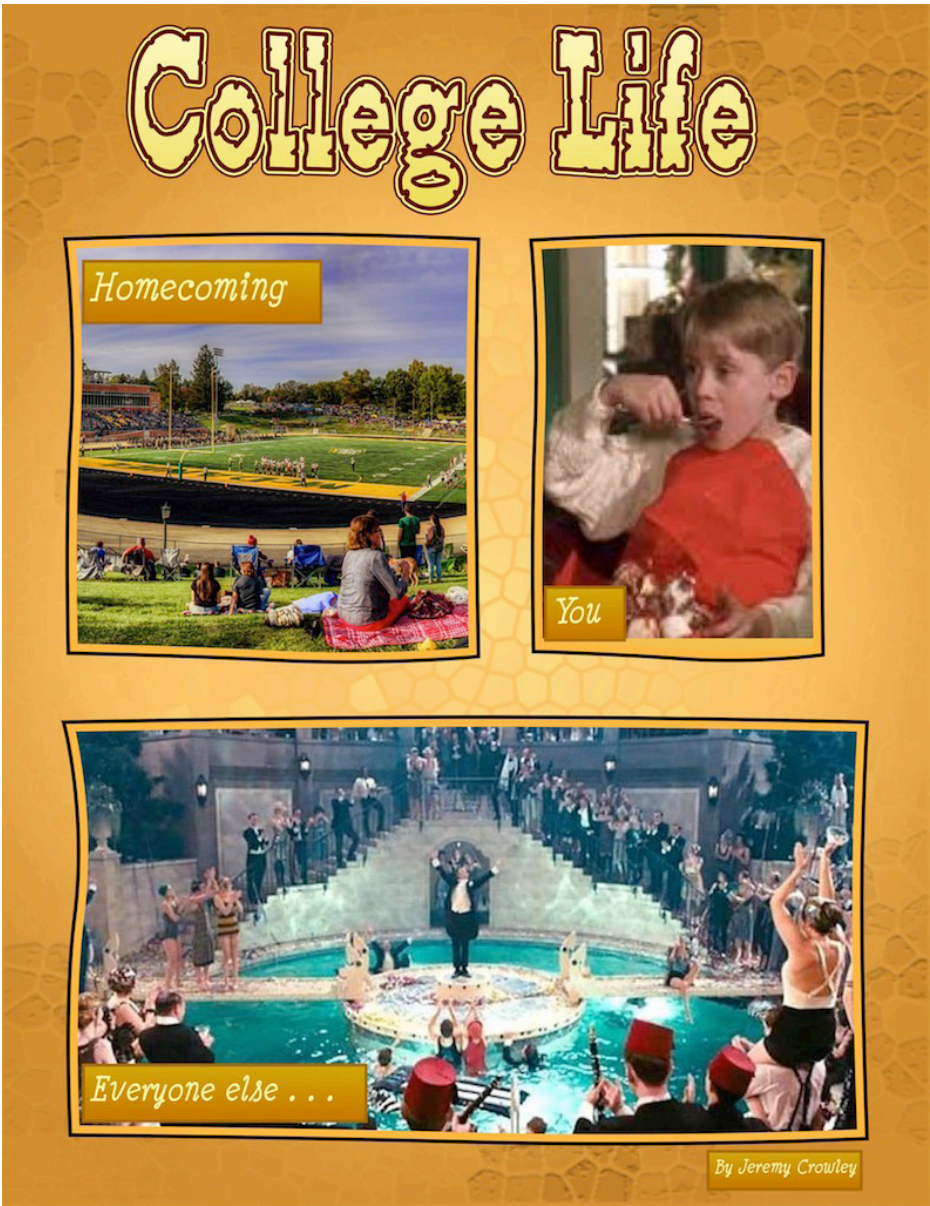
white feminism

Female castration in West Africa





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These comics are produced for the communication department's Communication and Culture course taught by Associate Professor Robert Lemieux.
Read more comics every Sunday on our website.
www.mcdanielfreepress.com



Student Organization Showcase

The Office of Student Engagement sponsored a Student Organization Showcase on Friday, Oct. 5, 2018, the evening before Homecoming, to show the McDaniel community some of the talent current students have to offer. Photos by Marya Topina.



Deirdre Gallagher, president of Belly Dance Club, in a performance.



Members of the Hispano-Latinx Alliance perform a dance.



Linda Wood, vice president of Poetry Slam Club, performs an original work.



Gianna D'Avella, president of Poetry Slam Club, performs an original piece.



Africa's Legacy performs a dance.



Linda Wood assisting by McDaniel's resident magician Nathaniel Grudzien.



Jake Fine, Rachel Gunnerson, and Khalil Edwards of Dangersauce in an improv sketch.



Khalil Edwards, Ben Igo, Lucas Craig (below), and Danny Grimes of Dangersauce in an improv sketch.



Three-time Olympic gold medalist and two-time World Cup champion Christie Pearce joined the Green Terror women’s soccer team for practice on Friday, Oct. 19, 2018. (Atticus Rice / McDaniel Free Press).

Olympic gold medalist Christie Pearce visits campus

PEARCE, from page 1

“When I was younger I was a pure athlete,” Pearce said. “I played soccer, basketball, ran track, [and] played field hockey. I did not identify with one sport.”

Being dubbed as the best athlete to hail from Ocean County, New Jersey, Pearce was finding success not only in soccer as the leading goal scorer for high school conference, but in other sports as well since she also led her conference in scoring for basketball and field hockey.

Uniquely enough, Pearce’s collegiate athletic career began in basketball, not soccer.

“I received [scholarship] offers for field hockey, basketball, and nothing for soccer,” Pearce said.

From Monmouth University, Pearce was a walk-on for soccer and through continuous work was called on by the United States Women’s National Soccer Team to attend a team training camp.

Failures and challenges often offer the most learning experience and this opportunity rang true.

“I was told I was not fit enough for the national team, and I was the least competitive person in camp,” Pearce said. “I had to change my mindset and figure how I was going to identify my weaknesses and work on them that way I could make the team.”

The focus on improving and rising from challenge resonated with student-athletes in attendance.

“I feel as though athletes at some time or other are going to face tough adversity and battle through it,” sophomore quarterback Ben Igo said. “Pearce was able to show and inspire me that things aren’t always going to go your way and with a lot of perseverance you can overcome anything.”

From a low-income family in Ocean County to a new member of the United States Women’s national team, Pearce was far from finished with her journey and quickly rose as a leader of the team.

This was culminated when Pearce was named the captain of United States Women’s National



Christie Pearce completing drills during women’s soccer practice at McDaniel on Friday, Oct. 19, 2018. (Atticus Rice / McDaniel Free Press).

soccer team under head coach Pia Sundhage, who stated that Pearce was “the best captain she had ever seen.”

To become a captain is to become a leader, a trait that is defined differently by all, but the impactful leaders can take a team from average to great.

“Being a leader is to be a platform to someone whether they need encouragement or confidence,” Pearce said. “Leadership is not about yourself, it’s about everybody else.”

This was exemplified in the 2004 Olympics in Athens, Greece. Prior to the event, veteran teammates Julie Foudy and Joy Fawcett announced they would be retiring from play.

This would inspire Team USA to rally. The United States would ultimately claim gold against Brazil, sending off Foudy and Fawcett as champions.

“The team was all in and it is more meaningful to win a medal for someone else than it is yourself,” Pearce said.

Ultimately, Pearce would go on to lead the United States Women’s National Soccer Team to three Olympic gold medals and two FIFA world titles before retiring on her own terms in 2017.

Having achieved success on every level of play, Christie Pearce is believed to be an undeniable legend of soccer, but to her, her biggest achievements are reflected in what she did for others.

“I was there to encourage people and make them the best they can be,” Pearce said.

Welcoming Pearce, a woman with international fame decorated with a lifetime of achievement, to the Hill was an experience many will never forget. Having sport and society experience a women’s revolution in recent years, one can consider Pearce a pioneer for how female athletes are recognized today.

“I was starstruck,” junior Desi Sweeney said. “It inspired me to be as humble, mentally tough and perseverant as she is. Christie Pearce is a great model for all women, athlete or not.”



Christie Pearce completing drills during women’s soccer practice at McDaniel on Friday, Oct. 19, 2018. (Atticus Rice / McDaniel Free Press).



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Katie Kirschenmann sports the captain's armband during her 2017 senior season. (Atticus Rice / McDaniel Free Press).

Katie Kirschenmann '18 named women's soccer assistant coach

Emmanuel Brown
Staff Reporter

Katie Kirschenmann is known to be one of the most achieving soccer players in McDaniel College. Finding success on the pitch as a player, Kirschenmann looks to make the transition to finding success in coaching after being named assistant coach earlier this season.

During her time as a player, she accomplished many feats. She led the team in goals scored her junior and senior campaigns totalling to be 19. Kirschenmann would go on to lead the Green Terror to three NCAA tournament appearances culminating with competing in an

Eastern College Athletic Conference final. Academically, Kirschenmann acceled just as much as she did on the pitch achieving all-conference honors her junior and senior year, and all-regional honors her senior year.

When Kirschenmann is not coaching, she continues pursuing success as a student and professional. Kirschenmann currently works as an insurance agent at Frye Insurance Associates, Inc. and is a graduate student at McDaniel pursuing a Masters Degree in Kinesiology.

Even though her playing days are over and a workload as a student and professional is put on her shoulders, Kirschenmann continues to partici-

pate in the sport she loves.

"Launching my collegiate coaching career here at my alma mater is a dream come true," Kirschenmann said.

Despite being new to the coaching staff, transitioning from player to coach was not difficult. As a senior, Kirschenmann was granted many leadership opportunities serving as captain and a student-intern for the coaching staff during her final undergrad semester in the spring of 2018.

As the assistant coach, Kirschenmann's duties include setting up drills for practice, recording statistics during the game, recruiting student-athletes and being a mentor to the team.

The team has welcomed their former captain back as part of the coaching staff.

"I actually think that [having

Kirschenmann] helps," senior defender Jo Rice said. "We already have a bond with her."

Rice explained that through this bond Kirschenmann personally cares about her and her teammates and is not afraid to address any issues that arise.

With Kirschenmann already taking leadership roles as a captain and intern coach with the team last season, Head Coach Sandy Lagana too welcomed back a team member familiar with the Women's Soccer program already.

"She already knew me, she knows the expectations of the program, she knows the system, she knows the girls of our team," said Lagana.

Lagana also said that the transition from player to coach was not difficult for Kirschenmann. Lagana let Kirschenmann's resume speak volumes highlighting the exemplification of many leadership qualities while she was as a player.

Despite Kirschenmann not really seeing the field during her first two seasons. Lagana noted how she was able to remain diligent and maintain a will to improve. The final result was her becoming the team's leading scorer her last two seasons.

"Patience and work ethic is extremely important in college athletics," Kirschenmann said. "It is important to understand that it is always 'the team before me'."

Although since taking on the assistant coaching mantle this season, Kirschenmann remains focused on continuing coaching in the future aspiring to take on her own head coach role for a college women's soccer team at the Division III level.

"After I complete my graduate degree at McDaniel, I would like to stay on the staff as an assistant coach under Coach Lagana," Kirschenmann said.

Phi Alpha Mu sorority hosts third annual 'Race for Her' 5k

Tiana Connor
Contributor

Early last Saturday morning, runners and sorority girls alike gathered in front of Gill Center to participate in cardio warm-ups and prepare for an extended tour around McDaniel's campus.

On Oct. 20, McDaniel's local sorority, Phi Alpha Mu, held their third annual "Race for Her" 5K. The course started in front of Gill and looped around the entirety of the campus. Many said they got to see parts of the school they have never seen before.

"The race went pretty well. The route was creative, and I liked it a lot," said Madisyn Goaneh, a sophomore. "I wish it was longer, though, for my own ambition because it felt great to walk all of that."

The race was completed by 40 runners and the sorority raised around \$2,500. "Most people signed up as silent runners, meaning they could not make the event, so they registered as if they were running it," said Janette Carpio, Phi Alpha Mu's 5K co-chair.

"Every dollar that was raised is going to two amazing causes," said Carpio. "Half of proceeds are going to The House of Ruth, which is a domestic violence center for women

and children. The other half is going towards the Phi Alpha Mu Endowed Scholarship, which goes to a woman in need at McDaniel."

The House of Ruth is Phi Alpha Mu's philanthropic cause of choice and is one of the nation's top domestic violence centers, located in Baltimore. The organization has an 84-bed shelter and transitional housing, featuring a holistic health and wellness program, as well as an on-site health clinic staffed by the Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing.

"Knowing half the proceeds for the race go to the House of Ruth, and 50 percent toward a scholarship to provide a woman in need a better education, was an important factor in our decision to sponsor the race," said Denise Lewis, owner of the local company Brook-Owen Realty. "To be able to help a fellow sister get out of a bad situation and rise up in the community is a blessing to us and just one small way we are able to give back to the community."

Brook-Owen Realty wasn't the only company feeling generous. Other sponsors – mostly local – consisted of the Carroll County Youth Services Bureau, Off Track Art, The Dixon/Kluge Group of Long & Foster, Crawford Yingling Insurance, Victory Taekwondo, Atlas



The sisters of Phi Alpha Mu and racers pose after the Oct. 20 event. (Photo courtesy of Katie Ogorzalek).

Premier Realty, and Carroll Chiropractor & Sports Injury.

Planning the race had its challenges, however. Earlier in the year, the sorority was not able to get a response from the City Clerk's office in regard to necessary permits, which prompted them to change the route to on-campus. The original date had also been the day of Homecoming, causing the sorority to reschedule.

All things considered, the race appeared to have a positive impact

on the McDaniel and Westminster community.

"I am very happy with the turnout," said Carpio. "I was blown away with the amount of donations we received by people that wanted to support the causes."



Miles from home, Liv Storer finds comfort on the court

Spenser Secret
News Editor

Were you born in a country that wasn't America? If you answered yes, you might be Olivia "Liv" Storer, who is a McDaniel student and a native to Australia. Storer had always wanted to study abroad and, of all places, ended up at the Hill.

Storer, an English and sociology major with a minor in journalism, and a member of the Phi Sigma Sigma sorority, is originally from "a small, rural town called Wangaratta in the state of Victoria." Storer added that her hometown is about two and a half hours away from Melbourne.

Storer had wanted to study abroad from a young age.

"Ever since I was about 12 I knew I wanted to study abroad," Storer said. "My parents would always tell me stories about the travel that they did and I wanted so badly to experience the world. I've always wanted to live a life that was one big adventure so that inspired me to do something a little crazy as well."

Despite Storer's desire to study abroad from a young age, she did have fears about studying in America.

"I was nervous about leaving my family and friends at home and not having the option to go home for breaks or even just for a weekend like a lot of students can do,

but FaceTime and Skype make that easier," Storer said. "I was and still am worried about gun violence in America, especially in terms of school shootings, because that's not something we have to worry about in Australia."

There were, of course, obstacles to studying in America. Storer had to adjust to living in a foreign country across the globe.

Storer said her biggest obstacle in adjusting to life here in America was "just being away from my family and getting used to a new culture. People found it hard to understand me at the start so I had to get used to speaking slowly and clearly."

Despite being separated by thousands of miles of ocean and land, Storer's parents were always supportive of her decision to study abroad.

"My parents have always been really supportive of what I wanted to do and they helped me every step of the way," Storer said. "The only rule my dad gave me was to not end up with an American boyfriend."

Storer was interested in basketball from a young age and currently plays in the center position. Storer has been playing basketball since she was 11 years old. Storer also states that her family played basketball. "Both my parents were pretty good," she said, "so I think it was inevitable."

When playing basketball, Storer stated that she is inspired by Mat-



Liv Storer (left) in a 2017 game. (Atticus Rice / McDaniel Free Press).

thew Dellavedova, a fellow Australian, who plays in the NBA.

"Dellavedova is from a town similar to mine and is just a really hard worker, which I really respect," Storer said.

Storer knew that she would be playing basketball while at McDaniel and credits Coach Becky Martin as being the reason she found out about McDaniel.

"Becky Martin told me all about what McDaniel was like. I liked that it was a smaller school, and from the virtual tour that I did on the website, the campus looked really nice," Storer said. "Honestly, it was always going to be a bit of risk wherever I went because I wasn't going to be able to do a tour, but I'm really happy that I ended up at McDaniel."

As a student and athlete, Storer is particularly inspired by her team-

mates. Through three years of play, the connection between Storer and her teammates has evolved into much more than simply playing basketball together.

"My teammates have become my family here and I honestly don't know what I'd do without them," Storer said. "They keep me sane and inspire me every day to be better on and off the court."

When asked what Storer considers to be her greatest achievement as a student-athlete, she pointed to the victories that her team has had.

"We've won some really tough games that I've been lucky to play a part in and that's always a great feeling," Storer said.

When asked about McDaniel as a college that changed lives, Storer stated that McDaniel has "definitely changed mine."

Taylor Bauman sets volleyball record for career digs



Taylor Bauman in a 2017 game. (Atticus Rice / McDaniel Free Press).

Ciara O'Brien
Staff Reporter

On Sept. 27, Taylor Bauman set a McDaniel volleyball record with 1,650 career digs.

"It felt really cool," the senior said. "It was really exciting, but also it was reassuring to know [that] these past four years I worked really hard and I've been really lucky to have amazing teammates."

Bauman has been playing volleyball for 10 years. After trying it out with some friends in middle school, the appeal of travel teams made her want to investigate further. She made the team later that year and has loved the sport since then.

Bauman was recruited by Mc-

Daniel as a junior in high school and has had a successful volleyball career at the College. She has been the team captain for the past three years.

Under changes to Centennial Conference rules and regulations, obstacles were set in front of Bauman and the volleyball team that impacted point scoring and limited playing time.

The former rules required that a volleyball player had to be serving to score, but now points can be scored even if a team does not have the serve. Additionally, the Centennial Conference puts a restriction on how many games any student-athlete can play.

"It's a big deal because basically,

we play less games with less points," Bauman said. "So it's harder to get more digs now."

Bauman's efforts on the floor despite regulations reflected her dedication to the team's success.

"Breaking an overall record with fewer opportunities to do so is a really big deal," Head Volleyball Coach Jessica Wolverton explained. "There used to be more opportunities to get digs, and playing fewer points, Taylor still broke the record. It's truly incredible when you think about it."

Regarding her broken record, Bauman praises her teammates and coach.

"I wouldn't have been able to do it without them," she said.

Bauman has been fortunate enough to compete in two postseasons and hopes to have the opportunity to do so again this year. History of competing in playoff competition has followed Bauman and has given opportunity to pick up big numbers, Wolverton said.

With graduation fast approaching in May, Bauman expressed what being a student-athlete meant to her.

"I've been able to enjoy being a student and an athlete," Bauman said. "It can be really hard at other schools academically or athletically, you kind of have to pick. McDaniel does a good job of helping you balance it."

Wolverton described Bauman as the type of student-athlete every coach wants on their roster.

"She is dedicated to doing the right thing on and off the court, loves to train and compete at the highest level, and is great at communicating with my staff and her teammates," Wolverton said. "She sets the tone in the locker room and in the gym and has been an invaluable addition to our program these last four years."

After graduation, Bauman hopes to become a trauma nurse and is ready to take on the challenge.

"It's going to be stressful there," Bauman said, "and it's stressful on the volleyball court, so that helped me realize what I wanted to do and gain the characteristics I need to succeed."

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The McDaniel Free Press

Volume 22, Issue 5 | November 13, 2018

INSIDE: SGA candidates (pg. 2) | New environmental studies professor (pg. 8) | Assistant swim coach profile (pg. 11)

Basketball lines up for an all-in season

Gunnar Ward
Sports Editor

The men's and women's basketball teams came together to host Midnight Madness on Thursday night. The fun and energetic event kicked off the upcoming season and was an opportunity to rally the student body.

Midnight Madness is designed with the goal of having fun, but it is also an opportunity for both men's and women's basketball to showcase their skills. The display of talent is reflected by the drive the teams have as they pursue the upcoming season's goals.

"We are looking to make the Centennial Conference playoffs," Men's Basketball Head Coach Kevin Curley said. "We plan on reaching it by working hard in practice to try and get better as a tough physical and defensive team."

Last season, the men's basketball team finished with a 6-19 record and looks to rebound this season.

Midnight Madness featured the women's basketball team as well. Last season, the team finished with a record of 12-13, but were on



Freshman Madeline Thompson puts up a three-pointer during Midnight Madness on Thursday, Nov. 8, 2018. (Gunnar Ward / McDaniel Free Press).

the 500 percent winning mark in conference play with a record of 10-10. The team looks to continue to strive and improve on that mark.

Kicking off the season, the women's basketball team will take to

the floor for the first time since 1981 without former head coach Becky Martin on the sideline. Martin took a medical leave of absence following a diagnosis of stage 4 pancreatic cancer earlier this year.

"It has been hard for a lot of us," sophomore forward Hannah Zajac said, "but we have adjusted well and we're excited for this year."

Since then, Rick Little has been *See **BASKETBALL**, page 11*

False armed robbery reported near Big Baker

Emma Carter
Co-Editor-in-Chief

On Monday, Nov. 5, students and faculty received a series of McDaniel Alerts that reported an attempted armed robbery near Big Baker. The incident was reported by a campus employee, according to the alerts.

The account of robbery, however, was false. President Casey sent a follow-up email to the student body on Wednesday afternoon relaying the fabrication of the incident.

"McDaniel College administrators have been notified by the Westminster Police Department that the reported attempted armed robbery on Monday evening, Nov. 5, has been determined to be unfounded," Casey said in the email.

The College sent its first alert shortly after 8 p.m. on Monday, notifying the campus of an attempted armed robbery and reporting that the Westminster Police Department was investigating

the crime.

Following alerts advised students to avoid the Big Baker area until 9:13 p.m. when a "Campus All Clear" alert was sent. This came after an inspection of the area by Campus Safety officers and the WPD.

A 10 p.m. McDaniel Alert described the alleged crime in further detail. The campus employee reported that the attacker, described as a Hispanic male in his 20s, with a tattoo of a cross on his face, fled after approaching the employee with a knife.

The College community was notified that the account was retracted on Wednesday, Nov. 7.

A similar incident occurred in the spring of 2017, in which a student falsely reported an attempted armed robbery in front of Alumni Hall.

The president's email additionally stated that the employee who reported the crime was "terminated and barred from campus."

McDaniel Compliments

"Matt Quinn is super chill and caring. I always like hearing what he has to say."

"You are so sweet and kind, Becca Halaney. I hope you had a great birthday!"

"Thank you Professor Katie Staab for always challenging me to work hard!"

Want to brighten someone's day? Need a way to fulfill your random act of kindness for the day? Message *Dean McDaniel Compliments* on Facebook with a compliment, and we'll post it anonymously for you. Here to spread some happiness on the Hill, we'll make sure your friend, classmate, or professor has the chance to smile and feel appreciated. Your compliment could be featured in the next issue of the *Free Press*!

Support Children's Miracle Network Hospitals

Jill Courtney
Contributor

McDaniel College's Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity and Phi Mu sorority are partnering to fundraise for the Children's Miracle Network Hospitals through their "Cheesin' For Children" event.

On Nov. 13, fraternity and sorority members will offer students on campus grilled cheese, bacon, Nutella, peanut butter, and marshmallow sandwiches ranging from \$2 to \$2.50. Proceeds will be donated to CMNH, a cause to which the brothers and sisters are dedicated.

"Children's Miracle Network is SAE's national philanthropy, meaning every active chapter and even our nationals donate and help where we can to the cause," said Steven Morella, a McDaniel senior and former president of Sigma Alpha Epsilon. In the 17 years since partnering

with the Children's Miracle Network Hospitals, the fraternity has raised over \$800,000.

CMNH is also Phi Mu's national philanthropy.

"Originally we had a smaller idea in mind that we were going to do on our own," said Phi Mu sophomore Jaid Nicely, but that turned into a bigger philanthropy with SAE because our partnership with them gives us the opportunity to double the amount of participants and hopefully get a bigger turnout."

According to Nicely, some of her sorority sisters have seen the effects of their philanthropy first-hand by touring Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore to learn about the children and to see how the donations are used.

"It's one thing to give money to a cause," Nicely added, "but to see the impact it actually makes is super *See **SUPPORT**, page 5*

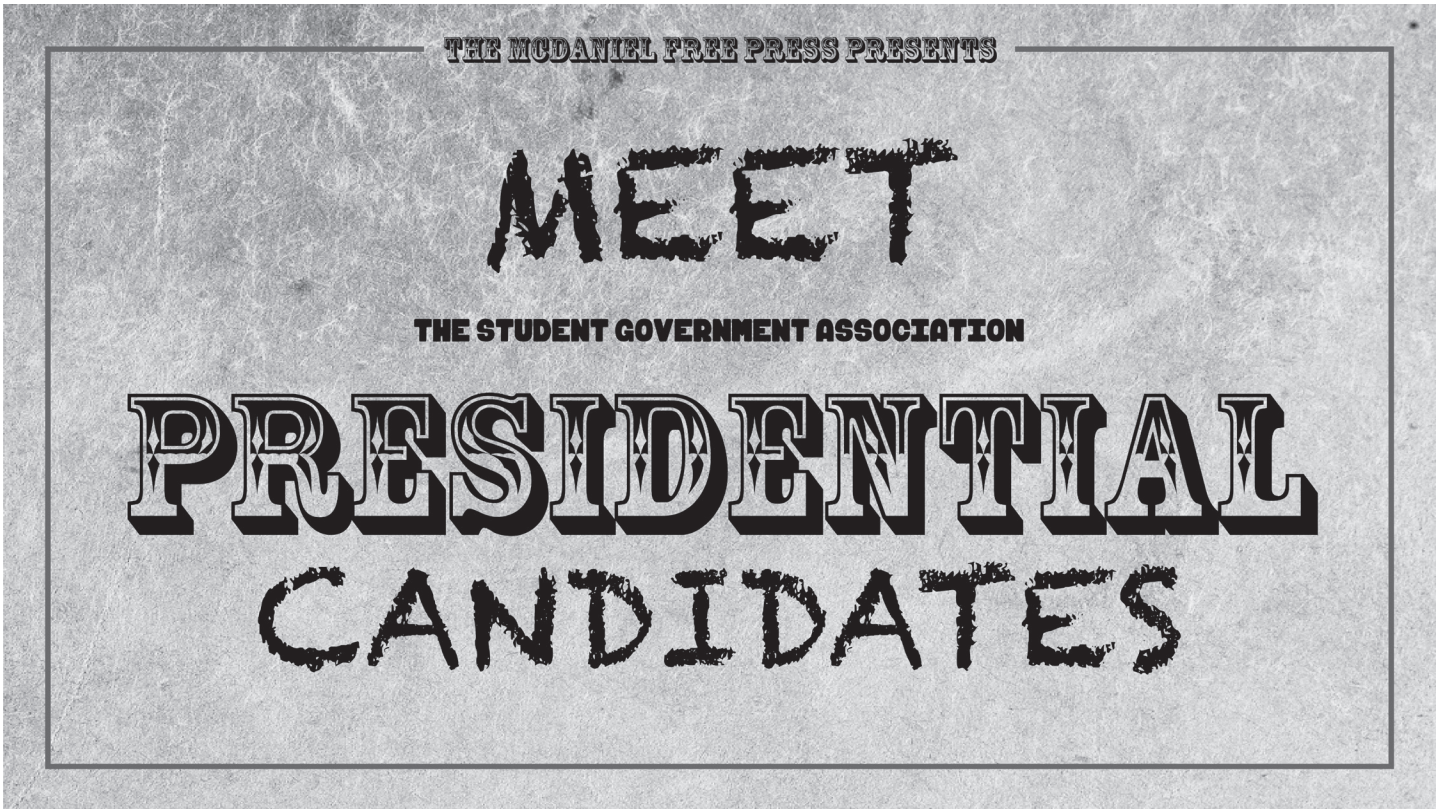


Meet the candidates for SGA president

Free Press Staff

For the first time since the spring of 2016, SGA is holding elections in which undergraduate students may cast their votes. Two candidates have filed with SGA, and the winner will be determined by online voting on OrgSync from Nov. 19-25.

In an effort to keep the student body informed, the *Free Press* sent identical questions to both candidates. Their answers appear below.



Amara Foster ‘21
Major: Elementary education
Minor: Marketing

Why are you running for SGA President?

I am running for SGA because I want to make a difference on this campus. Students here want to see a lot of changes happen, as do I. I am ready to hear everyone’s voices and concerns and do my best to help see these changes through. I want to bring spirit and community back to the Hill. I feel as though we are kind of divided, and we need to be unified and one school if we really want to see change happen.

Mackenzie Goaneh ‘21
Major: Psychology and communication
Minor: Journalism

I’ve been in SGA since last year as freshman representative. Currently I’m director of PR. I have the experience to run SGA, as I know the ins and outs of what it takes to be on the executive board. I have amazing connections with other big organizations on campus, such as HLA and Africa’s Legacy, that we could co-sponsorship with in the future. I also am pretty familiar with all other resources McDaniel has to offer to run a smooth and engaging organization. I can really make SGA more big than what it is.

What are you (or have you been) involved with on campus and/or in the community?

I was involved in SGA as freshman representative my first year, and this year I am secretary. I am also a cheerleader here on campus. I am a member of BSU and Curlfriends. I work in the alumni office and I am also a student ambassador.

Involved in: 2017-2018 SGA freshman representative, current SGA PR, current secretary for Alpha Phi Omega.

What are your ideas or goals for the next year?

My goals for next year are to listen to the student body more. SGA is the voice of the student body. We are the middle man between students and faculty/trustees. I want us to really emphasize that and make students feel like they can come up to me and express their concerns, issues, and even events that they would like to see on campus and feel like their voices are really heard. I want them to know that I am going to make those higher up aware of their concerns. When it comes to events, I would love to put on more events. Right now, we mainly do events during Homecoming and the time around Spring Fling. I want to add more events during the year and make SGA more known, specifically with events that are going to show spirit and show that we can come together as a community to not only have fun, but to celebrate the school that we all go to. Also, since we are the “overseer” of other clubs on campus, I want to do more co-sponsorships with other clubs so they know that SGA does support them. I want to also show this by going to their events as a club so that they always have that constant reminder that we are here for them.

Within the first month of school, I want to have a kickoff to the new school year SGA party to really market to the Class of 2023. Then I would want to have a lot of co-sponsorships with many organizations. I would also want to build our professional relationship with the organizations we oversee, as SGA is more than having fun parties.

Amara Foster ‘21
Responses continued

What skills or strengths do you possess that are specific to carrying out the duties of president?

The skills and strengths that I possess are that I am highly motivated and determined. I put 100 percent into everything that I do. I also have great time management skills as well as great listening skills. I also am the type of person who sees the glass half full.

Mackenzie Goaneh ‘21
Responses continued

As a communication major, I know how to create messages and send them out. My position as PR director helps me with that, as I’m always out networking, socializing, and communicating with students, administration, and faculty about SGA and really trying to get SGA out there. I know that I can grasp the attention of the McDaniel community to really convey that SGA is here for them, not just the few people in SGA.

What has SGA done well in the past and what can SGA work on to do better?

In the past, SGA has done co-sponsorships well. The events that we have done have been pretty successful, such as the spring formal. We spent last year remodeling our constitution as a club and have finished it successfully, finding the sole purpose of what we want to stand for. This showed that as an entire club, we can really work as a team. Also, within the club, the training for future leadership positions is great! I’ve had great experiences leading events and club meetings, attending board of trustee meetings, as well as advisor meetings. All of these experiences helped me prepare for this very moment. To do better, SGA can make ourselves better known on campus since we are the students’ voice. We need for people to know that they can come to us. We need to add some more spirit to this community. We need to be the change that makes this community a community.

I would say SGA really gave themselves a new look for the 2017-2018 school year. SGA can build its professional relationship more with the organizations they oversee.

How do you see SGA currently fitting into the McDaniel community and what would you change, if anything, about that?

I see SGA currently fitting into the McDaniel community as not playing a large enough role as we should to the students. That’s one thing I would change. I want students to know SGA as that organization that is there for them, wants to help them, and wants to help make their experience here as great as possible.

I see SGA as the bridge between the administration and the students, and I would like to make that bridge stronger, so students could be more comfortable coming to SGA. I think we can just PR more honestly and do what we have promised to organizations.

Is there anything else you’d like to say?

Be ready to have your voice heard with me! Help bring spirit and community back to the Hill!

N/A

11 hangouts within an hour of campus

Amara Foster
Staff Reporter

If you are not from or familiar with this area, you could be confused about what fun can be had off-campus. Break outside of Westminster and explore what the surrounding area has to offer. There is so much that you can do and so many places that you can explore, whether you make a left or a right at the light exiting campus. Below are 11 different places, all less than an hour away that could become your potential favorites. If you have the opportunity, visit one, two, or all.

Mitchell’s Golf Complex
Reisterstown, Md. (19 minutes)
This miniature golf course, located on Rt. 140, consists of three levels: regular, championship, and monster in the pines. To experience this fun is very inexpensive. The regular course is only \$5, and the other two courses are both just \$7. At Mitchell’s, they also have a driving range and an executive course, if you are interested in the full golfing experience. Mitchell’s is open every day from 7 a.m.-8 p.m.

Owings Mills AMC Movie Theater
Owings Mills, Md. (24 minutes)
This is the closest movie theater to our school, besides the one at the TownMall of Westminster. This theater has just been remolded, so now it includes reclining seats, reserved seating, and IMAX. One thing about this theater is if you become an AMC stubs member, you have the option of \$5 Tuesdays. This means that all day on Tuesdays, all movies are just \$5. Student pricing is also available every day after 4 p.m. Show a valid student ID at the box office, and they will provide the discount.

Soldier’s Delight Natural Environment Area
Owings Mills, Md. (25 minutes)
This is a nature reserve for both Maryland’s wildlife and natural environment. At Soldier’s Delight, you can take advantage of the 7 miles of hiking trails, either walking or running, or just go to enjoy nature. Bikes are not permitted. Soldier’s Delight is also the perfect backdrop for artistic photos. It is open every day from 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Gettysburg Outlets
Gettysburg, Pa. (31 minutes)
These outlets are located in what is known as “the most famous small town in America.” With more than 60 stores, this is the perfect place to do your tax-free shopping, at an outlet price. A couple of the stores offer student discounts, including the movie theatre. The outlets are open Monday through Saturday, from 10 a.m.-9 p.m. and on Sundays from 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

SkyZone Trampoline Park
Timonium, Md. (37 minutes)
This is an indoor trampoline park that features “freestyle bouncing,” dodgeball, and basketball hoops. SkyZone is a great place to spend a Saturday afternoon or night with



The Baltimore Inner Harbor. (Amara Foster / McDaniel Free Press).

your friends. They even offer what they call a “Glow Zone,” which is a session full of lasers, music and blacklight. “Glow Zone” is offered on Friday nights from 7 p.m.-9 p.m. and 9 p.m.-11 p.m. and Saturday nights from 9 p.m.-11 p.m. The price for a 2-hour session is \$22 per person. On a regular day and time, SkyZone Timonium is open from 10 a.m.-8 p.m., with each time session costing a different amount.

Towson Town Center
Towson, Md. (38 minutes)
Towson Town Center is a large indoor mall with over 170 stores and restaurants that spread across four floors. All of your favorite retailers can be found in this one space. Towson is a great place to just hang out, window shop, and walk around with friends, especially if you want to do something low-key and simple during the weekends off campus. Towson’s hours are Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-9 p.m. and Sunday 11 a.m.-6 p.m.
“Towson has a good selection of stores that you wouldn’t see in an average mall in Maryland,” said sophomore Kai Samuels.

Centennial Park
Ellicott City, Md. (40 minutes)
Centennial Park is a public park surrounding Centennial Lake. There is a 2.6-mile paved pathway around the lake, and 7.3 miles of paved pathway linking surrounding neighborhoods. If you want a change of scenery, go walk, run, or ride your bike at this park. You are also able to bring your dog, as long as they are secured by a leash. At this park, there is a whole bunch of things that you can do. There are picnic pavilions, playgrounds, sand volleyball courts, baseball fields, a skate spot, hiking trails, racquetball courts, tennis courts, multipurpose fields, and horseshoe pits. Centennial Park is open every day from 7 a.m.-8:45 p.m.

The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore
Baltimore, Md. (43 minutes)
The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore is home to nearly 200 species, spread across five different attractions. Tickets are \$19 per person, and parking is free. Group ticket discounts are available for 15 people or more, \$12.25 at the gate and \$12.50 in advance. The zoo is open

daily from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., March through December, and Friday through Monday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. in January and February.

Baltimore Inner Harbor
Baltimore, Md. (44 minutes)
The Inner Harbor is a huge sightseeing and tourist attraction. It is a staple to the Baltimore community. You can visit one of its many features including the National Aquarium, the Maryland Science Center, Ripley’s Believe It or Not, Power Plant Live, and a number of different restaurants and retail and souvenir stores. Paddle boats can be rented out as well. It is the perfect place to walk around and enjoy the view for free, especially on a beautiful day.

“My favorite experience at the Inner Harbor is going to see the fireworks during the fourth of July,” said sophomore Tamera Curtis.

The Walters Art Museum
Baltimore, Md. (45 minutes)
This free art museum is located in Mount Vernon, Baltimore’s cultural and historic district. Their mission is “to bring art and people together for enjoyment, discovery, and learning.” The museum is closed Monday and Tuesday, but open Wednesday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Thursdays 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

Fell’s Point
Baltimore, Md. (48 minutes)
Fell’s Point is one of the oldest neighborhoods in Baltimore. It is filled with cobblestone streets, waterfront restaurants, shops and boutiques. Fell’s Point hosts different events throughout the year, so stay on the lookout for what they have coming. Fell’s Point is also a great setting for artistic photos in front of the water with your friends, which will make for great memories.

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The truth behind Twitter

Amara Foster
Staff Reporter

Twitter is a social networking source, where users post and interact with public messages referred to as ‘tweets’. Users are able to post anything, as often as they want. Twitter is where you’ll find news in real time. It is one of the most used social media outlets. Millions of people are on Twitter. From local news stations, to your favorite actors, musicians, athletes, and politicians are active of Twitter. College students and young adults have a strong presence as well. Many feel like they have a voice on Twitter.

Views are heard and opinions are challenged on this popular forum.

It is the perfect place to share opinions, connect with other people, and for news to travel quickly. Many go to Twitter to hear the latest news, weather, gossip, political banter, or world events. It has become a direct way to connect to real issues and real people.

As with many things, it has its downfalls. The downside is that people feel they can say what they want to anyone. There are no rules and often no tact when it comes to voicing your opinion online. Twitter trolls, who deliberately provoke arguments and disrupt normal flow of discussion for their own amusement, post outrageous things on Twitter to get reactions from

other users and cause problems. Another downfall is cyber-bullying, which can be prominent on social media sites. There can also be moments of shaming; from body shaming, to personality shaming, to some negative comments about people, especially towards celebrities. With the positives, come the negatives. You have to navigate cautiously and intentionally.

Those not heavily active on Twitter may think it is this dark, negative place, but it is actually a social media site that is doing this world some good. It’s been shown that some of the major news outlets go to Twitter for the latest, direct news from the source.

There are tons of influential people on Twitter who are trying to make significant and real differences in communities across the country. Twitter is a home for activism and influence. People are using their platform on a daily basis to spread social awareness, which makes a huge impact. Awareness when it comes to things such as police brutality, the ‘Black Lives Matter’ movement, the LBGTQ community, and what is going on in politics.

Stories that would never be shared on nightly news channels will go viral first on Twitter. We sometimes learn and hear about news on Twitter before we hear it from our local news stations.



(Photo courtesy of Picpedia.org).

Often times, prominent news that should be on ABC, CNN, and Fox News about terrible things going on around our world is found on Twitter, but seems to never make it on these huge news platforms in a timely fashion or at all. This goes for positive news as well.

Twitter has now become one of those huge news platforms.

On a lighter note, Twitter is great for bringing daily entertainment to its users. It constantly teaches and updates users on information that is relevant to our lives. Users will make sure important news, heartwarming videos, and entertaining anecdotes are retweeted and liked, helping them to become viral.

People are actually really supportive on Twitter. They want to see others succeed, even if they do not know you. It is a

great way to connect with people, get information, and to air your emotional thoughts. A simple retweet and like can go a long way. It has been known to change the lives of many, both famous and infamous.

This social media site also unifies groups of people. Twitter also has “sub Twitters,” one of which is referred to as “Black Twitter.” “Black Twitter” unifies the black community by allowing this community to connect and bond over what it means to be black on a digital platform.

Wide ranges of audiences are able to be reached on this platform, which allows for small businesses to be promoted, relationships to form (both intimate and friendships), news, and inspirational messages to be passed all around.



(Photo courtesy of Flickr user GotCredit).

The advice I wish I’d gotten when I graduated high school

Megan Steinwedel
Contributor

When I graduated high school, everything started to speed up quickly.

Senior week flew by. My eighteenth birthday: gone. That summer: gone. My first semester of college: gone.

You don’t realize it in the moment, but your life starts to fly by. I found myself faced with questions of “Where do you see yourself in five years” and “What do you want to do with your life?” Woah.

Pump the breaks, guys, because I don’t even know what I want to do five minutes from now.

Just yesterday it felt like I was starting elementary school, and

now my parents are kicking me out of the nest? I found myself constantly wondering why I had to have everything figured out by the time I graduated high school. Why was I locked into some “career path” at eighteen years old? Why, oh why, was I blacklisted for choosing “general studies” instead of choosing a set path?

I’m going to be 100 percent honest with you: I had no idea what I was going to do with my life. I was still quoting Full House thinking it was cool at eighteen. I get it. College is a pathway to a career. High school is designed to prepare you for college and college is designed to prepare you for the real world, so it’s reasonable to say “Hey, time to get

your butt in gear and figure out what you want to be.” But dude, that’s a big investment you’re asking me to make. I’m about to waste thousands of dollars on courses for a major, leading me to a potential career I might not even end up wanting. I thought buying a 5,000 pack of Silly Bandz when I was 12 was the worst financial decision I’d ever make, yet here we are.

What I’ve come to realize, in my 21 years of wisdom, is that figuring out what you’ll do in your life stems from figuring out who you are first.

Bear with me here, but these college years, hell, your entire 20s, are going to be about figuring out the type of person you want to be. It’s about building your brand from the logo to the jingle. It might start with figuring out a personal style, deciding what you want from a potential significant other, or how you want people to remember you

after you’ve gone.

In figuring out who you are in this world, you’ll find your passion in what you hope to contribute to it. Whether that’s helping people, building a business, creating films or television shows for people to enjoy, whatever you feel most passionate about. Once you understand who you are and what you really want from the world, everything seems to fall in place about what you can do for it.

I’m not going to lie to you, you’ll probably find yourself changing your major, or school, digging yourself deeper in debt, before you figure out the direction the winds of life will blow you into.

The point I’m trying to reach is that these years are some of the weirdest years of your life. You leave the house at 18 after having no one teach you how to actually be a functioning adult, and you’re expected to figure it out. And you do, you learn as you go. It’s a process, and they don’t tell you how difficult of a process it is. There are countless nights of existential crisis, and everything feels like the end of the world. You’re figuring out who you are, what you want to be, what you want to do, and what you believe in this life. Everyone around you seems to have it together, but listen, we’re all in this together.

I’m going to let you in on a little secret, nobody ever knows what they’re doing. Some are just amazing at faking it. What’s so important about this time in our lives is discovering ourselves, because you will find your passion. It’s your secret weapon and once you harness that power, you’ll be unstoppable. You’ll figure everything out, so my advice to you now as finals approach, take a deep breath.

No matter what happens, you’ll be okay.

PFLAG playing a vital role in family relationships

Bernadette Joyce
Contributor

I'm about to come face-to-face with the family that loves me unconditionally, yet I'm fearful of what I have to tell them will prove that their "unconditional" love has conditions.

I could tell my parents everything when I was growing up, from getting drunk in high school to screwing up an important test, but now I have to tell them something that may make all of those conversations seem insignificant. I've avoided this conversation so long that I can no longer avoid it, and it hurts me so much to think about the different responses they will have. I don't want them to look at me differently than they did before.

"Mom and Dad ... I'm gay."

These conversations are happening all over the world today in every single socio-economic class. In some incidents, their families are loving and supportive, but in other unfortunate incidents families struggle to understand and accept one another. This is because

some families are inadequately exposed and informed about the LGBTQ community. This is where organizations like PFLAG – which stands for Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays – can play a vital role in family members' relationships with one another.

PFLAG is a non-profit organization whose mission is to educate the public about the LGBTQ community and about how to support and advocate for its members. They meet monthly and welcome members of the LGBTQ community, their families, and anyone who wants to be better educated on the topic. They make sure that all who enter their meetings feel safe and comfortable with who they are.

Recently, I had the pleasure of being able to talk on the phone with a key member of PFLAG. Joy Fisher is the president of the Westminster-Carroll County, Maryland Chapter.

Fisher was the vice president of the Westminster chapter four years before and became president when the president at the time stepped

down. Fisher is a member of the LGBTQ community herself, and she believes that PFLAG is a crucial organization for kids who are in the LGBTQ community and their parents.

When I asked her why she feels this organization is so important to kids, Fisher pointed to support systems. "Plenty of kids out there don't have support from their families or their schools, and they need a voice and to be accepted for who they are," she said.

For parents, Fisher emphasized the importance of understanding of the LGBTQ community. "Parents need to be educated and need to learn how to accept their child for who they are. I have not met a parent who has come out of PFLAG that isn't happy that they have been educated," she said.

Fisher also spoke of how PFLAG has affected her life since joining.

"[PFLAG] has allowed me to see a great group of kids who want to make a difference in their community," she said. Fisher added

that she has seen "far more [kids] than I realized were here who want our help and who need our help."

"It is so nice to be able to watch Westminster evolve," she concluded.

Anyone who feels like they are being treated unequally in the community or if they feel like they might not understand the LGBTQ community as well as they want to are welcome to participate in PFLAG meetings. The meetings are a place where everyone is accepted and listened to, and if you might not be comfortable with meeting in front of a big group of people, PFLAG has a helpline where callers can arrange a time and place for a more private meeting with a member of the organization.

PFLAG is an organization that I feel is vital in any community and that can help so many people who are afraid or who might be struggling with their family members' relationships with them. This organization is a saving grace to anyone who is going through hardships with finding acceptance with themselves.

PFLAG's website can be found at pflag.org. The Westminster-Carroll County chapter's helpline is 410-861-0488.

A note on commentary

Free Press Staff

In light of the growing attention around articles published in the Commentary section of this paper, the *Free Press* would like to make clear the purpose of our Commentary section.

The opinions expressed in this section do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the *Free Press* or McDaniel College and are solely representative of their respective authors.

We believe in opening our Commentary section to writers expressing all opinions, which, while sometimes controversial among

members of the campus community, allows us to properly and fairly represent the opinions of the student body. We hope our readers understand each individual's right to expressing their opinion through our campus media outlet.

This being said, the *Free Press* encourages all readers to submit a letter to the editor or a commentary piece should they wish to share their opinions on any of our published material.

If any readers have questions about *Free Press* commentary, please contact our staff.



(Artwork courtesy of Contrast).

Contrast contest

Each issue, *The McDaniel Free Press* partners with *Contrast*, McDaniel's literary magazine, to showcase student writing based on a prompt from the previous issue. Contrast editors will review submissions and together we publish the winning submission.

This month's prompt:
Write a short story no more than 500 words in length or a poem no more than 50 lines long from the point of view of a 100-year-old mirror.

Please email your submission to contrastlitmag@gmail.com. The winner will be chosen based on the discretion of Contrast editors Marya Topina and Emma Driban.

Please also feel free to attend Contrast meetings Thursdays at 9 p.m. in Hill 208 to workshop your writing and receive feedback from fellow creative minds on campus.

Support Children's Miracle Network Hospitals

SUPPORT, *from page 1*
important."

CMNH began in 1983 as a non-profit to support 22 hospitals. Today, it has grown to 170 member hospitals across North America. Many people recognize CMNH from their Miracle Balloon campaign that seeks to encourage people to donate \$1 at a time to the charity. Each year more than 30 million balloons are printed.

Medicaid and private insurance programs often do not cover the full cost of healthcare for children. CMNH seeks to provide affordable care to children and often looks to donations and support from the community to meet the needs of the 10 million families that come to the hospitals every year.

According to the Hospital's website, every minute, 62 children

enter a CMNH hospital, and 1 in 10 children in North America are treated at a CMN hospital every year. Donations stay local, and funds often go to "critical treatments and healthcare services, pediatric medical equipment and charitable care."

For those interested in donating to this cause, there are multiple opportunities to support local CMNH hospitals, and the next Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Phi Mu sandwich fundraiser is tentatively set for December 6 and 7. CMNH also holds programs such as Extra Life, My Miracle Birthday, Mediathon, and various Dance Marathons. Information about these events can be found on their website.

Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Phi Mu's Cheesin' for Children will be held from 8 – 11 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 13.

Connect with the Free Press!



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

McComics

MYTHTAKEN

BY NATHAN WRIGHT

BEHOLD, I AM ZEUS, GOD OF THE SKY!

TRULY, I AM THE MIGHTIEST-
I AM THOR, GOD OF THE SKY!
WAIT, WHAT ARE YOU-

I AM NUT, GODDESS OF THE SKY!
HOLD ON-

I AM JUPITER, GOD OF THE SKY!
BUT YOU'RE JUST ME!
I AM THE JADE EMPEROR, GOD OF THE SKY!
WAIT, STOP-

I AM THE GOD OF THE SKY!
I AM THE GODDESS OF THE SKY!
I AM THE GOD OF THE SKY!
I AM THE GODDESS OF THE SKY!
I AM THE GOD OF THE SKY!
I AM THE GODDESS OF THE SKY!
AH! WHY CAN'T YOU STUPID HUMANS JUST PICK ONE GOD?!

HEY GUYS, I JUST THOUGHT OF THIS NEAT THING CALLED MONOTHEISM!

WAIT, NO, NOT LIKE THAT!

Problems of the Basic

HAPPY 18TH BIRTHDAY, MIA!

I THINK I'M GOING TO GET A TATTOO SINCE I'M LEGAL NOW!

WOW MIA, THAT'S SO BAD ASS!

YOU'RE GOING TO DO GREAT, JUST DON'T THINK ABOUT IT!

I'M SO SCARED! IT'S GOING TO HURT SO BAD!

OW! HOW MUCH LONGER? I DON'T THINK I CAN TAKE MUCH MORE.

CAN WE PLEASE SEE IT?!

JUST A PEAK!

IT TOOK SO LONG... AND HURT SO BAD... THEY SAID I HAD TO KEEP THIS BANDAGE ON.

WOW... YOU REALLY WENT ALL OUT.

ARTIST: HANNAH MAXWELL

HOPE

Author: Kofi Siga

ME

FINALS WEEK

AMPLE STUDYING TIME

HOPE PT. 2

Author: Kofi Siga

ME

MY FIRST FINAL

WAY TOO EASY!

MULTIPLE CHOICE

ALMOST HAD ME THERE!

SHORT ANSWER

TIME TO FINISH YOU OFF!

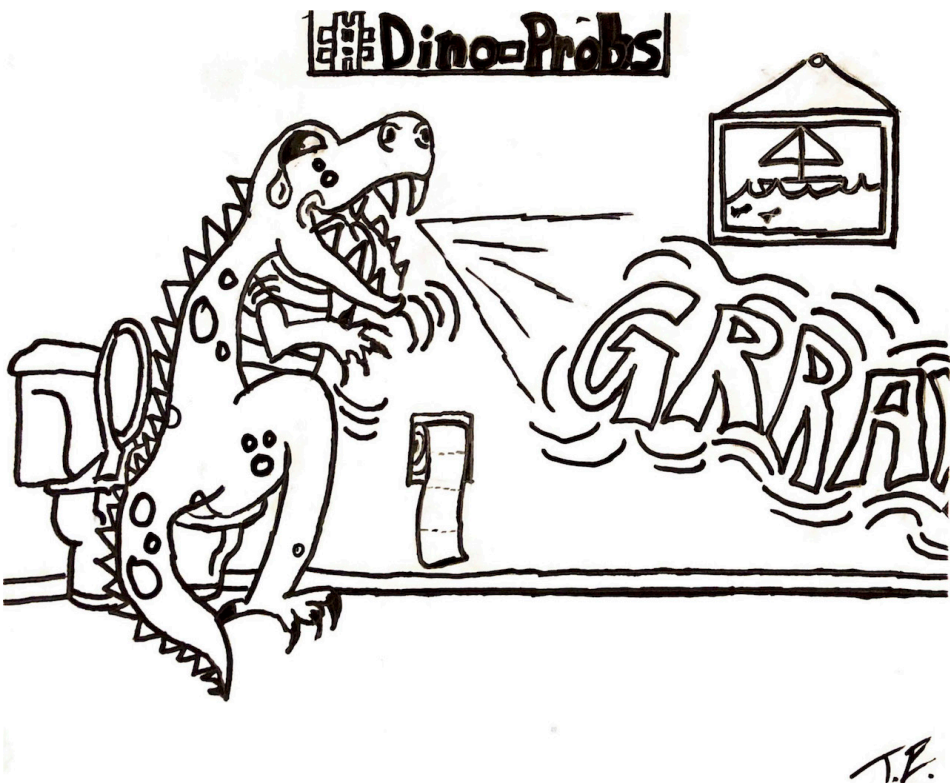
ESSAY

Editor's notes:
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These comics are produced for the communication department's Communication and Culture course taught by Associate Professor Robert Lemieux.
Read more comics every Sunday on our website.

www.mcdanielfreepress.com

OUT OF ORDER

BY JILL COURTNEY



"SPA-GHETTI"

By: SOPHIA SENGE

BY: OLIVIA CULVER

THE LET DOWN

YOUR DOGS ARE SO SMALL!

I KNOW! SOMETIMES I FORGET THEY ARE EVEN THERE!

THE DOG PARK

TWO WEEKS LATER

SHE WENT HOME WITHOUT US AGAIN, DIDN'T SHE?

YUP...

Slumber Stories

By: Tom Daly

AHHH!

I have been defeated.

HAHA. Did you really think you could defeat me Billy the Brave?

This is your hero!

Billy the Brave has been defeated and all hope was lost for the city...

Oh thank god that was only a dream...

THIS ISN'T A DREAM!

Billy!

Billy!

Billy!

Elly Engle, professor of environmental studies, finds dream job on the Hill



Not even two months into the semester, Elly Engle, professor of environmental studies, was able to coordinate multiple student groups to help weed the campus garden and cover it with mulch to prepare for her spring classes to use in their studies. (Photo courtesy of Elly Engle).

Atticus Rice
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Elly Engle, Ph.D., joined the environmental studies department this fall less than a year after earning her doctorate from Pennsylvania State University.

“I remember exactly where I was when this job posting came through my email,” she said.

She was sitting on the floor of her apartment living room last fall with her husband and said, “I found my job.”

“[It was] the only job I sat down and wrote a whole new cover letter and application [for] because I was so excited,” she said.

For Engle, her role at McDaniel

is a dream come true.

“I am one of those weirdos that kinda always knew what they wanted to do,” she said. “It’s cheesy, but ‘The Lorax’ was super influential.”

The hobby distance runner has taken her passion for the outdoors and for fostering community and hit the ground running in her first semester.

“I was brought on board to get the student farm up and running at Singleton-Mathews,” she said. “That’s the big overarching billboard that I’m driving towards.”

Engle’s drive started as soon as her interview did.

“The first thing we did my interview day,” Engle said, “was [environmental studies professor Jason]

Scullion picked me up at the hotel and we went for a hike [at Singleton-Mathews.]”

Though she didn’t expect that the interview for her first tenured-track teaching job out of graduate school would be in a pantsuit and hiking shoes, it all felt right.

“I was just so excited,” she said.

Engle grew up in farmland about 30 miles east of State College, Pa. and never thought she would go to Pennsylvania State University. In fact, she refused to go there for her undergraduate degree. But after graduating from Juniata College, she found herself enrolled in the University’s rural sociology program.

“I don’t regret it for a second,” she said. “The people I met there were amazing.”

Much of Engle’s work on her Ph.D. thesis, which focused on environmental justice and community development of rural community gardening in central Appalachia, had her out meeting new people, getting to know them and their gardens.

“It’s amazing when you’re standing in someone’s garden what you’ll talk about,” she said.

Engle did a lot of this field work in the summer of 2016 leading up to the Presidential Election. Her garden conversations, many of which were in historically coal communities, opened up a lot for her.

“People just really want to be heard and they want to be proud of what they do,” she said.

She noticed that the conversation around these coal communities gets stuck on coal itself rather than the people.

“[My research was about] trying to feed people and create new jobs,” she said, noting that people can always grow their own food, but run into problems when it’s grown on land that’s destroyed.

In analyzing community gardening programs, Engle was able to merge the field of environmental

studies and sociology.

“[I] used social theory to explain why people do what they do,” she said, speaking of how people interact with the environment.

Engle incorporates social theory in the design of her classes, too.

“[I’d like to] inspire students to understand that our food system is one of the few places where we have a lot of individual control,” she said. “Where we can have the biggest impact individually and positively.”

Part of this effort has been through developing new courses for her students. Some of these include sustainable agriculture and social theory, as well as ideas around food insecurity and an environmental literature course.

“There’s so much to be learned about ourselves by diving into literature like that,” she said.

But another part, one that drives Engle, is connecting with students over projects.

“I’ve been so inspired by the responsiveness of students,” she said.

At one point, Engle thought she was going to have to rally students to start a campus organization to help with her projects. She quickly found out that wasn’t the case.

“I thought I was going to have to do a lot more work to build that student mobilization,” she said. “I was so excited to have [a] conversation with [Green Life President] Cari [Witherow] in the first few weeks of the semester.”

Engle also hopes to hire students as early as next summer to work for and with her in the campus garden.

“I get to be so much more hands on [at McDaniel] than I would have anywhere else,” she said.

Being hands on wasn’t always a good thing in her academic life, she said. Her advisor throughout graduate school always told her that she was doing too much applied work and not enough research. She was always seen to be too program-oriented and not research-oriented.

But Engle’s work style has treated her well so far in her academic career.

“People do not walk out of graduate school and walk into positions like this,” she said.

Like all major life changes, Engle’s first semester on the Hill hasn’t been all a breeze.

“It’s been a little intense for lots of reasons,” she said, citing being away from her husband, adjusting to single pet parent life, and living in a new state.

“What makes it worth it is getting to come into class and working with students,” she said.

Even working in one of the smaller-staffed departments on campus hasn’t distracted Engle from her work.

“What I’ve found [is that] those challenges are just opportunities,” she said. “It’s exciting to be in a place in that much demand.”

Though Engle teaches in the environmental studies department, she stresses her open-door policy to all students and her interest in getting those from all interests and majors involved in environmental projects.

She’s already taken on the role of Green Life advisor, despite the fact that faculty members are excused from service work like this when they’re first hired.

“It was just too important to me,” Engle said of the organization and their mission.

Students can visit Engle in Lewis 223.



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Dining services provider search down to 4, including Sodexo

Atticus Rice
Co-Editor-in-Chief

The search for a dining services provider is down to four finalists. Sodexo — the college’s current provider — along with Parkhurst Dining, AVI Foodsystems, and Aladdin Food Management Services, have been named as potential providers by a student-staff committee.

“The committee is meeting this week,” said Vice President for Administration and Finance Tom Phizacklea, “and the goal is to reduce the list.”

It is not public how many companies will be cut, or whom the committee may send through.

“I want the committee to pick only ones they could live with,” said Phizacklea.

A final decision is still expected to be made by Dec. 1.

Potential providers have, among other venues, proposed new uses for the Klitzberg Pavilion space, which has been empty since Vocelli Pizza left campus this year.

“One vendor talked about a 24-hour self-serve convenience store,” Phizacklea said.

Others introduced the idea of a smoothie and juice bar, breakfast sandwiches, and a “confectionery” managed by students.



Englar Dining Hall. (Kyle Parks / McDaniel Free Press).

Costs of renovations to on-campus venues would fall on McDaniel, rather than the provider.

“Vendors will put money up front for any renovations, but we have to pay them back over time,” Phizacklea said. “And that increases our debt.”

Once the committee meets this week to recommend final candidates, Phizacklea and College officials will work out the financials with the candidates available to them.

While there is no specific criteria for the committee to consider, they have been asked to represent all voices at McDaniel.

“I think the committee is looking for creativity,” Phizacklea said,

“and a vendor that will honor the traditions of McDaniel.”

“Chicken Tender Thursday,” one of the most popular meals based on students waiting to swipe into the dining hall, is one of those traditions vendors have been made aware of and could consider.

Phizacklea is also looking for providers to give a fresh look to all of the College’s dining operations.

“It has been a long time since we’ve looked at all of our [services],” he said.



Since the committee was first formed, two additional students have joined the previously two student and eight professional staff member group.

“[They] have been very forthcoming with their comments,” Phizacklea said of the student members.

While only four students represent the entire undergraduate population, they have been encouraged to talk with those they know on campus to collect more voices, Phizacklea said.


The College also distributed a survey via email last month to students asking for information on Pub usage and purpose. The results are being reviewed.

Editor’s note: this article first appeared online the week of Monday, Nov. 5, 2018. All dates and timelines mentioned are from the perspective of that week.



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McDaniel's Gill Stadium. (Photo courtesy of Michael Corinaldi).

Being a student-athlete: A full-time job

Michael Corinaldi
Contributor

Being a college athlete is an occupation and it should be treated as one.

College athletes bring in revenue for their college, and the student-athletes should be rewarded accordingly. The NCAA makes billions of dollars a year and none of it goes to the hardworking players.

No matter what NCAA division a player is in, each player contributes to the reputation and revenue of the college. As for McDaniel College, which is an NCAA Division III institution, the football team brings an exceptional amount of people to the games – especially during homecoming, when vendors and big crowds with rows of tents come to enjoy

the festivities.

Division III institutions might not bring the attention that a Division I institution does, but the drive and work ethic of student-athletes is consistent. Understanding the dedication required to balance both academics and athletics, schools should treat their athletes with higher standards.

Education is immensely important in a young person's life. All students at institutes of higher learning should put work toward getting their degrees, including athletes. However, a student-athlete who brings attention to the school is deserving of some sort of income. Their work ethic and energy should be enough proof for a mandatory salary during the athlete's respective sports season.

Athletes are at the crux of

the well-oiled machine that is the NCAA. Without athletes' participation, the NCAA could not operate. Student-athletes generate admission and money towards their college, but they are not compensated for their hard work.

Student-athletes get a bare minimum in exchange for the significant time commitments they make during their college experience. Every day there is practice, film study, rehab, and sometimes out-of-state tournaments. Being a student-athlete is basically a full-time job that requires people to succeed in the classroom – and on the field.

To say being a student-athlete is a sacrifice is an understatement. They must make time for homework and relationships in order to be successful in both the classroom and the

field.

"Division III sports is not what people make it to be. When people hear Division III, they compare it to Division I," sophomore football player Tracy Easton said. "You hear things like 'you're not good if you go Division III or Division II isn't as competitive as Division I.'"

The goal of college, while sometimes blurry, can be achieved by blending athletics and academics. It is a time where the universal aim is to become a better individual through challenge.

"College is about finding the best fit for yourself in order to reach success," Easton said. "I am glad to be a part of the D III community."

Having a form of payment for college athletes is understandable, as they must have the responsibility and dedication to fulfill their roles.

Sports are a huge part of universities and they are a factor that draw people towards schools. Having a strong tight-knit community, such as McDaniel, is important when recruiting and building a foundation for athletic programs.

Football is seen as a major sport, and it brings more than just a fan base to the school: it adds to the community.

"Football brings an exciting atmosphere to the school. Seeing the Hill packed on Saturdays is overwhelming and also heartwarming," Easton said.

The values and character sports can build are key to athletes.

"Football brings outstanding, courageous men, which can benefit this world and environment in many ways," Easton said. "Football at McDaniel College builds a foundation for people who play and prepares them to succeed in life."

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Palabras to Words: Teaching English matters

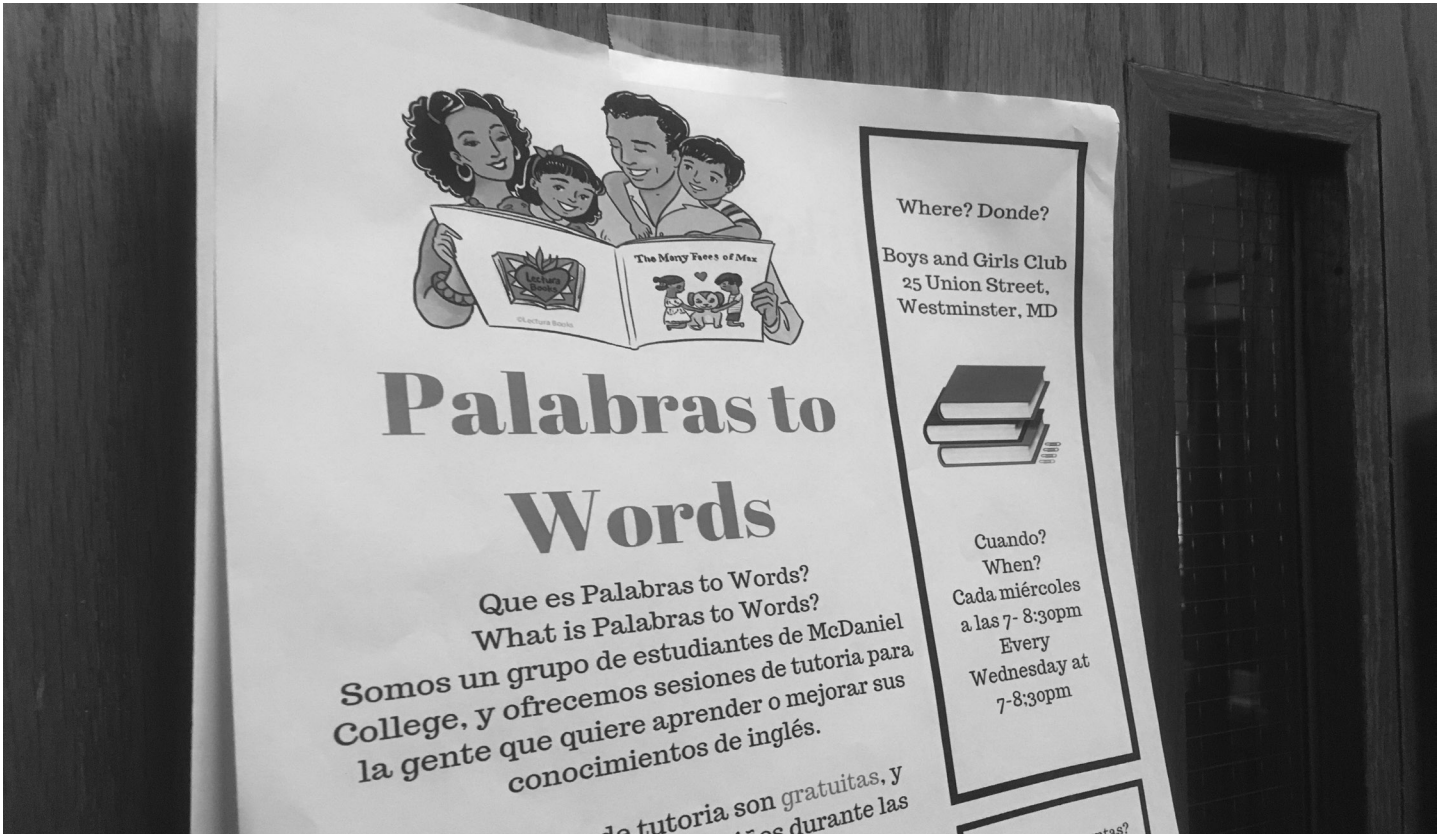
Dayne Llamas
Contributor

The Hispanic and Latino community is the largest minority group in the United States. As of July 2016, there were a reported 57.5 million Hispanics and Latinos who constituted 17.8 percent of the nation's total population, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

I am sure you can also guess that Spanish is the second-most spoken language in the United States. One thing that I have come to realize, which many people might not, is that it is hard for this large Hispanic population to get jobs in the United States, especially if they only know how to speak Spanish – and for those with jobs, it can be hard for them to succeed because of their limited English, and there might be no one with time to teach them.

This is where a wonderful club at McDaniel College comes into play: Palabras to Words. Palabras to Words is a club that helps non-English speakers learn English.

After speaking with club member Becca MacDonald about how the club works, I learned that Palabras to Words works with non-English speakers around the Westminster



A Palabras to Words flyer in Hill Hall. (Atticus Rice / McDaniel Free Press).

community, and even with some of the people who work in Englar Dining Hall. Anyone who wants to join and learn English, or further their English dictionary, begins by taking a base evaluation English test. From there, teachers will make lesson plans specifically designed for the individual and their specific needs, depending on how they did on the base evaluation test.

The people who help and teach in this club do not need a certification of any sort to teach English – it

can simply be anyone who decides to volunteer and who is passionate about helping others better themselves, no matter how. Palabras to Words accepts volunteers from all backgrounds.

I am not a part of this club, but I have friends who volunteer, and they tell me about the wonderful feeling of seeing people learn English, and seeing them walk away feeling more confident and comfortable going out into a society that is dominated by the English language.

I wanted to shed light on Palabras to Words because I think non-English speakers are undermined and don't get the help they deserve – not because people don't want to help, but because there are simply not enough resources like Palabras to Words and because many people do not pay any mind to this problem. With Palabras to Words, we can fix this and help bridge the gap between Spanish and English speakers. Let's help change this world for the better.

Eugene Tee, assistant swim- ming coach, builds commu- nity on the Hill

Spenser Secret
News Editor

Have you ever wanted to meet an Australian? Well, you're in luck, because Eugene Tee, McDaniel's assistant swimming coach, is from Australia!

Tee was born and raised in Melbourne, Victoria in the southern part of the country.

He moved to the U.S. in November of 2010, but made the decision to study abroad at a young age.

"I made the decision to leave my family and friends at the age of 16 to pursue opportunities in the U.S.," Tee said. "Two of my teammates and I decided to follow our swim coach to Santa Monica, California to continue our training and then transition into the NCAA. The opportunity of collegiate athletics does not exist in Australia, the possibility of earning a world-class education and training with elite amateur athletes via scholarship seemed too good to pass up."

Tee's interest in both swimming and coaching led him to McDaniel.

"With swimming being such a significant factor of my life for so long, I've always been curious to see the coaching aspect of the sport," Tee said. "After graduating in 2017, the opportunity arose where I could be the graduate assistant swim coach at McDaniel College while I get my master's in kinesiology and living expenses taken care of."

Tee naturally had fears about living in a new country. However, the transition to life in the U.S. was not rooted in cultural differences, but rather an interior sense of fear.

"I would say my biggest fear about making the move was 'what if I didn't do good enough' or if the transition was a 'failure' in some sense," Tee said.

The drive to find success as an athlete and coach has been successful for Tee. However, it was not without a certain risk. One could claim the situation to be high risk and high reward for Tee.

"In the sport of college swimming back then, coaches can't con-



Eugene Tee. (Photo courtesy of Eugene Tee).

tact you until the first of July leading into your senior year. Since I moved at 16, I moved halfway across the world with no guarantee of a scholarship," Tee said. "I knew I had to challenge myself daily to go to the best possible academic and athletic program that would make my family proud."

Additionally, there were obstacles that Tee faced when adjusting to life in America.

"Besides everyone around me talking in a weird American accent and driving on the other side of the road, one of the biggest obstacles I faced and still do, is trying to establish a support network," Tee said.

"Especially leaving my family and friends at a young age, I knew I had to do my best to surround myself with like-minded individuals in order to be successful. Whether this be academically, athletically, or socially, trying to find a group of people with the same goals and ambition has always been important to me."

As an international staff member, Tee was surprised at how few other international students were attending McDaniel.

"I actually have not met a lot of other international students here at McDaniel. I know there are two soccer coaches from the U.K., one of my swimmers is from Guatemala, and a women's basketball player from Australia but other than that, not really," Tee said. "For the sense of belonging and community that McDaniel manages to cultivate, I am a little surprised."

Tee added that he would like to do more international recruiting to

further enforce the international sense of community on the Hill.

"I've enjoyed my experience here so far. I'm always up for a challenge and putting myself in new environments, and this has definitely been one of them," Tee said. "Doing my undergrad at a slightly larger university like the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where the undergrad population was around 17,000 [and transitioning] to a place where the undergrad population is a little over 1,700 has been one adjustment for me."

Tee became interested in swimming from a young age. However, Tee only started taking swimming seriously when he was a teenager.

"Learning how to swim in Australia is a pretty common skill. With most major cities located on the coast, there's a big push from the government for everyone to [be] water competent," Tee said. "I only really started taking swimming seriously around the age of 13 when I had an American coach, Dave Kelsheimer, take over the club team I was at. Before that, I was only swimming a few times a week for a few months of the year just for fun."

Tee's interest in coaching comes from an appreciation of the various techniques that encompass success in sports.

"I guess for me I've always had an interest in the way an athlete trains and the techniques they use to get better," Tee said. "Especially in the sport of swimming where you have people who specialize in different strokes over different distances,

there are so many different training philosophies to reach the same end goal."

Tee, a former student-athlete in North Carolina, took the high student population as an opportunity to further his understanding of the movement of athletics. The value of the technique will always outwork physical characteristics.

Tee also stated that he has enjoyed his time coaching at McDaniel and that he has learned a lot about coaching from Head Coach Jeff Hiestand.

"I've really enjoyed my time coaching at McDaniel so far. I knew I had a decent background in swimming, but not so much on the coaching aspect of the sport," Tee said. "Head coach Jeff Hiestand has been a great mentor to me as he's been able to pass along a lot of his knowledge, whether it be during his time as a club coach sending swimmers to Division I Power-5 schools or during college training Division III All-Americans."

McDaniel is recognized as one of the colleges that can change lives and that is applicable to Tee.

"I think I've learned a lot about myself during my time at McDaniel so far. Being given the opportunity to be the graduate assistant has definitely allowed me to develop new skills in areas I hadn't previously," Tee said. "Whether this is through becoming a better communicator or teacher through coaching and recruiting, the knowledge and experience I have gained will be valuable for my future ambitions."

Basketball lines up for an all-in season

BASKETBALL, from page 1 named interim head coach to the women's team. Little is a former assistant coach for the Green Terror, but said he is up for the challenge of taking on the head coaching mantle.

"There is no replacing Coach Martin," Little said. "We are trying to build on what she would have done and make a positive experience for the girls."

With the season heading into full swing, the women's basketball team took a dominant win this weekend against Wesley College 72-55. The men's season started at home on Monday, Nov. 12 as they hosted

Southern Virginia University in the Gill Center at 7:30 p.m.

Midnight Madness was the rally to welcome in the 2018-2019 season for the teams and was driven by a significant crowd and high energy. It is moments like this that reminded players of the reasons they love basketball.

"Basketball is a lifestyle," Zajac said. "Ball is life."

Nearly packing the gym, students in attendance were brought onto the floor to join the players and compete in a variety of games. Ultimately, the support of the student body strengthened the community on the

Hill.

"It is amazing to know and see that we have support from fans, students, and the members of the community that are going to be backing us every step of the way this season," Women's Basketball Team Manager Rachel Pigott said. "It means so much for the team."

From the players' perspective, taking the floor in a roaring gymnasium to start the season is one that serves as a segue into the intense season that is coming up.

Freshman guard Madeline Thompson summed up her experience on Thursday.

"It was a lot of fun," she said.

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The McDaniel Free Press

Volume 22, Issue 6 | December 6, 2018

INSIDE: Finals prep (pg. 3) | McComics (pg. 4) | Take action on climate change (pg. 6) | McDaniel Compliments (pg. 7)



The McDaniel Live Music Club on Saturday, Dec. 1, 2018 held their inaugural concert in the Decker College Center Forum. Local artists Jizga Ram, Timi Turnup, Skapparoneday, and Super City headlined a performance from 7-11 p.m. (Photo courtesy of Erik Yanisko / sandiyanisko.com).

Voting climate at McDaniel

Emmanuel Brown
Staff Reporter

Just like the presidential years, midterm elections create an atmosphere where politicians and government officials encourage everyone to vote.

Even though people are encouraged to vote, this does not mean that they will. College students usually are at the center of attention of this issue because they have developed a reputation for not voting.

This has led to some college campuses creating an atmosphere where they show its students the importance of voting.

During this year's midterm election, McDaniel had a mix off students that voted and students that did not. The motivation behind each student's decision was different.

Sophomore Tenzin Woesel voted because she saw importance in her vote. Despite the fact that she is a
*See **VOTING**, page 2*

Mackenzie Goaneh wins SGA presidency

Atticus Rice
Co-Editor-in-Chief

According to accounts on social media, Mackenzie Goaneh has won the race for SGA president.

The sophomore public relations chair and former freshman representative won over Amara Foster, the current secretary and

former freshman representative. The two were the only students running for any of SGA's elected positions.

SGA has yet to make an official announcement regarding the election.

Voting was officially open Nov. 19-25. The voting period fell
*See **ELECTION**, page 2*

Nicholas Kahn: Economically eclectic

Ryan Hess
Staff Reporter

As an undergraduate at the College of Charleston, Nicholas Kahn, Ph.D., started down the path of economics.

As a graduate at American University, Kahn remained fixated on his passion for economics, and the lives he could influence as a professor.

And as a doctor of philosophy in economics, Kahn knew that McDaniel College was perfect for him.

"From the very start, I knew the small, liberal arts school was the best fit for me," said Kahn. "And because of McDaniel's focus on quality faculty, I knew McDaniel was my place to teach."

Entering his second year as a professor at McDaniel, Kahn's favorite class to teach is Labor Economics.

"The opportunity to delve into specific questions and applications of microeconomic theory through the lens of labor markets is what

makes it my favorite," said Kahn.

"Plus, the 3000 course level brings students who are truly interested in the topic."

Kahn currently lives in Baltimore with his wife and two young kids.

When he is not in the classroom, Kahn spends his time with his family, and coaches his daughter's soccer team, The Blueberries.

As a coach, a professor, and an avid Ravens fan, Kahn has developed a new class at McDaniel for the Spring 2019 semester titled The Economics of Sports.

His personal interests, along with the number of athletes involved with McDaniel's business and economics programs, made him feel that this was the course the economics program needed.

"I'm genuinely excited to teach this class," said Kahn with a smile. "Students seem much more interested in this course than they usually do for an economics course, and I plan to build off of that excitement."

Amy Griffiths, a student of Kahn's, is looking forward to Kahn's sports economics course.

"Dr. Kahn is a dedicated professor, and he brings a unique energy to the classroom," she said. "I'm excited to see how he devotes
*See **KAHN**, page 3*



Branden Muth, right, and Kenny Ditto, left, pal around. (Photo courtesy of Branden Muth).

Branden Muth '15, post office hero, departs after storied time at McDaniel

Atticus Rice
Co-Editor-in-Chief

For the first time since 2013, Branden Muth has departed McDaniel. Muth heads to the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab to work as a government contractor at the administrator 3 level.

The post office mainstay has touched the lives of most of the McDaniel community. Since transferring to the Hill in 2013, he's worked a total of two and a half years at the on-campus post office.

After earning his bachelor's degree in art, Muth stayed at McDaniel to earn his master's in human resource development.

"Kenny [Ditto] and I have so

many stories," Muth said of his McDaniel experience. "Let's just say we know everyone and all of their mailing secrets."

He hopes that his work at the lab will lead to a career with them, but also isn't quite sure what's ahead.

"After undergrad," Muth said, "I have learned that no matter what plan I have in mind, at the end of the day, I am just winging it and hoping that I am on the right track."

In seven years at the College, Muth has built a repertoire of experiences and stories. From dueling with Ditto over the post office van's stereo (country or not country) to receiving "hilarious
*See **MUTH**, page 3*

Voting climate at McDaniel

VOTING, *from page 1*
resident from another state, she did not allow those circumstances to control whether she voted or not. She was able to mail her absentee-ballot to her home state.
Though she voted, she believed college was one of the main reasons why some students did not vote. “I feel like there should have been a lot more resources,” said Woesel. She stated that she had to go online and learn how the absentee-ballot process worked. As a result, she was able to learn the date when she could submit her ballot.
Sophomore Deonte Freeman, who did not vote, also stated that the college could have done more to encourage students to vote. Freeman explained that he did not vote because he is a resident of another state and is not registered to vote. He acknowledged, though, that the College did do some things well. He said there was some advertising outside of the dining hall, but it was not enough.
“No one educated us about the

political candidates,” said Freeman. “[The College] could have done that better.”
Associate Dean of First-Year Students Karen Violanti explained that it is common for college students to not understand how voting works.
As the head of the First Stop Office, she offers resources to answer new students’ questions. She explained that students did come into her office about voting, and she and the first-year team were able to answer those questions.
She also noted that the students who visited her office this year were more politically aware than students from past years.
“I think just in my time here, I think now students are so much more aware than they were ten years ago,” said Dean Violanti.
She said the reason to this is because the students are more engaged with their environment and they are looking for ways to be heard.

Mackenzie Goaneh wins SGA presidency

ELECTION, *from page 1*
over the College’s Thanksgiving holiday, leaving just two full days students were on campus to vote via OrgSync. The online form, however, is still open to receive unlimited votes per user.
Goaneh ran because she thought she had what it takes to understand how the SGA executive board functions, being a current member of it. She also wrote of connecting SGA with other organizations on campus in our Meet the Candidates guide.
“I can really make SGA more big than what it is,” she wrote in the Nov. 13 article.
Goaneh will be the first president since 2016 to be elected by the student body. In April of 2016, Alexaundria Leonard won an election that featured candidates for president, vice president, and treasurer, of which the latter two were absent from this year’s election. Ashly Nsangou was elected by an internal SGA vote at the end of the spring 2017 semester as the only person running for the position.
Goaneh inherits a role that has largely been forgotten among campus life. Outside of student-oriented Homecoming festivities, the only major role SGA has had on campus in the last few years has been annual student organization financial allocations.
But Goaneh believes she has what it takes to run SGA to represent the student body.
“I see SGA as the bridge between the administration and the students,” she wrote in our Nov. 13 article,

“and I would like to make that bridge stronger, so students could be more comfortable coming to SGA. I think we can just PR more honestly and do what we have promised to organizations.”
Goaneh already has some plans for her presidency, which runs for the 2019 calendar year, a shift from the academic year term that SGA previously operated under until Nsangou extended her term a full semester into this fall.
“Within the first month of school, I want to have a kickoff to the new school year SGA party to really market to the Class of 2023,” she wrote. “Then I would want to have a lot of co-sponsorships with many organizations. I would also want to build our professional relationship with the organizations we oversee, as SGA is more than having fun parties.”
She has yet to outline plans for the spring, her first semester in office.
Foster ran a campaign which highlighted listening to and representing the student body.
“[I want] to make students feel like they can come up to me and express their concerns, issues, and even events they would like to,” she wrote.
Foster also had plans to run more events through SGA outside of Spring Fling and Homecoming.
“I want to add more events during the year and make SGA more known,” she said.
Nsangou could not be reached for immediate comment about the election.



Commentary

The superhero gaze

Matt Frias
Contributor

Superman was the first character to have a big-budget superhero film in 1978 when Richard Donner directed a film named after the character.
It was a box office success that spawned so many sequels. People loved this character. How could you not? An image of a benevolent and altruistic individual was very inspiring to an average person. Superman made us want to aspire to be more like him; to be strong and help others. However, I would argue that the overabundance of superhero films produced recently has a more negative effect on its viewers that they may not be noticing.
Superhero films are very entertaining and immersive. Their world is vast and they even call it a “Cinematic Universe.” It’s easy for people to get lost in this world so people spend their money to go and watch these movies. These films are now probably among Hollywood’s most profitable franchises, which means they’re not going to stop making them anytime soon. I’m not saying to boycott these films, but I just want people to be aware of these negative effects that I picked up on recently, from watching my favorite superhero film this summer, The Incredibles 2.
If you haven’t seen Incredibles

2, then this is your spoiler warning. Written and directed by Brad Bird, this film is probably the most subversive superhero movie I’ve ever seen. It starts directly after the events of the first film where the Parr Family saves the day from a villain known as the Underminer. The city was a wreck after the superhero showdown, which gave supers a bad reputation. The Incredibles were yet again forced to hide themselves from the world until a media mogul named Winston Deavor, along with his sister, contacted the Incredibles and told them about their plan to use their media resources to get the Superheroes reinstated.
Later in the film, Helen faced the main villain, Screenslaver, who was later revealed to be Winston’s sister, Evelyn. Her plan was to use screens to hypnotize superheroes and broadcast them doing horrible acts to prevent the law against superheroes from getting reversed. In the end, The Incredibles thwarted Evelyn’s plan and she was then sent to prison.
At first viewing, I enjoyed the film a lot, but I was left with this weird feeling that I was missing something. After re-watching the film two more times, I’ve finally cracked the message that Incredibles 2 was trying to tell. It is that Superheroes are among the reasons that make us easily manipulated

if we don’t know how to critically analyze the images we see on screen.
An example of how easily manipulated people can be is shown in the film where Elastigirl saves people left and right. However, it seems to only be valid and true if it was being recorded and shown through a screen.
This is a great example of an idea that was introduced by French sociologist and philosopher Jean Baudrillard. In his book, “Screened Out,” Baudrillard states that “video, interactive screens, multimedia, the Internet, virtual reality — we are threatened on all sides by interactivity. What was separated in the past is now everywhere merged.”
To simplify, Baudrillard believes that people can enter a state of “interpassivity” where we no longer have a clear distinction between the media we’ve invested in and the lives that we lead. If anything, Baudrillard believes that what is displayed on our screens actually supersedes reality. Therefore, the images people are fed of a benevolent individual fixing their problems can make people give up their agency to them.
I’m not saying that when people watch superhero movies, they’re literally waiting for the characters on screen to come out and save them, but it can subconsciously give people the idea that a transcendent individual can save us all. And the most noteworthy word is “individual” because it’s contrary to what will create a lasting solution to our problems: people working

together toward a common goal.
Movies like Incredible 2 have made a statement on how damaging superheroes can be for us. Should we even still watch them knowing that they can make us docile? Of course we should. It’s always great to go and have a fun night at the theater with family or friends, especially now that we’re more aware of the problem. Maybe if Hollywood didn’t just mass produce superhero movies this much then these movies could be more profound and meaningful rather than big spectacles and explosions on the screen.
I speak harshly of these movies because I love them. And I say this because not all superhero movies are horrible.
There are movies like The Dark Knight, Logan, Black Panther, Winter Soldier, and Wonder Woman that are transcendent to what we usually consume. The reason for this is that these movies have tapped into what I believe is the secret to a good superhero movie: they can exist whether they revolve around the superhero or not.

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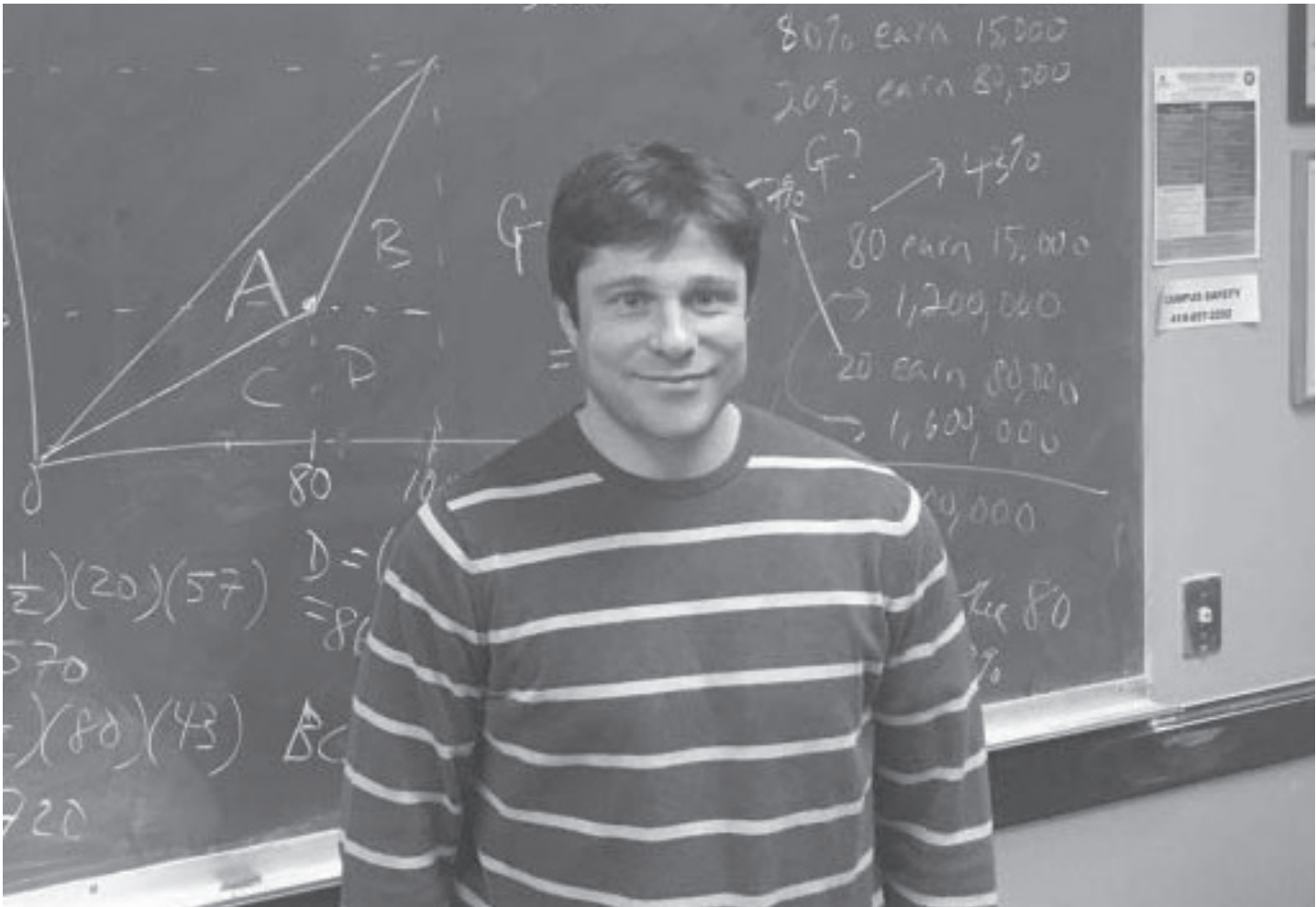
Nicholas Kahn: Economically eclectic

KAHN, *from page 1*
his passion for economics to sports.”
A McDaniel sports fan, Griffiths is excited to see how she can apply economics to the world of sports after taking his class next semester.

Megan Mitchell, another student of Kahn’s, has enjoyed his Labor Economics class this semester. As a student who typically dreads any economics course requirements, she attributes her enjoyment to Kahn’s style of teaching.

“The projects he assigns allow us as students to explore economics in the way that we want to explore economics,” Mitchell said. “They are interesting, and broaden our perspective of economics by guiding us, instead of forcing us, to conclusions.”

Kahn is a proud member of the McDaniel economics department, and plans to continue shaping McDaniel students’ futures for years to come.



Dr. Nicholas Kahn stands in front of a chalkboard shortly after his Labor Economics lecture. (Ryan Hess / McDaniel Free Press).

Get ready for finals with these tips

Amara Foster
Staff Reporter

It’s crazy to believe that finals week is around the corner. Finals week is one of the most stressful times of the year, a time where students just want to pull their hair out. There is so much that comes with it from studying to remembering to find ways to take time for ourselves and just relax.

There are many ways to both study and relax and each student here on this campus has their own ways with coping and getting through this week.

“I really just try and isolate myself,” said sophomore Nate Alston of his finals study habits.

Self-care is even important during stressful times like this, and it’s important to remember to practice it. You should find a technique that works for you such as taking a nap, scrolling on social media, watching a movie or TV show, or dancing around and listening to music. And always remember to eat and sleep.

“I try to take time to myself,” said sophomore Michael Corinaldi. “I don’t study for long periods of time, but if I do I take multiple breaks, to ease my mind.”

The last few weeks of the semester are also when more and more students begin to experience symptoms of sickness, such as the flu and other viruses. Practicing self-care is important, too, that way you can stay as healthy as possible during these already stressful times.

Members of the College community are asked to pick up on the preventative measures to avoid illness.

Some preventive measures include “avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth, do not share food or drinks, drink plenty of fluids and eat a healthy diet and get plenty of rest,” according to a Nov. 26 campus-wide email from Acting Dean of Students

Affairs Liz Towle.

If you do end up sick, to keep others healthy and to get yourself healthy again, it is recommended that you “limit contact with others, avoid the dining hall [and] utilize the Sick Tray Form and stay in your residence/home except to get medical care or other necessities,” Towle also states in the email.

First-year students may face more stress than their upperclass counterparts as they’ve never experienced finals at the college level.

“I [expect] to be in the library, maybe shed a tear, but then tell myself “you got this girl”,” says first-year Marnice Briscoe.

The First Stop Office offers many great tips and advice to students to help them survive these hectic last two weeks.

“Pick a place where you can sit down and get the work done,” said Tommy Schoolman, coordinator of first year programs. “[There’s] so many places hidden places. [The] third floor connector between Eaton and Lewis, [has a] nice overlook on campus.”

The biggest thing about finals week is find what works for you. You have to know yourself, know when you need to start studying, and know when it is time to relax and give yourself a break.

One key piece of advice that Schoolman gave was to “try not to stress, it’s not the end of the world. [As a reminder] stay healthy, reach out to the Wellness Center, and know that you are not alone, everyone is going through the same thing with you at the same time.”

If you feel as though you need help or more tips and advice, do not be afraid to reach out to your professors, friends, Peer Mentors, the Wellness Center, First Stop, or the Writing Center. Take advantage of your resources.



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The **Free Press** is looking for students studying abroad for Jan Term who would like to write about their unique experiences while in class.

Contact freepress@mcdaniel.edu for more information.

Branden Muth ‘15, post office hero, departs after storied time at McDaniel

MUTH, *from page 1*
gifts” and contraband in the mail room, he’s seen it all. But his favorite memory can’t be beat.

“[I was] sneaking into Glar but Ms. Ceil caught me,” he said. “Ever since then, every memory with Ms. Ceil has been a favorite.”

It’s relationships like these that make Muth fond of the Hill.

“The McDaniel community has two parts,” he said. “Faculty/staff is one [part] where no matter how hard the times are for the College, there is a sense of family. Like a family, we have our good days and bad, but in the end, I really am blessed looking back at the relationships with such a great working community.”

Despite the strong sense of family, relationships with students are bittersweet, Muth said.

“Over the years, building relationships with them at the window, [Ditto] and I really enjoy it,” he said. “But like every student, they graduate and go on to bigger and better things. The growth I’ve seen in students from their freshmen years to the ones who graduated is really amazing. I’ll miss working with such a diverse group of people.”

The post office, though not Muth’s end-goal line of work, has been a good stepping stone for him.

“If you can get a position that pays for a master’s, work full

time and pursue school,” he tells current undergraduates. “Then your undergrad debt is deferred and if you still make payments, you are paying the principle and not interest during deferment.”

In the midst of work and graduate school, Muth has still made sure to give some time to his interests. His hobbies include surfing, photography, riding his motorcycle, and hunting and fishing.

“[I like] just trying the next new thing because how else am I going to find something I am good at,” Muth said.

He also sells various items on eBay, an appropriate pastime for a man with such easy postal access.

“[Ditto and I] go to auctions and buy antiques,” Muth said.

Through all the students, faculty, and staff Muth has interacted with in his five years, Ditto will remember his boss—and friend—the most.

“This man [Ditto] has taken me under his little wing and has mentored me in the workplace and in our life outside of work,” Muth said. “He has taught me more in my time working for him than I had in my undergraduate experience. His constant focus on development has helped me to mature. I can say that he is the unsung hero at McDaniel College and I am proud to call him one of my closest friends.”

McComics

Punny: What's a Christmas Party Without Presents?



MRS. CLAUS, I AM FAR TOO TIRED TO ATTEND THIS CHRISTMAS PARTY.

YOU ARE GOING TO THIS CHRISTMAS PARTY, NO IF ANDS OR BUTS. YOUR PRESENTS IS REQUIRED.

Dayne Llamas

CHRISTMAS CRISIS

BY: OLIVIA CULVER

DECEMBER 23RD

LET'S OPEN SOME OF THESE GIFTS EARLY!

OK!

WHO TORE UP ALL OF THESE GIFTS?!

THEY ALWAYS BLAME THE DOG...

BUDDY! WHERE ARE YOU?!



Problems of the Basic


A HOLLY-Day Special

FEBRUARY



SONG CHOICE: BABY IT'S COLD OUTSIDE

MAY



SONG CHOICE: JINGLE BELL ROCK

AUGUST



SONG CHOICE: WINTER WONDERLAND

NOVEMBER



SONG CHOICE: SANTA CLAUSE IS COMING TO TOWN

DECEMBER 26



DO YOU THINK THEY EVER GET TIRED OF IT?

....NOPE

SONG CHOICE: ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS YOU

ARTIST: HANNAH MAXWELL

MYHTAKEN

BY NATHAN WRIGHT

TOYS, CHECK! LIST, CHECK! SLEIGH, CHECK!

OKAY, I THINK I'M READY TO-

HEY SANTA!

FANCY RUNNING INTO YOU HERE!

KRAMPUS...

AT YOUR HOME. AT THE NORTH POLE. ON CHRISTMAS EVE.

...

WHAT A COINCIDENCE!

ANYWAYS, SINCE I'M ALREADY HERE, CAN I TAG ALONG? FOR OLD TIMES' SAKE?

ARE YOU GOING TO HIT KIDS WITH STICKS?

... MAYBE.

THEN NO.

AW, COME ON! WHAT IF I GIFT WRAP THE STICKS?

NO.

EVEN IF IT'S THE FANCY WRAPPING?

NO!

CHRISTMAS IS A TIME OF LOVE AND GOODWILL TOWARDS MAN, NOT HITTING PEOPLE WITH STICKS.

BUT-

NO BUTS! GO AWAY!

SOME PEOPLE JUST HAVE NO CHRISTMAS SPIRIT.

YOU'RE TELLING ME!

GET OUT OF HERE, CORPORATE SANTA! YOU'RE PART OF THE PROBLEM!

Thank you, artists!

Emma Carter & Atticus Rice
Co-Editors-in-Chief

On behalf of our staff, our readers, and all who involve themselves with our publication, the *Free Press* would like to thank our McComics artists for their participation this semester.

As a student publication, we're always looking for classes and projects to collaborate with that showcase student work and we're honored to be able to work with the Communication and Culture class this semester.

Editors' notes:

The images and content are used for educational purposes in a comedic manner that reflects satire and/or parody. Use of copyrighted images complies with the Best Practices of Fair Use as described by the Center for Media and Social Impact at American University.

These comics are produced for the communication department's Communication and Culture course taught by Associate Professor Robert Lemieux.



To be or not to be liberal arts

Alaina Dupree
Contributor

McDaniel students have the opportunity of choosing from a wide pool of different majors—a big reason why many students come to the Hill.

Majors include offerings of business administration, cinema, German, kinesiology, music, sociology, theater arts, social work, and more.

But it has been revealed that future McDaniel students may be losing the opportunity that was once given to us. The rumor of McDaniel taking away funding from different departments has been confirmed as the truth and it appears that arts departments are facing the most danger.

I am a double major in theater and communication with a Spanish minor. So as one can imagine, regardless of the time expansion that will probably be needed for this process to be fully carried out, I was not happy about this news at all.

Although I knew my feelings towards the matter, I wanted to see what a couple of other people, who had prior knowledge, had to say about what was taking place.

“I am pretty angry,” said sophomore theater arts and history double major Matthew Foley. “If McDaniel is a liberal arts college, then why do they want to cut the arts?”

This response is what inspired the title for this article and what led me to then ask myself if McDaniel could still be the great liberal arts college that it has become if it goes through with the process of ridding itself of departments like theater arts and music.

According to U.S. News & World Report, theater arts and music do not fall under the top five majors that students graduate from McDaniel with, potentially creating the argument that departments like theater arts and music are not that important. But that’s not true.

“Music has an impact on our lives,” said sophomore Miriam Stewart, a music major. “It’s therapeutic and even inspires us to pursue other studies when in grad school. For example, a McDaniel alumnus said that being a music major inspired them to go to [medical] school and become a doctor.”

In the summer of 2017 as an incoming freshman at McDaniel, I knew I wanted to major in theater

arts. My mom was not too excited to hear this. But my adviser helped my case when she provided the commentary that a friend of hers who also majored in theater while in college received a job as a journalist. This was due to the simple fact that her superiors knew that she had a different way of thinking due to her degree in theater.

Like many other schools, the plays that this institution puts on welcome the greater McDaniel and Westminster communities, similar to the environment fostered by sports on the Hill.

“If departments are cut that are really invested in linking the college and the community,” said a professor that would like to remain anonymous. “It will be alienating.”

Some may say these wild statements do not provide any help towards the decision that the school must make for financial reasons.

“McDaniel College faculty should try to sit in on some classes with the departments that might lose funding,” said Stewart, “that way they can see what our major means to us and what we give back to the community around us.”

The only thing we can do now is wait and see what decision this liberal arts college will make.

Why we must take action on climate change

C.J. DeGeorge
Contributor

Imagine if you were given 12 years to change something. What would you do? Most likely, you’d push it off until the last minute and get it done before the deadline. Or you would hope to forget it and simply not do it. The world is in this very same situation, and we have been given 12 years to make changes. However, this is not something we can push off or hope goes away on its own. Scientists have given the world 12 years to limit climate change or the world could face catastrophic repercussions. Since this is such a huge warning, it leads me to this simple question: why are we not doing anything to fix it now, and why is this not the main story in all of the media?

The intense flooding, destructive hurricanes, forest fires, and droughts are all caused by climate change. It also can have an impact on our everyday lives with food and drinks. Climate scientists say if the climate heats by even half of a degree, it will cause major problems worldwide.

In an article posted by The Guardian, Debra Roberts said “it’s a line in the sand and what it says to our species is that this is the moment and we must act now.”

With the world continuing to heat up and the population continuing to grow, this is an issue we must begin to solve now. Not tomorrow, not next week, and not next month. If we do not start to take better care of our world, then we and our children will have to suffer through it. However, politicians would rather ignore the issue.

Donald Trump himself has acknowledged that climate change is very real, but will not do anything about it. President Trump says that the climate “will change back” and that the climate scientists are politically motivated.

It seems these politicians are more interested in making their money than saving the world.

With the facts laid down in front of all of us, why do we rarely hear about this in the news? This is news, isn’t it? The very sake of our world should trump any other story, right? Unfortunately, the answer is no. This is something rarely played on the news. If you flip on the news, you’ll see something about a murder or something that the president said when you really should be hearing the government taking this issue seriously and coming up with solutions to the problem.

While they are wrong, it’s our fault as much as it is theirs. Us being the younger generation, this is also our future that we are shaping. We need to come up with solutions to these problems and the perfect way to do that is by voting. The 2016 elections had a low young voter turnout, and this year’s midterm elections had people begging younger people to vote. We must know that voting is important because if we vote, we can get the right people into office that will work on this major issue. This is our future and we need to make the right decisions to fix this issue.

McDaniel’s plastic habit

Samantha Nguyen
Contributor

I love holding an iced latte from Caseys’ Corner while enjoying my day, relaxing and sitting under a tree that is standing still in the autumn air. Of course, for convenience, I’m using a plastic straw from the store, not knowing that this habit is partly destroying the environment by killing hundreds of marine animals and even harming me.

After being thrown into the trash can, the plastic straw is collected with other trash, delivered to a landfill, and left there to degrade. The truth is, plastic straws need approximately 200 years to degrade, but they cannot completely disappear from the Earth because plastics are not biodegradable.

The OneLessStraw campaign notes that we use 500 million plastic straws every day, which is enough to circle around the Earth 2.5 times. Currently, straws are among the top 10 most found ocean trash in shore cleanups, according to the Ocean Conservancy’s TIDES system.

Now, there is a viral video on the Internet of a turtle’s bleeding nose after accidentally eating a plastic straw under the sea, and it is heartbreaking when it almost looks like the turtle is crying. Seabirds are on the verge of extinction; over 1 million seabirds die each year from ingesting plastic, as they are suffocated and choked by plastic straws.

In light of the serious consequences of plastic straws, a new type of straw has been developed that is made from bamboo. The bamboo straw was created in hopes of decreasing the number of plastic straws worldwide. In fact, bamboo is among the fastest growing plants in the world. In the past, due to this sustainable characteristic, bamboo was used not only to build houses, but also to make weapons for hu-



Straws made from material other than plastic, such as bamboo, are a new environmentally-friendly trend. (Photo courtesy of Pixabay user Anemone123).

mans to fight against wild animals.

Now, straws are made of bamboo since bamboo is biodegradable, user-friendly, and reusable. When trash is left in a landfill, some materials take hundreds of years to rot. Nevertheless, bamboo is a plant, and it is natural, so it disappears much faster than others do.

Next, the bamboo straw only takes up a small space in students’ bags when they carry it to school. Instead of immediately drinking the beverage with a plastic straw that the store gives, students can use their own bamboo straws, which is both healthy and environmentally-friendly.

What’s more, bamboo straws can be cleaned by merely rinsing under the tap after daily usage or shaking

in a jar of warm and soapy water. If users want to thoroughly clean the straws, they can boil a pot of vinegar and water and soak the straws for a few minutes. In the near future, the bamboo straw, together with humans, can erase the existence of the plastic straw, bringing us back to a life with eco-friendly products.

The world can be a better place if humans raise awareness about the environment and start changing their drinking habit by using bamboo straws. As Jane Goodall said, “You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make.”

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(Atticus Rice / McDaniel Free Press).

The future of Democratic and Republican parties

Michael Cozzi
Staff Reporter

Where are the two parties going? This is the question that many Americans and pundits are asking themselves after the 2018 midterm election. It seems that the parties are going into becoming shells—husks—of their former selves.

The Republican Party has officially become the party of President Trump. While Trumpism is emerging into a political ideology onto its own, it emerged as the fundamental dominant form of Right Wing politics in the U.S. these midterms.

The political ideology of Trump’s Republican Party is fundamentally different from previous incarnations of the Republican Party. Reagan’s brand distinguished itself from the moderate conservatism of Eisenhower and Ford by being hawkish on foreign policy, socially conservative, and fiscally conservative.

Trump has distinguished himself

from the hardline conservatism of Reagan by acting as a right wing authoritarian. The main values of Trump’s Republican Party have been shown to be anti-intellectualism, extremely hawkish on foreign policy, religious fundamentalism, economically nationalist, hostile towards immigration, and discriminatory towards minority groups.

Meanwhile, the Democratic Party is becoming divided between the leftwing faction with figures such as Elizabeth Warren and Bernie Sanders trying to take control of the party’s future, and the Obama/Clin-ton centrist wing desperately trying to retain its power.

While many within Democratic Party establishment circles will be united in 2020, it seems there will be a civil war for the soul of the Democratic Party. It seems that the party of Nancy Pelosi, Hillary Clinton, and Barrack Obama will become the party of Elizabeth Warren, Bernie Sanders, and Alexandria Ocasio

Cortez.

This new progressive wing of the Democratic Party believes in the concepts such as social justice, global cosmopolitanism, and the desire to turn the U.S. into an economic social democracy similar to the likes of Sweden and Norway.

The new left-right divide was shown in the midterms, the most prominent example of this in Florida’s gubernatorial election.

The reason why Florida is more significant than states like Texas and New York is that Florida is the most competitive swing state during both midterm and presidential election years.

Andrew Gillum was of the Progressive Wing of the Democratic Party, while Ron Desantis was a supporter of President Trump and endorsed by the Tea Party. Ultimately Desantis won the gubernatorial election, but it was remarkably close. According to the polling group Trafalgar Group, Desantis won with 50 percent of the vote and Gillum lost with 47 percent of the vote.

This race highlights the new electoral and political divide between the Democratic and Republican Party.

While the Republicans managed to maintain the Senate, the Democrats were able to win the House by a slim majority.

If the Mueller investigation does not force President Trump to step down or if he fires Mueller, then President Trump will lose the 2020 election due to the economic recession that will likely occur, according to most economists. Hopefully the Republicans will do some soul searching and reclaim the values of Lincoln, Theodore Roosevelt, Eisenhower, and George H.W. Bush instead of Barry Goldwater, Reagan, George W. Bush and President Trump.

McDaniel Compliments

“Dean Lisa Breslin brings the sunshine and the life into this time of the semester. She’s always got your back and has the best smile!”

“Julie Weaver is so incredibly helpful! I was honestly freaking out about financial aid and she worked closely with me to help me make a plan for next semester and even went above and beyond to find some scholarship opportunities I can apply for. Thank you so much for all your heard work and kindness!”

“Brian Clancy is the nicest and most genuine person I know! He always tells the truth and is a person everyone should know and have in their life!”

“Congratulations to the cast and crew of Spring Awakening! You guys were absolutely phenomenal and just blew the show out of the water. You should be so proud!”

“Shout out to Megan Mitchell. Thanks for always keeping it real, girl, and always making me laugh!”

Want to brighten someone’s day? Need a way to fulfill your random act of kindness for the day? Message *Dean McDaniel Compliments* on Facebook with a compliment, and we’ll post it anonymously for you. Here to spread some happiness on the Hill, we’ll make sure your friend, classmate, or professor has the chance to smile and feel appreciated. Your compliment could be featured in the next issue of the *Free Press*!

Talk about resources for sexual assault survivors

Rachael Thompson
Contributor

An average of 321,500 sexual assaults occur each year in the U.S., according to the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network. That means 880 every day, 36 every hour, and one every 98 seconds. Only 98 seconds. That’s less time than it takes to listen to a single song or even brush your teeth.

Unsurprisingly, this pressing issue is prevalent on college campuses. According to the Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault, one in every five women and one in every 16 men experience sexual assault at some point while in college.

What are colleges doing about this? Well, fortunately, they’re doing a lot to try and stop it, implementing programs such as Sex Signals, Green Dot, Speak About It, RealConsent, and others to help educate students on how to prevent sexual assault.

These are great efforts, but they’re not enough.

Don’t get me wrong. These programs do great work to reduce the occurrence of sexual assault and I in no way intend to diminish their importance or benefit. However, as unfortunate as it is, it’s simply unrealistic that they will rid campuses of sexual assault entirely.

It is still happening and there are

still victims.

That being said, it is absolutely crucial that colleges work to increase awareness not only about how to prevent sexual assault from happening, but also resources that survivors can turn to for support when it does happen.

This doesn’t necessarily mean that colleges need more resources for victims (although it wouldn’t hurt). What they do need though, at least as a first step, is simply a heavier emphasis on the support resources that already exist, both on and off campus.

Let’s look at on-campus resources here at McDaniel. Should a student be sexually assaulted, they could utilize the Wellness Center and make an appointment with one of the full time mental health counselors there, which would be free of charge and completely confidential. They could also turn to Campus Safety or our Title IX Coordinator Jenni Glennon.

There are also various off-campus resources accessible to students, such as the Rape Crisis Intervention Service of Carroll County. Located less than 10 minutes away from McDaniel, RCIS provides a multitude of services including free therapy for up to six months and will even accompany victims to the hospital.

Similar support services exist

at and near other colleges as well, however, victims cannot receive help from these resources if they don’t utilize them.

So why wouldn’t they utilize them?

Maybe they simply don’t know about them because their college’s sexual assault awareness efforts only addressed prevention. Maybe they don’t think these agencies/programs will actually help because the specific ways in which these programs can help them were never emphasized to them. Maybe they fear they will be scrutinized or judged, the way they often are by society.

So, colleges, make sure you do talk about more than prevention. Make sure students know, should

they be sexually assaulted, what their resources are and what kind of help each of them offers. Make sure they know there are places they can turn to that are not there to scrutinize or judge them.

Places like RCIS, which are there for no other purpose than to help victims get through a difficult time, according to Crisis Intervention Specialist Eunice Wooten.

As members of campus communities, let’s continue to work towards preventing sexual assault. But let’s also continue to work towards preventing anyone who has been sexually assaulted from going without help and suffering any more than they already have.

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The McDaniel Free Press

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Swimmers ready to break more records

Gunnar Ward
Sports Editor

With winter sports on the Hill well underway, swimmers Blair Boyle and Sara Hegna have risen as prominent figures within the McDaniel athletics community.

Both Hegna and Boyle have already cemented themselves into McDaniel College history, holding several records, with the drive to break even more.

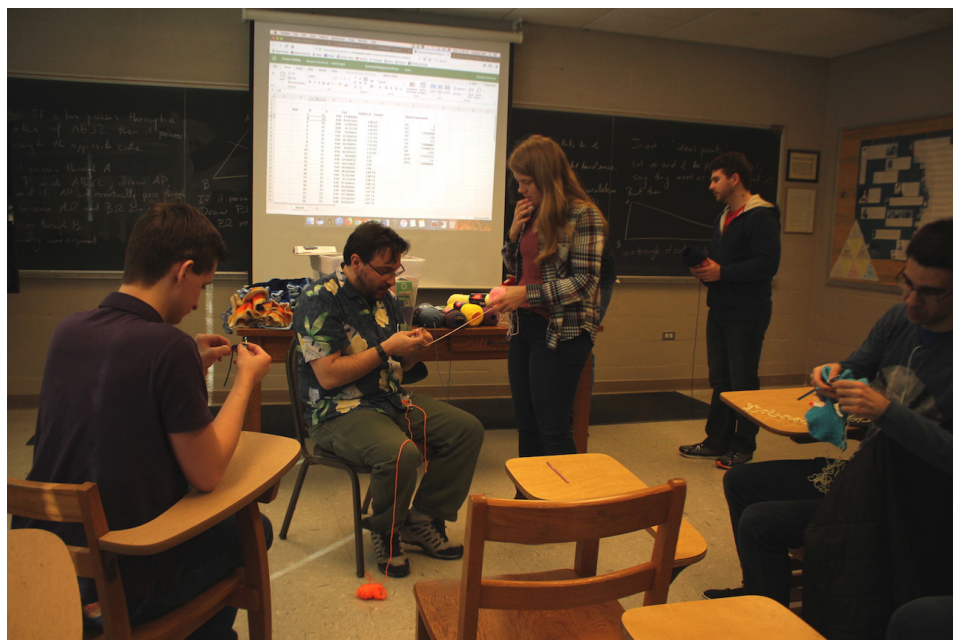
“Once you break a record once you are like, ‘Oh yeah, I want to do that again and again,’” Boyle said.

Boyle, a sophomore from Springfield, N.J., currently holds the school record in the women’s 100-meter freestyle race with a time of 52.64 seconds.

Hegna, a junior from Brielle, N.J., holds the pool record for both the 100-meter and 200-meter backstroke races. In addition, Hegna was a
*See **SWIM**, page 4*



The moon peeks out behind McDaniel Hall as afternoon sunlight hits the building’s facade. This dorm, along with the rest on campus, is quieter than normal, as the College’s January term hosts fewer students than the fall and spring semesters. (Emma Carter / McDaniel Free Press).



Benjamin Steinhurst, Ph.D., demonstrates a crocheting method in his Crocheted Hyperbolic Geometry Jan term course. (Emma Carter / McDaniel Free Press).

Hooked on hyperbolic geometry

Emma Carter
Co-Editor-in-Chief

“How tall are your stitches?” and “are there any colors people would like me to get more of?” are not questions you typically hear a professor ask in a college mathematics course.

In his Crocheted Hyperbolic Geometry Jan term course, Benjamin Steinhurst, Ph.D., challenges his students to understand hyperbolic geometry through the art of crocheting.

Most people are at least somewhat familiar with Euclidean geometry, which is commonly taught in high school; this type of geometry is easily written on paper – think of drawing and labeling the angles on a parallelogram.

But hyperbolic geometry is more complex, one of its most remarkable differences being that within this methodology, the sum of a triangle’s angles is always equal to *less* than 180 degrees, which contradicts Euclidean

geometry’s commonly-known teaching that the sum does add to 180 degrees, or a straight line.

“Hyperbolic geometry is much harder to figure out because for a long, long time, there weren’t good ways of drawing what hyperbolic geometry looked like,” said Steinhurst, assistant professor of mathematics. “It was all completely abstract reasoning in this very dry way that turned students off completely.”

This is where crocheting mingles with geometry. Daina Taimina, a mathematician at Cornell University, where Steinhurst has also previously taught, introduced crocheting as a means to understand this kind of math.

“Taimina realized that with relatively simple crocheting, you can make an object that had all the right characteristics [of hyperbolic geometry],” Steinhurst said.

Certain crocheted objects can be folded in a way that demonstrates how a hyperbolic triangle’s angles

do not add up to 180 degrees: the crocheted hyperbolic plane that each class member makes and works with, a small woven piece of fabric whose edges resemble wavy coral, is folded various ways and marked on the folds with pieces of thread. Students can take these fold lines and make them into a triangle, then find that its angles add to less than 180 degrees.

This January marks the third time Steinhurst has been teaching these methods in his hyperbolic crocheting course.

While he has been crocheting since middle school – mostly blankets, he said – many of Steinhurst’s students this semester had never crocheted before the beginning of the 2019 Jan term.

Sophomore Mackenzie Meyer didn’t initially expect to be on campus for this short semester, but when the study abroad Jan term she had planned on taking was canceled, she considered crocheting. Meyer said her mother knows how to knit, and so she decided to learn to crochet.

“[My mom] will teach me to knit; I’ll teach her to crochet,” the biology major said, speaking of plans for when she returns home.

Despite the students’ beginner status, Steinhurst said they’re catching on quickly.

“[The students] have already all shown me that they can sew 40 grams in two days,” he said. Grams refer to the amount of yarn by weight; 40 grams of the yarn Steinhurst’s students use is equivalent to about 40 yards.

Jonathan Lingg, a junior psychology major, said he might even try crocheting on his own after Jan term.

“I’ll probably try it out in the future, see if I can make something for myself,” he said.

The course tackles more than just crocheting and geometric equations,

however.

“There’s a large historical, philosophical component to this class,” said Steinhurst.

For centuries, hyperbolic geometry was regarded as an abstract concept that may not even exist. Steinhurst teaches how this branch of geometry transitioned into a legitimate topic among mathematicians beginning in the nineteenth century: his course sheds light on hyperbolic geometry in a broader context than just in a niche corner of mathematics.

For Steinhurst, this is what the class is about.

“That’s actually really the point of the class. It ends up being a sort of, ‘what is mathematics?’ rather than ‘you need to know these five things really well,’” he said.

He said the course’s mathematical and philosophical components complement each other.

“I think the math aspect [of the course] is really helping them understand how the history and the philosophy came to be.”

And it seems to stick with the students – most notably during their crocheting hour in the second half of class, where Steinhurst hears and takes part in informal conversation.

“Largely, it ends up being about math,” Steinhurst said.

Free Press Arts & Culture Editor Laurel Pogue and Co-Features Editor Erin Pogue are enrolled in Steinhurst’s course. They were not involved in the editorial process of this article.

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www.mcdanielfreepress.com



Greece Jan term photos

McDaniel’s *Greece: Myths, Monks, Monuments* Jan term, taught by Professor of Philosophy Thomas Falkner, Ph.D., takes students to multiple ancient sites in Greece to study Greek culture and history. Two students who are currently on the Jan term share their experiences with us through a collection of photos.

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A sunny day in Greece. (Photo courtesy of Marrissa Benko).

The idea of staying on campus for a Jan term always bothered me, especially with the resources that McDaniel has to offer. This trip to Greece has been one of the best experiences I have had in my entire college career. I think so many of us stay in our own groups on campus,

but this trip forces us out of our comfort zones and to talk to new people.

The itinerary is rigorous, but allows for so many sites. One of my favorite excursions was to an old leper colony called Spinalonga. Besides its rich history, this island

offered some of the most breathtaking views almost made me wonder if I could even define true beauty. If ever given the opportunity to go again I would jump at the chance. Best to get out there and forge some new friendships and everlasting memories. -Marrissa Benko



A Grecian amphitheater. (Photo courtesy of Matt Quinn).

Καλησπέρα! [Good evening!] The Jan-Term trip to Greece has been nothing but breathtaking. My favorite part about this trip was visiting the Chrysopigi Monastery on Crete. Having been raised up Catholic, it was interesting for me to experience what makes the Greek Orthodox Church so different! I also enjoyed

the amazing views from the tops of mountain peaks where most of the monuments that we visited were. I’ve met so many new friends and made so many memories on this trip. I highly recommend it for anyone looking to study abroad for their Jan term. -Matt Quinn



View from a countryside hilltop. (Photo courtesy of Matt Quinn).



Ruins of a temple. (Photo courtesy of Matt Quinn).



A church in the mountains. (Photo courtesy of Matt Quinn).

Cup Tea Bar & Cafe looking to re-open with a McDaniel focus

Atticus Rice
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Cup Tea Bar & Cafe hasn’t served a customer since Oct. 14. The popular 1 E. Main St. haunt was originally scheduled to close for a month for much-needed renovations. After the initial deadline was pushed back, Small Business Saturday seemed like a perfect grand re-opening. Now, McDaniel students might have a shot to beat customers back to the Westminster area when they move in for the spring semester. “We would love to have a grand opening at the start of the spring semester,” owner Traci Malinoski said, “and we’re hoping for a soft opening weeks before that.” Though the cafe stopped accepting McDaniel Bucks last year due to costs associated with the program, Malinoski and her husband and partner Tash Otto still hold McDaniel central to their mission. Students can still come in with their McDaniel mugs typically given out during New Student Orientation to get a free cup of tea, and Malinoski and Otto are looking into other student discounts and programs. “One of the main things we want to do is get a better relationship with

the students,” Malinoski said. She expects to start holding regularly scheduled open mic nights with an emphasis on student work. The Cup is also looking to employ more McDaniel students once they reopen, and has considered staying open later on Thursday nights. “When you’re in a college town, it’s so important to be integrated,” Otto said. They also plan to reopen with more allergy-friendly options. “Not only do we have the gluten free and vegan options,” Malinoski said, “but also we’re so versatile with adding or subtracting things from your entree. We’ll do whatever when we can.” They’re also looking at more paleo options. “We want to be something unique as far as what we offer,” Malinoski said. “[We have] an extensive menu of soups and salads, as well as alternative options.” Despite the setback in construction, Malinoski and Otto have remained optimistic over the last few months. “We are part of this community, this is what we do,” said Otto. “We’re anxious to get back to work.” Working on Westminster’s Main

Street wasn’t always the plan for Malinoski and Otto, however. Though Malinoski always knew she wanted to own a cafe, she didn’t think the Cup would be that cafe when she started working as a server in 2015. “I figured it was maybe something that would happen when my kids were out of the house,” she said. Malinoski worked her way up at Cup, quickly becoming the cafe’s top server. “I fell in love with [founder] Lora’s [Andrews] whole thing,” she said. “I also fell in love with the tea. Her passion just became mine.” Then, two years later, Malinoski’s daughter Bethany joined her mom on staff for her first job. The Sykesville family had found a new home in the Westminster corner store. So when Andrews told her staff in May 2017 that she wouldn’t be able to continue running the business, Malinoski was shocked. “I think a lot of people were,” she said. The night before, Bethany told her mom she should open up her own place. Naturally, Bethany pushed it some more on their way home from work the day Andrews broke the news. Otto was all in, too. “His immediate response was

‘Why don’t we take over?’,” she said. The next few weeks were a whirlwind for the family, as Otto puts it. “By June 1, it was 100 percent family owned, by another family,” he said. “It was kind of an unexpected opportunity when it happened,” Malinoski said. “It seemed like the right thing to do in so many ways.” And for the most part, she’s been right. Malinoski knew all the operations from her serving days, and Otto had experience running a number of previous storefronts. She also loves to bake, a skill that helped in the transition of ownership. “I always have,” Malinoski said, “so that was another thing that helped when I made the decision [to take over.]” With nearly a year and a half of ownership experience under their belts and two months of closed doors, Malinoski and Otto can’t wait to reopen. The tea bar, where customers can sit and talk with staff, will be back, along with a revitalized dining area. “Much more spacious than before,” said Otto. “Newer, fresher, but still with all the warmth that we’ve always had,” Malinoski can assure customers upon their reopening.

Commentary

Society’s use of feminine hygiene products oppresses women

Marya Kuratova
Co-Features & Copy Editor

For many women, menstruation is the epitome of femininity and the ultimate celebration of womanhood. Unfortunately, the portrayal of menstruation in society is also a major cause for anxiety, discomfort, and oppression. Even with the start of a new year, menstruation is still very much stigmatized in today’s America, especially through the handling of feminine hygiene products. Society oppresses women by its fascination with instilling embarrassment and a feeling of taboo in the way women regard their bodies. The average woman will use over 16,800 tampons and pads in her lifetime. And with roughly 40 million American women using tampons each year, this makes the tampon industry worth \$2 billion in the U.S. alone. All those tampons can become pricey over the years. And the additional tax on these necessary hygiene products is especially frustrating for women. “Of the 45 states which impose statewide sales taxes, [only] seven specifically exempt feminine hygiene products from the sales tax base” said Nicole Kaeding, author of an article on the tampon tax. However, items labelled as “medical devices” are exempt from the state tax. In some states, this includes products such as dandruff shampoo and lip balm. But when taking an even

closer look at some of the ridiculous tax-exempt items in some states – M&M’S candies, lattes, and even luxury yachts and jets – one can see the inherent, unreasonable double standard. These items do not require consumers to pay the additional cost of tax, and yet women across the nation are forced to hand over more of their paycheck for necessary hygiene products. According to Victoria Hartman, another author renouncing the tampon tax, “most states tax all personal non-real property through their respective sales taxes but carve out exemptions for certain goods, which are usually whatever the state defines as a medical appliance or a necessity. Sales-taxed items thus carry the inherent implication that they are luxury, non-necessary goods.” This shows that lawmakers believe women can go without feminine hygiene products each month, or choose to purchase the luxury good for better comfort. They fail to see how this hurts women, especially those with lower incomes. In an article describing tampon costs as they relate to reproductive justice, Abigail Durkin argues that “when menstruation is taxed, it puts the majority of the population at an economic disadvantage. Women suffer due to the high cost of feminine hygiene products [and] are put at risk

for infection and disease simply for having healthy reproductive systems.” Not only are the tampons unnecessarily expensive, but they are also not always good for women. This means lawmakers make it more difficult for women to obtain a necessary product that manufacturers fail to make safe in the first place. The vagina is incredibly absorbent and sensitive, so leftover rayon fibers from tampons can cause tears in the vaginal walls, and cotton tampons that have been bleached for impurities can transfer the resulting dioxins and chemicals to the vagina. Shockingly enough, tampon manufacturers are not required to list the ingredients found in a commercially available feminine hygiene product on the packaging, including any harmful chemicals. This lack of transparency silences women and strips them of basic knowledge of their health. This is also where the true double standard shines through. The manufacturers are not required to disclose tampon ingredients because the products are considered “medical devices,” yet they are not exempt from taxes because, legally, they are not true medical devices! Activists have called for more independent research in determining the effects of rayon and cotton – which are manufactured using harsh chemicals – in tampons, especially in their connection to toxic shock syndrome. Several studies have been conducted to test potential links

between dioxins found in tampons and onsets of endometriosis, a painful condition that results from tissue growing outside the uterus. Despite an increase in measures such as revised bleaching practices to improve tampon safety in the past few decades, one study found that seven brands of tampons still revealed traces of dioxins and furans, typically at or just below the detection limit for toxic equivalency factor values set by the World Health Organization. As a result, many female-led businesses have been created to focus on organic, chemical-free cotton for tampons. Companies such as Cora, Lola, and Sustain have garnered recent support as women look for alternative options. Many of these products are created with environmental sustainability and better worker conditions in mind, and they are gentler on vaginas and give women agency over their health. Finally, although tampons cost more money than necessary and contain harmful substances, they are still crucial in order for the modern woman to survive her time of the month. But unfortunately, public restrooms, schools, and work places do not make tampons nearly as accessible as they should be. Forcing a woman to frantically search for a tampon in a time of need makes her even more ashamed of her body. In addition to adding stress, anxiety, and panic, refusing to offer public dispensaries can cause further health problems. Tampons need to *See WOMEN, page 4*

From the archives: January on the Hill

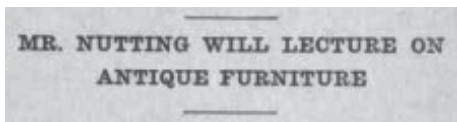
Emma Carter
Co-Editor-in-Chief

While January is typically a quiet month on campus, the College’s newspaper staff has often been on scene to report the new year’s first stories. Here are some January front-page articles students read in Western Maryland College’s school paper throughout the twentieth century:

January 15, 1931: “Famous collector of antiques will lecture”

Students had a riveting start to their new year in 1931 with a mandatory lecture on American furniture, delivered by Wallace Nutting. Nutting, a “well-known antique collector and humorist” who traveled nationwide to find pieces for his furniture collection, had an extensive array of furniture pictures he used as aids to his lecture. Having

found his niche in colonial furniture, Nutting reportedly went “to almost any extent to secure pictures of articles dating 1750 or earlier.”



January 9, 1951: “It’s Been Fun”

This editorial touches on the Gold Bug’s past year just before an editorial staff change. According to 1950’s team of editors, their accomplishments included correctly reporting “most” meeting times, spelling a “good percentage” of names right, and “only one mistake per page in a recent issue.” The editors alluded to an unspecified controversy stirred by the paper, thanked the efforts of the copy

editor, and wished success to the incoming staff – and made sure to note that they all felt “proud that [they] were a part of the GOLD BUG this past year.”

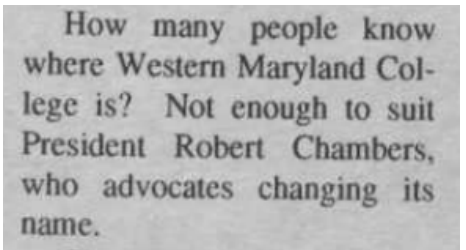
January 10, 1972: “Jan. term”

This two-paragraph piece contended that the January term is a time of tranquility. Comparing the short term to the eye of a hurricane, this Gold Bug reporter reflected on the lack of pressure students feel between the fall and spring semesters. Thanks to quieter dorms and shorter lines for food, Jan term is a “deep breath, a thoughtful pause,” said the writer.

January 22, 1993: “Western Maryland College May Lose Its Name”

Nine years before Western Maryland College became McDaniel, school officials were

already discussing a name change. Advocates for and against changing the College’s name vehemently defended their positions – according to President Robert Chambers, the name was “a continual nightmare” that inhibited the school’s growth. He cited confusion around the location of the College as one of the key arguments for a change. On the contrary, some members of the WMC community feared alienating alumni and even upsetting students. One senior history major asked, “We have built our foundation and reputation on this name. Why would we change it?”



Swimmers ready to break records

from **SWIM**, page 1
part of the school record-setting 200-meter and 400-meter medley relay races in 2017.

Finally, the two New Jersey natives come together to find success in relay competition, having set the school record for the 800-meter freestyle relay race and the pool record for the 400-meter medley relay race in 2018.

“I look at the record board all the time during practice,” Hegna said. “I think to myself, ‘I can get that record, I can beat my record from last year,’ or, ‘I can beat other people’s records.’”

Despite already having several name places on the board, both Boyle and Hegna want to hold as many records as possible.

“My biggest goal at the end of college is to have my name up on that board and leave my mark,” Hegna said.

Both swimmers started participating in the sport at a young age.

Hegna comes from a swimming family and, along with the sport, had a pre-developed connection to McDaniel, as her father swam competitively at Western Maryland College.

“That was a huge inspiration for me to come here and swim,” Hegna said.

Similar to Hegna, Boyle’s interest in swimming emerged from family members who swam. Growing up, both Boyle and her brothers swam competitively year-round.

Establishing an early foundation

into swim and emerging as two of women’s swim top competitors has paved the way for relationships with teammates growing into friendships that support one another, both on the pool deck and off.

“When I came to college, everything was changing and my teammates and I all had one thing in common and that was swimming,” Boyle said. “We quickly became friends and now it so much more than a team.”

Having established that connection with teammates, both Boyle and Hegna have emerged as leaders on the team and look to become official captains in the coming seasons.

The rise to leadership and success in competition is rooted in mentality.

“I hate losing,” Hegna said. “I really try and work to be the best that I can to be able to win against anyone.”

With a champion’s mindset, the focus that Hegna and Boyle bring spreads among their teammates.

“They bring great energy to both practices and meets,” Head Swim Coach Jeff Hiestand said. “They are both competitors and both hate to lose.”

Ultimately, Jan term creates one of the final opportunities for training before the final leg of the winter sports season, and both Boyle and Hegna recognize that.

“Jan term is the part where it is make or break for champs,” Hegna said. “[We] have to work hard even though it hurts.”

Society’s use of feminine hygiene products oppresses women

from **WOMEN**, page 3
be changed at least every eight hours. Otherwise, a woman could fall victim to deadly toxic shock syndrome. “Doctors note that tampons left in for too long provide an environment that facilitates the growth of bacteria, potentially leading to the contraction of an infection” said Durkin.

Failing to provide easily accessible tampon dispensaries in public restrooms is equivalent to telling women “this is not society’s problem.” Seeing menstruation as taboo and shameful forces women to hide their tampons deep in their purses, or not pack them at all.

In sum, it is important to expose the many unfair ways legislature, the economy, and society in general treat this natural bodily function in order to promote change. Society has collectively failed in ensuring the comfort of women in their own bodies, minds, homes, and public spaces. Other countries, such as Canada, have moved to get rid of the tampon tax, demand ingredient transparency, and offer distribution programs to make products more accessible, especially geared towards poorer communities. America should follow suit and make strides towards helping women feel more comfortable and accepted.



Sara Hegna (left) and Blair Boyle. (Photo courtesy of Blair Boyle).



The McDaniel
Free Press

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The McDaniel Free Press

Volume 22, Issue 8 | February 5, 2019

INSIDE: Decker Center to undergo partial renovation (pg. 2) | Comics (pg. 4) | Music education's important role (pg. 7)



Four of the first five days of the undergraduate spring semester were impacted by a wintry mix of inclement weather, closing the College early on Jan. 29 and Feb. 1 and causing 10 a.m. delayed openings on Jan. 30 and 31. (Atticus Rice / McDaniel Free Press).

First week of classes hit by snowfall

Emma Carter
Co-Editor-in-Chief

The first week of the new semester saw two early closures and two delays.

Snow began to fall on Tuesday afternoon, prompting College's officials to cancel all classes that start after 4 p.m. Snowfall for the day totaled about 3 inches, said the National Weather Service, and was accompanied by below-freezing temperatures and wind. The campus community was notified of the cancellation via email shortly before 3 p.m.; students and faculty received a follow-up email several hours later announcing the closure of campus.

The snow stopped Tuesday night, but inclement weather continued in the following days.

Temperatures dropped even further Wednesday and Thursday, causing icy conditions in the area. See **SNOWFALL**, page 2

First year residence halls outfitted with electronic card access system

Emma Carter & Atticus Rice
Co-Editors-in-Chief

Students living in Daniel MacLea, Rouzer, and Whiteford Halls will soon be using their McDaniel 1Cards to enter their buildings. Over Jan term, the College began installing the card access system, thanks to a private donation.

The system is expected to go live once the final programming elements are synced with the College's existing operations.

"We had a training for Residence Life and Campus Safety staff [on Jan. 29]," said Michael Robbins, associate dean of students and director of residence life and student engagement, "and there are still a few programming elements in the system for access levels and planning out how to merge our normal business operation with the card access system."

Resident Assistants will be using the new system when conducting rounds rather than a master key, according to Robbins.

While students will continue to use physical keys to enter their individual rooms, they will begin using their cards to gain access to residence buildings once the system is live, according to Chief Information Officer Andrew Lawlor.

"Installation of the [card access system's] hardware is complete," said Lawlor. "We are now working on refining the configuration of the system software so that it will operate based on our requirements, and testing to confirm the settings are correct. As such, we have not yet identified the go-live date, but will make an announcement to those

residents in advance."

Both Robbins and Lawlor pointed to the safety benefits of the electronic access system, which include cameras and an alert system connected to Campus Safety.

"[Video monitoring] can assist with tracking down parties responsible for different incidents," Robbins said of the video cameras that will be pointed toward the doors of residence halls.

Campus Safety will also receive alerts from the system if a door is left propped open, and officers will be able to unlock doors electronically without being present at the residence hall.

Lost keys will be less of an issue, too.

"A lost key would no longer grant access to a building even after a room door lock core is changed," said Robbins.

The video cameras and controllers, where the card access info is stored, are in the building attached to the campus network, according to Lawlor. This will help keep the system live in the event of a network outage.

Robbins anticipates little trouble from the new system: even in the event of a power outage, the Office of Residence Life has arrangements with a locksmith to minimize the problem of building access, he said.

The card access system is manufactured by the same vendor that provided students' ID cards, which makes for a compatible and well-designed match, according to Lawlor. He said he expects longevity from the system and room for See **CARD ACCESS**, page 2

My Design expands in second year, looks toward future

Atticus Rice
Co-Editor-in-Chief

In its second year, My Design, a January term course aimed at first-year students, made the jump from three sections to eight sections. Come 2020, the College is expecting about 20 sections.

"It was really great to see how the activities planned last year were applicable and helpful to another set of students," said Barbara Swartz, Ph.D., the coordinator for My Design since its inception and a professor in the education department.

The course is designed to help students identify their strengths, areas of personal growth, and personal and professional goals, as well as assist in understanding the importance of a liberal arts education, according to the official course objectives.

Instructors from 10 departments were given the opportunity to bring their expertise to a My Design class, some teaching alongside colleagues.

"Each instructor was able to put their own 'stamp' on things,"

said Swartz, "and through our collaboration, we are revising the course for the future to keep making improvements."

The specifics on more than doubling the number of sections--and students enrolled--are still in the works, said Swartz.

"We are simply building on all of the pieces that worked well these first two rounds," she said.

Students enrolled have enjoyed the course so far.

"My Design was super introspective and it helped me discover new priorities in my life while relegating lesser priorities to things I want to pursue after college," said first year Katie Adelizzi. "Ultimately a great experience I would recommend to any freshman."

Journal reflections, which students filled out during the course, yielded similar results.

"I have always been aware of my strengths, interests, career ideas, and areas of growth," wrote an anonymous sophomore. "However, See **MY DESIGN**, page 6





A card access system outside the front entrance of Rouzer Hall. (Atticus Rice / McDaniel Free Press).

First year residence halls outfitted with electronic card access system

CARD ACCESS, from page 1
development, making it possible for students in future classes to use the technology.

“This system was selected with the future in mind,” he said, “where it will be capable of also reading cards by tapping them to the reader,

or mobile phones with near-field communications technology.”

Current students say they are already looking forward to card access.

“It will be more convenient for the students who live in Rouzer, so they don’t have to carry their keys everywhere they go,” said Andrew Witten, a first-year student who lives in Rouzer Hall. “I know I have forgotten my keys in the past when I was heading to [football] practice or class, and I had to wait to be let into the building, which was not enjoyable.”

Robbins also noted changes on the Residence Life side of break closures and move-in day.

“When we have a break,” he said, “we can change the access levels of the building without the locksmith needing to go in and manually change out all the lock cores. On move-in day, we could do something like setting a window of time from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. where the doors are not locked so students and parents moving in don’t need to worry about propping doors or keying in. But then at 1 p.m. the doors could have the locks auto-re-engage.”

Given that the project was privately financed by a donor, the College does not have other buildings in mind to receive the upgrade.

First week of classes hit by snowfall

SNOWFALL, from page 1

Both days, the College delayed its opening until 10 a.m. Wednesday, a squall blew snow over campus in the middle of the afternoon, and Thursday’s low temperature was 1 degree with a high of only 17 – about 20 degrees below the monthly average high.

On Friday, the College closed at 1:30 p.m., “due to falling temperatures and more snow than expected this afternoon,” according to Campus Announcements. Snow fell throughout the afternoon and night, causing a number of clubs and meetings to be canceled. Snowfall was recorded at 2 inches with the day’s average temperature at 14 degrees.

In addition to snow and cold temperatures, portions of Maryland have experienced below-average air quality, meaning there has been a higher concentration of pollutants in the air than normal. Over the weekend, this reached a code orange alert in some areas: code orange is “unhealthy for sensitive groups,” which include the elderly, children, and those with lung and heart conditions, according to AirNow, an EPA program that tracks air quality.

In the coming week, however, experts expect the weather to shift: the weather service predicts high temperatures in the high fifties and rain later in the week, along with improved air quality.

Decker College Center to undergo partial renovation

Atticus Rice
Co-Editor-in-Chief

The Decker College Center will soon undergo partial renovations, according to Dean of Students Liz Towle and Associate Dean of Campus and Community Engagement Josh Ambrose. The two deans first discussed the plan at the first Ask McDaniel Anything forum last December.

“It’s a limited renovation,” said Towle, “so not the entire building.”

The focus will be on providing students with a larger space to be able to get together, she said.

Though a timeline has yet to be made public, the College’s space reservation system has the Forum, located in Decker, blocked off for the renovation starting May 20 through Aug. 31. A few events are concurrently listed such as the opening faculty meeting and president’s remarks in late August.

Plans include encompassing the Pub porch within the middle level of the building to make room for a new open area for students. The bookstore will move down to the Rec Lounge space and the CEO, OSE, ODI, and parts of the Rec Lounge will move up to the middle level across from Pub.



The outdoor porch accessed via Pub will become part of the new indoor open space for students to convene. (Atticus Rice / McDaniel Free Press).

“[It’s about] providing office space for some of the campus offices that we really want to be visible to students,” Towle said. “One big, fun, centrally located office up on that second floor.”

The area outside Glar, where OSE and ODI currently hold connected offices, will see new bathrooms and some updated mechanical infrastructure.

“This is a need that has been identified by students, staff, and administration for nearly 10 years,” said Ambrose.

Two donors have stepped forward to fund the project, he said, as

opposed to the dollars coming from the College’s operating budget or tuition.

The new student-focused area will likely also include flexible conference room space for student organizations.

Ambrose also expects a performing arts space with a permanent stage to make late-night programming for students viable and accessible.

Across from the student area, the Pub will also see a facelift.

“The Pub is getting totally re-done,” said Ambrose.

The renovations will introduce

new standards in the campus food industry, though details are not yet clear.

AVI, the College’s new dining services provider, will be a part of that, according to Towle.

An official announcement on this topic has yet to be made.



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Green Terror Ultimate still growing on the Hill

Ryan Hess
Staff Reporter

McDaniel College’s Big Baker Chapel bells toll for the second to last time each night at 9:30 p.m.

For most students, this is the time to cozy up in their dorms, either to do homework or to watch a few episodes of a show on Netflix before going to sleep.

For some, however, this penultimate peal summons them to the stadium for a night of Ultimate Frisbee.

In the past couple of years, McDaniel College’s Green Terror Ultimate has grown significantly.

A student organization on campus, the club is open to all who want to play.

There are no requirements for students to join – as the organization isn’t an official college sport – presenting a unique niche for students looking to exercise while having fun, and still have the competitive edge of a college-level sport.

Sam Ahern, the current president of Green Terror Ultimate, runs the practices twice a week, and occasionally organizes matches against other schools.

“To keep things interesting, we play for pizza during practices,” said Ahern, as he tossed a Frisbee to another student. “When you involve food in a match, things get surprisingly competitive.”

Ahern, a sophomore, joined as a first-year, both for the love of the



Green Terror Ultimate team member Lucas Craig enjoys a slice of pizza after a team victory at practice. (Ryan Hess / McDaniel Free Press).

sport, and for the chance to help the organization grow.

Now, as president, Ahern plans to continue the bi-weekly practices, and hopes to increase the number of organized matches against other colleges.

“There’s a great group of people that come out to each practice, and the games are even more fun,” said Ahern. “Yes, we’re technically the McDaniel College Ultimate Frisbee Club, but the more I play, and the more we play together, the more I feel like we’re becoming a family, too.”

There have been as many as 30 people – both students and faculty – that have attended a single practice, and Ahern hopes to see that number continue to grow.

Daniel Smith, a senior, has attended nearly every practice after joining last year.

“After the first practice, I immediately knew I was going to have a lot of fun with this club,” Smith said.

Smith also mentioned that he played school sports in high school, but wanted to focus more on academics in college.

“Green Terror Ultimate is perfect for me,” Smith said. “It still gives me the competitive feeling of playing a sport, but without the insane time commitment of a school sport.”

Sophomore Lucas Craig played Ultimate in high school, and didn’t want to stop when he came to col-

lege.

“The atmosphere is what keeps me coming back,” said Craig, between bites of pizza. “There’s a very supportive group of people on the team, and every time we practice, it really feels like a group of friends getting together to play a game.”

Craig is looking forward to the next two years of Ultimate, and is excited for the plan to increase the amount of competitive games against other schools.

And, in the words of Ahern, “Frisbee, or not Frisbee? That is the question.”

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www.mcdanielfreepress.com

Esports at McDaniel: Get ahead of the game

Gunnar Ward
Sports Editor

Emerging as a prominent form of entertainment in the last several years, video games have rocketed in popularity as a means for fun and competition.

Similar to the popularity of video games, the competition among video game players has reached renowned levels of publicity and is continuing to climb.

Perhaps this reached a pinnacle last summer when ‘The Worldwide Leader in Sports’, ESPN, broadcasted its first Esports competition in the form of the Overwatch League – an official esports league – grand finals, with the winning team bringing in a prize of 1.4 million dollars.

The world of competitive gaming has continued to spread among college athletics and is already in the area at McDaniel’s neighbors to the north. Harrisburg University only has one varsity sport: esports.

One has to wonder if the trend of esports and competitive gaming could migrate south and find a place on the Hill. From the perspective of a sports fan and a gamer, why not?

For a Division III institution, McDaniel College is not eligible to award athletic scholarships. There-

fore, most student-athletes attend for the love of the game. Understanding that opens up an entire avenue for esports to bring students to the Hill.

With that being said, there are probably more people out there willing to dedicate time to playing video games than those willing to dedicate the time to be a college athlete.

Allow me to put into perspective just how popular esports and video games are. The game Fortnite was released in July of 2017 and has exploded into mainstream popularity. According to Fortnite’s developers, Epic Games, 40 million people play monthly.

In comparison to other athletics, a report from the NCAA estimated that around 8 million people play high school sports, but that these millions plummet to 480,000 in college.

The unique aspect of video games is that anyone can play and understand the game quickly, whereas in physical sports, being able to be a fair competitor can take years of practice and training.

With so many playing Fortnite, or even other popular video games such as Overwatch and Rocket League, opportunities certainly exist for the college to capitalize on incor-



Photo courtesy of Pixabay user TheXomil.

porating esports into athletics.

As the popularity in esports has skyrocketed, so has the value of the industry. A Forbes article reported that the value of competitive gaming reached \$905 million in 2018 and is expected to climb even more, with the value to potentially reach \$1.65 billion by 2021.

With these current numbers,

esports have to be recognized as one of the most popular trends to keep on the radar, and like other schools around the country, bringing competitive gaming to McDaniel has the potential to push the Green Terror to become an esports dynasty in the Centennial Conference and throughout the Mid-Atlantic.

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McComics

Sunday, Feb. 3, 2019

Comics continue

Last semester, students in the communication department’s Communication and Culture course submitted weekly comics to the Free Press, and we are pleased to feature a few artists who have chosen to continue into the Spring! Below you will find comics from Nathan Wright, Hannah Maxwell, Clint Wright, and Olivia Culver, following this week’s theme of dreams.

Editors’ notes:
The images and content are used for educational purposes in a comedic manner that reflects satire and/or parody. Use of copyrighted images complies with the Best Practices of Fair Use as described by the Center for Media and Social Impact at American University.

MYTH TAKEN

BY NATHAN WRIGHT

SO YOU SEEM LIKE A GOOD CANDIDATE SO FAR.

TELL ME, WHAT'S YOUR DREAM?

OH, THAT'S EASY. I'VE ONLY EVER HAD ONE DREAM EVER SINCE I WAS OLD ENOUGH TO REMEMBER.

IN MY DREAM I'M THE ONLY ONE THERE, BUT I KNOW I'M NOT ALONE.

THERE ARE THINGS THAT CHASE ME. THEY HAVE A MESSAGE.

I ALWAYS RUN FROM THEM, SO I'VE NEVER HEARD WHAT THEY WANT TO SAY TO ME.

I KNOW THAT ONE DAY, I WON'T BE FAST ENOUGH. ONE DAY, I'LL HEAR.


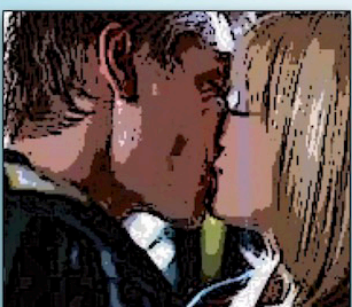
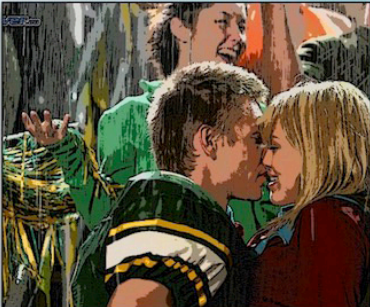

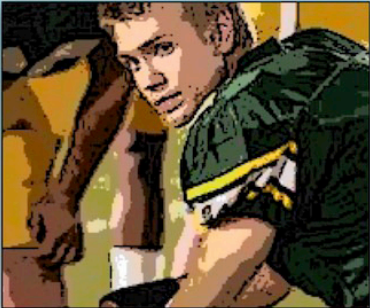

AND IN THOSE FINAL MOMENT BETWEEN WAKEFULNESS AND SLEEP, I FEEL SOMETHING ON MY CHEST AND I KNOW IT IS THE DEVIL.

...LET ME REPHRASE. DO YOU HAVE ANY ASPIRATIONS?

OH, I WANT TO BE THE CEO.

PERFECT, WE'LL MAKE THAT HAPPEN AS LONG AS YOU NEVER TALK ABOUT YOUR DREAMS AGAIN.

Problems of the Basic



ARTIST: HANNAH MAXWELL

BY: OLIVIA CULVER

A CATS LIFE

WOOF!

WOOF WOOF!

I WISH OUR OWNER WOULD GET RID OF THESE TWO

THATS IT...I'M GOING TO BED

WOOF WOOF WOOF

UGH THEY'RE STILL HERE...

THE NEXT MORNING

IN THE CATS DREAM

DREAM MATCH

CLINT WRIGHT

After my victory on Sunday I'll be the greatest champion of all time!

This trophy proves that I am the man! Nobody can beat me!

Woowoooo! Did you just say you're the greatest champion of all time?

I'm Ric Flair! The stylin', profilin', limousine riding, jet flying, kiss-stealing, wheelin' and dealin' son of a gun!

Brady you may be a five time champion but, I'm a 16-time champion. Why don't you put your title on the line against me because I've got one last title run left in me!

To be the man, you gotta beat the man!



Photos from the Tuesday, Jan. 29 4 p.m. campus closure, one of four days in the first week of the spring semester to have scheduling impacted by inclement weather. (Marya Kuratova / McDaniel Free Press).



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The case against coffee: Tea is the healthier alternative

Marya Kuratova
Copy & Co-Features Editor

As colder weather grips the Hill and the busy schedule of the new semester settles in, many students might be inclined to instinctively reach for a hot cup of coffee to get them through the day. And with Casey’s Corner now opening at 7:30 a.m., it’s easier than ever for students to get their morning caffeine fix.

And yet drinking excessive amounts of coffee has been linked to multiple health concerns.

High blood pressure, increased cholesterol, osteoporosis, headaches, anxiety, and agitation have all been linked to drinking coffee. It can even react poorly with medications, stain your teeth, and change the way your body processes sugar, which is especially concerning to diabetics. Most coffee beverages also contain an alarming amount of sugar and fatty calories, which is an additional problem in itself.

Instead, McDaniel students should consider switching to tea consumption. This beverage still

provides the necessary caffeine kick, yet also offers numerous health benefits due to its high number of catechins, which are natural forms of antioxidants.

In fact, a cup of tea has been found to offer just the right amount of caffeine to give you a boost. Too much caffeine, like that found in coffee, will give you the jitters and might even lead to an irregular heartbeat.

The caffeine in tea is also released more slowly than that in coffee, so you’re more likely to feel the effects for a longer period of time, and you won’t have a hard crash once it passes through your system.

Not only will you feel more awake, but your mood, focus, and immune system will also improve. Tea will keep you hydrated, which is necessary for your mind and body to function (although caffeine is a mild diuretic, studies have found that tea is just as hydrating as regular water).

Tea also contains theophylline, which relaxes smooth muscles, increases blood flow, and has anti-in-

flammatory effects, theobromine, which helps relax your muscles and the nerves in the veins, so the blood flows easily, and L-theanine, which is an amino acid that reduces mental and physical stress.

In addition, various studies have found links between drinking tea and lower odds of developing cancer, Alzheimer’s disease, and heart disease.

Different types of teas offer different health benefits, as the number of antioxidants, vitamins, and minerals varies between green, white, and black teas. This is yet another way tea beats out coffee – there are literally hundreds of flavors to choose from!

Although tea is clearly better for your body than coffee, some people still might struggle with breaking the habit and making the switch. Others just might not like the taste of tea. Some other, healthier alternatives to getting through a long day include drinking a cold glass of water in the afternoon, taking a quick power nap, or chewing some gum. In fact, caffeine gum is even an option.

So next time you head over to Casey’s Corner, consider trying some tea instead. Your body will thank you!

McDaniel Compliments

“Haley Chan is literally the nicest and sweetest person I know. You’re going to be an amazing teacher!”

“Anna Rozier is pretty great. Just thought everyone should know.”

“Yelli Coulibaly is such a ray of sunshine. You always light up the room and your laughter is infectious!”

“Shout out to Harrison Curnette! Thanks for making me smile, man.”

“Kathy Edmondson is literally superwoman! Thanks for keeping the English department running smoothly. We’d definitely fall apart without you.”

“I’m excited to have another class with Derek Webber this semester. He always has good things to say and really makes me think about things differently during class discussions.”

“Wow, I love Mandy Murren’s hair. You are gorgeous!”

“Welcome back, Professors Wronski-Mayersak and Dobson! We’ve missed you both. Hill Hall hasn’t been the same without you.”

Want to brighten someone’s day? Need a way to fulfill your random act of kindness for the day? Message *Dean McDaniel Compliments* on Facebook with a compliment, and we’ll post it anonymously for you. Here to spread some happiness on the Hill, we’ll make sure your friend, classmate, or professor has the chance to smile and feel appreciated. Your compliment could be featured in the next issue of the *Free Press*!



A variety of teas from Tazo Tea Company available in Casey’s Corner. (Atticus Rice / McDaniel Free Press).

News

My Design expands in second year, looks toward future

Atticus Rice
Co-Editor-in-Chief

MY DESIGN, *from page 1*
My Design allowed me to not only clearly identify my strengths but also expand on applications for them.”

In addition to a diversity of faculty, My Design was assisted by four student leaders who supported instructors in class and students outside of class.

The student leaders also organized a calendar of activities to keep students busy while out of class.

My Design is the second part of the four-part McDaniel Commitment which is gradually

being rolled out. The first, My Place, was satisfied by the four McDaniel Local sessions offered last summer.

That, too, will be scaled up to impact most of the incoming class.

As part of the development- and career-oriented program, students had a number of unique opportunities during the three-week course.

“Students complete a number of team-building activities and even work with others in the class to complete an escape room based on the seven traditional liberal arts,” said Swartz. “They develop an understanding of the importance of a liberal arts education.”

Students also have the opportunity to visit local workplaces, organized by the Center for Experience & Opportunity, as well as make connections with alumni.

Swartz believes that the My Design course has a positive affect on all types of students.

“My Design is a class for everyone,” she said. “We want students in their first year to develop a stronger relationship with themselves, their peers, and the McDaniel community. The McDaniel Commitment is a way to ensure every student has the opportunity to experience everything that McDaniel has to offer.”

Samantha Nguyen appreciated the ease of the class as it allowed her to build relationships.

“I got to know new friends, understand my majors more, and

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connect with a lot of inspiring alumni,” the first year said. “The class was not stressful at all; it was a good start for my spring term.”

Though My Design will be mandatory for all first years starting next year, Swartz doesn’t believe that that requirement will take a toll on other Jan terms. She thinks that two will be the new standard--My Design and one other.

Mandatory My Design also means that students can take two on-campus Jan terms free of tuition charges, she said.

Gunnar Ward contributed to this article.

Music education’s important role

Laurel Pogue
Arts & Culture Editor

As the Arts and Culture Editor for the Free Press, I don’t think it is surprising for me to declare that I think the Arts are important. I have played trombone since I was 9 years old, and I am currently a participant in three on-campus ensembles as well as a community band in my hometown on Maryland’s Eastern Shore. Music has been one of the most important parts of my life, and I even wrote about this for my application essay to McDaniel College. I knew that no matter which college I went to, I was going to be involved with its music department.

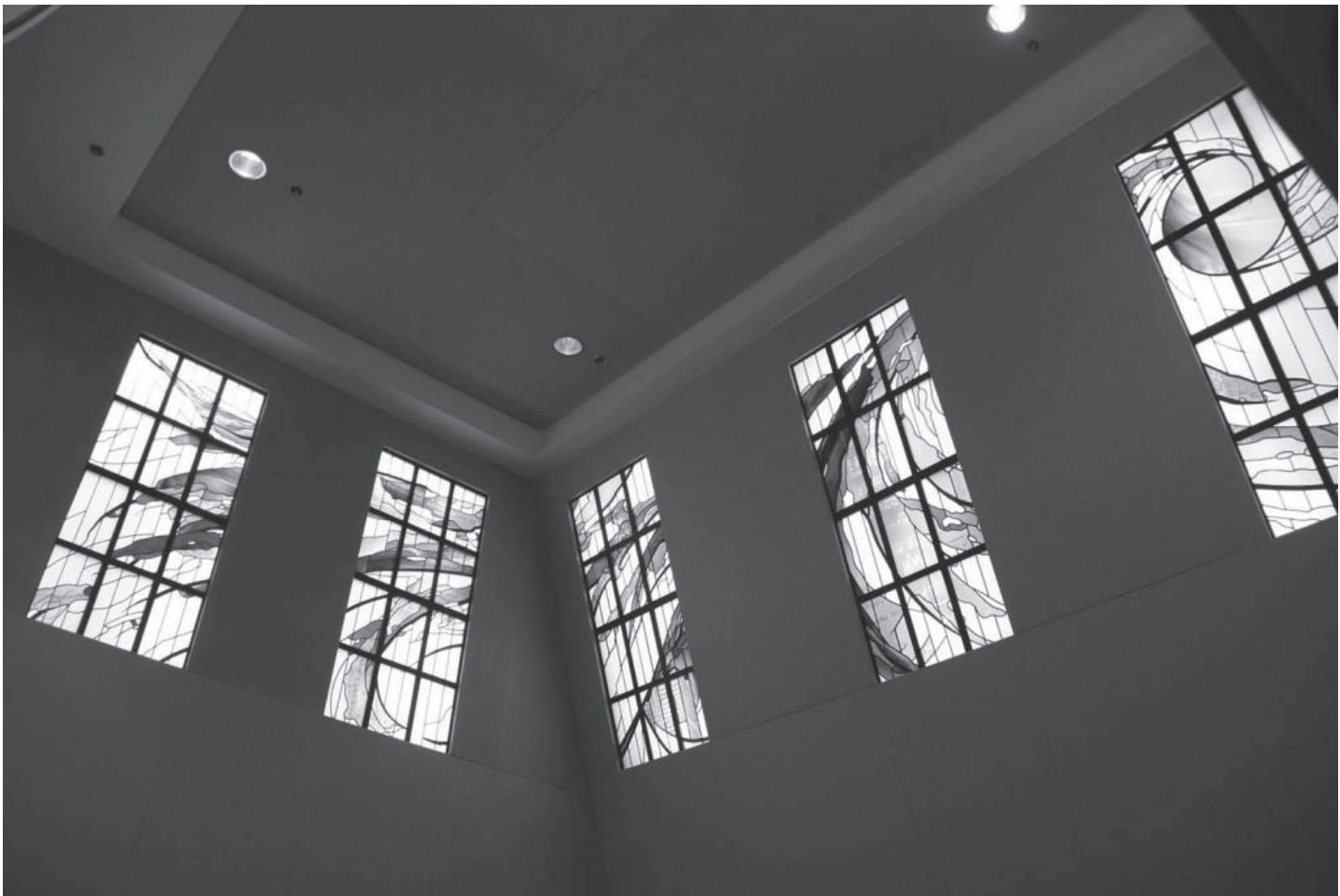
With the College’s academic departments under review, I worry about the the status of the music major.

While some may argue the fact of the matter is that there are not enough music graduates each year to support the program, the music department serves a much larger group than simply the music majors. The various ensembles have included not only music majors and minors, but undergraduate and graduate students from other departments, professors, Carroll Community College students, local high school students, community members, and alumni, including members of the Alumni Council. Some members spend hours on the road simply commuting to and from rehearsal, because it is something that they find to be important and a valuable use of their time. The performances throughout the semester also bring in crowds of students, faculty, families, alumni, and community members to watch, cheer, and even potentially decide to participate in an ensemble the next semester. More than a dozen concerts will be held this semester, the majority of which are free to the public.

So many students who are not music majors benefit from having music at this college. This semester alone, 351 students are enrolled in classes offered by the music department and there are dozens of community members participating in various ensembles. Music has been proven to aid memory, lessen anxiety and reduce stress. Playing in an ensemble teaches discipline and teamwork, enhances responsibility, and provides an essential creative outlet for students.

A key component of the McDaniel Plan is the Creative Expression (CE) requirement, which many students fulfill through playing with ensembles. A popular choice since its introduction in 2017 is the West African Drumming Culture course, which has seen dozens of students – many of whom had little to no prior musical experience – who are able to perform multiple songs together as a group at the final concert.

Some students may not think that the CE requirement is neces-



The traditional disciplines of the liberal arts--grammar, dialectic, rhetoric, arithmetic, geometry, astronomy, and music--are displayed through stained glass in Hoover Library. Music is second from Right. (Atticus Rice / McDaniel Free Press).

sary. Some administrators may not think that the CE requirement is necessary. The McDaniel Plan could change any day – it already has since I first applied to the school, as the foreign language requirement having been reduced. However, the declared mission of the McDaniel Plan, as listed on the College’s website is to “[provide] a liberal education that combines a comprehensive program of general education and a rigorous program in the major, complemented by electives and a range of special opportunities.” This ties directly into McDaniel’s role as a liberal arts institution.

The liberal arts were traditionally comprised of seven disciplines: grammar, dialectic (logic), rhetoric, arithmetic, geometry, astronomy, and music. These fields are placed in a position of honor in Hoover Library, represented in stained glass, and are a significant part of both McDaniel’s history and its mission. McDaniel College’s First Principles posit that “McDaniel College believes that liberally educated men and women think and act critically, creatively, and humanely.” Creativity is necessary for educating in the liberal arts, and music courses should continue to be an option for exploring this part of the education for students.

Of course, this is not meant to discount the importance and value of the other visual and performing arts, which are equally valid ways of being creative. I also do not mean to place creative endeavors and artistic expression above other majors and departments of the College, as thinking and acting critically and humanely are also essential parts of making the liberal arts a well-rounded experience. The whole point, according to the First Principles, is to “provide various approaches to knowledge and personal achievement.” Preparing music for a concert with people from all walks of life is perhaps the most straightfor-

ward way of letting students “work towards their personal goals while respecting others and sharing responsibility.”

Over time, the liberal arts have evolved greatly. President Casey pointed this out in his September email to the student body, in which he stated that “over the last 150 years, our curriculum has undergone numerous and sometimes dramatic changes. For example, in 1868, all of you would have been studying Greek or Latin this term, none of you would be psychology or business majors (because they didn’t exist), and mandatory chapel would be part of your week — multiple times. Things change. I would argue for the better.” This email was one of the earliest indications of the departmental review that was yet to occur. Things have changed. Things will continue to change. But I do not think that music should be left to fall by the wayside, even if it will not be offered as a major.

Winter weather fun facts

In 1954, Hurricane Hazel uprooted trees and knocked out power across campus.

In 1958, 18 inches of snow paralyzed campus.

In 2016, the spring semester started two days later because of winter weather across the region.



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The McDaniel Free Press

Volume 22, Issue 9 | February 27, 2019

INSIDE: New writing and publishing major (pg. 3) | Lifting with cerebral palsy (pg. 5) | IUDs over birth control pill (pg. 7)

Board votes to suspend art history, religious studies, French, German, and music majors

Emma Carter & Atticus Rice
Co-Editors-in-Chief

Marya Kuratova
Copy Editor & Co-Features Editor

The Board of Trustees on Saturday unanimously voted to suspend five undergraduate majors and three minors, as well as the master's in deaf education.

Majors in art history, religious studies, French, German, and music, and minors in German, music, and Latin will no longer be offered.

President Roger Casey made the announcement in an email to the McDaniel community Saturday night, the culmination of several months of academic review, beginning in the summer of 2018. A shortened version of this email was also posted on the College's official Facebook page.

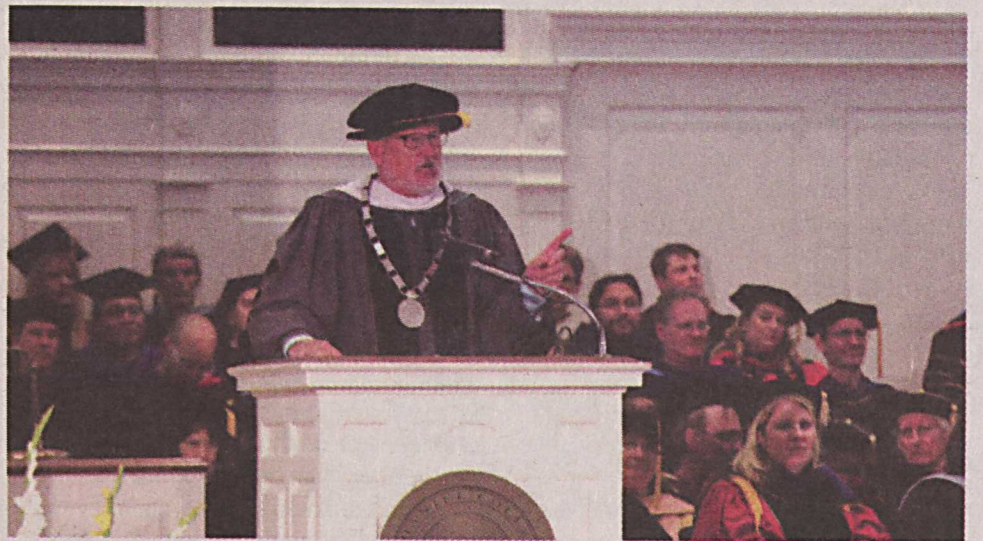
According to the announcement, courses will still be taught in the affected disciplines, except for German and Latin.

Current students who have declared a major in an impacted program have been assured that they will be able to graduate with their intended degree. Further, all current students will be able to declare any major through the end of this spring semester, according to Casey's email.

"None of these changes will adversely affect our ability to deliver our hallmark McDaniel Plan and McDaniel Commitment," said Casey in the email. "Our students will continue to experience a broad education in the liberal arts and sciences while delving deeply into their program areas of special interest."

The email notes that the College will still support the choir and band and offer music lessons. Language studies now include Arabic, American Sign Language, Chinese, French, and Spanish.

Monetary savings from the changes, according to Casey's email, See **SUSPENSION**, page 2



McDaniel College President Roger Casey addresses the first-year class during the Introduction Convocation inside Baker Memorial Chapel on Aug. 24, 2018. (Marya Kuratova / McDaniel Free Press).

President Casey talks academic changes, social media, Saturday protest

Emma Carter & Atticus Rice
Co-Editors-in-Chief

On Saturday, Feb. 23, the review of McDaniel's academic programs reached its conclusion at a meeting of the Board of Trustees.

President Casey sent an email to the College community that evening announcing the suspension of art history, religious studies, French, German, and music majors, all changes that the Board approved.

Minors in music and German, as well as the deaf studies graduate program, have also been suspended.

Though both the music major and minor are suspended, music performance programs will still be a part of the college's future.

"In music we're retaining a lot of the performance-based aspects," said Casey. "At the end of the day, the only thing that disappears is German and Latin and deaf studies at the graduate level."

These suspensions come after a process that started in May of 2018. During the summer, the newly-formed Strategic Thinking Group for Pedagogical Value, which consisted of faculty members from across various departments, developed the guidelines for the review process. The Board vote terminated the STGPV process.

The group put together data sets and developed questions for departmental self-assessment in order to review the College's academic programs.

Part of the data the STGPV used represented student behavior that covered a 10-year period.

"We also have what's called pipeline data," said Casey. This is data that shows student interest trends from prospective to current students.

Out of its annual pool of admitted students, McDaniel generally sees a 17 percent yield for interest in its programs.

For the Class of 2023, for instance, two admitted students reported interest in the German program, which would, following data trends, translate to between zero and one first-year students interested in German in the fall of 2019.

"We did not see similar pipelines in German [to other more populated programs], unfortunately," said Casey.

Several new majors and specializations were also approved. These include a criminal justice major — still to be approved by the State of Maryland, which approves every new major — and specializations in pre-engineering in the physics department as well as actuarial science within the math department.

Reinvestments, of \$1 million per year, will likely be made in four key areas identified by the College and national ratings to be of growing interest to future students: health sciences, business and technology, liberal arts core curriculum, and professional certificate programs. Faculty have been asked to put together proposals in these four areas to present to the Board of See **CASEY**, page 2



Recent graduates celebrate outside Klitzberg Pavilion and the Gill Center after McDaniel's 148th Commencement on May 19, 2018. (Atticus Rice / McDaniel Free Press).

Undergrad and grad commencement ceremonies to be separate

Emma Carter
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Undergraduate and graduate students will, for the first time, graduate in different ceremonies this spring.

The graduate commencement ceremony will be held at 9 a.m. at the Gill Center on Saturday, May 25, and undergraduates will follow at 3 p.m.

This change was prompted by the recent renovations to the Gill Center's ground level, where the stage and extra seating used for graduation ceremonies were stored prior to the building's updates. With the storage space now filled with classrooms, and limited room for storing graduation equipment, the number of available seats for graduates and their guests has dropped.

"We had to put faculty on the floor [as opposed to on the stage], and we lost the bleacher seats," said Barbara Clinton, executive assistant

to Provost and Dean of Faculty Julia Jasken. "So that's 600 seats that we lost."

School officials made the decision to accommodate the number of graduates and attendees by splitting the ceremonies, which allows for a significant increase in space at each ceremony. This year, graduating students are allowed up to eight tickets, an increase from last year's six.

"When you graduate, you want your family there," said Clinton.

Since the number of graduate students is lower than undergraduates, school officials expect the Gill Center to clear quickly after the ceremony — this being the reason for their morning time slot. Though a number of graduate students opt not to attend their graduation, Acting Dean of Student Affairs Liz Towle suspects holding a separate graduate ceremony could change this.

"They might realize it's not the See **CEREMONIES**, page 2



President Casey talks academic changes, social media, Saturday protest

CASEY, from page 1

Trustees at their May meeting.

The suspensions allow for such reinvestments to take place in lieu of a tuition increase, said Casey.

Faculty in departments potentially impacted by STGPV recommendations were given 30 days in mid-January to respond to recommendations.

"Some of the programs came back and said 'this is how we'll retool,'" said Casey.

This 30-day period follows guidelines set out by the American Association of University Professors. The president and provost were unable to comment during this period.

AAUP guidelines also inform how colleges should go about assessing programs and what happens with faculty in affected programs. According to Casey, these guidelines allow for programs to be eliminated for either financial issues or educational consideration reasons. This process falls under the latter category.

"This is not a budget cut," said Casey, "it's a budget reconsideration."

Faculty in affected programs have different pathways for support from the College, though ultimately jobs will be lost.

"It's different in each major because of the teach-out plan," said Casey. "There is no one particular model."

While no one will be asked to leave their post at the end of this spring semester, some will be losing their positions earlier than others, depending on how many faculty members it takes to allow current students to finish their program.

"The College is going to provide support for [affected faculty] who

are going on the job market," Casey said. "We're going to be as humane as possible."

Faculty were first informed of the process at the end of last academic year in May and again in Casey's state of the College address to the faculty in August.

The perceived hastiness of the process can be explained by the goal of the review. Rather than look at different departments on a rolling basis — an always ongoing process —, the College examined every department and program in one condensed 8-month period.

Many students and alumni have expressed frustration over a lack of transparency, mainly on social media.

"I think we have some cultural differences between a couple of words," said Casey. "There's a critical need for confidentiality when it comes to [decisions like these]."

According to Casey, most of the data used in this process falls under FERPA — federal laws that control access to educational records and information — making it hard to be as forthcoming as some community members may want.

"I can't imagine a process in which students would be sitting at a table looking at that data," Casey said.

Because of the sensitivity of the data, only College administrators, faculty, and the Board were privy to the data involved in the process.

On Wednesday, Feb. 20, Casey posted a status on his Facebook page with the intent to dispel misinformation about the academic changes.

"Truth is really important to me," he said. "There were so many faults, things being said. I probably made a foolish mistake," said Casey of posting the lengthy status that

urged his Facebook friends and followers to disregard unconfirmed information spread on social media.

Casey said his hopes were to have a reasoned conversation with his followers — mostly students and alumni — about the academic reviews, but was surprised when many of the comments on his status were charged and accusatory.

These interactions contributed to a change in Casey's outlook on using social media to communicate with the McDaniel community. Despite several well-thought out responses and questions from other Facebook users, he said, he no longer believes social media is a viable platform for serious discussion.

"I think we're not in that era anymore," Casey said.

Some students and alumni on Facebook called for Casey to step down as president of the College. With such significant changes to the school's programs, he said he realizes that he is the figure that people associate with the academic review process.

"It's my responsibility to be the face of that," he said.

In spite of the backlash to his post, however, he said some good did come from the experience.

"I deeply appreciated all that I learned and exchanged," he said.

Casey's removal from office is unlikely, as he has full support from the Board of Trustees.

A group of students and alumni protested outside the Feb. 23 Board meeting in an attempt to read and distribute testimony to Board members.

"A group of students had already contacted me and stated publicly that they had no reason to believe that the information they sent me was being delivered to the Board," said Casey. "This isn't true, it all went to the Board."

According to Casey, the Board had no interest in testimony.

"In my nine years, I've never heard of a group addressing the Board," he said.

Being a private college, all Board meetings and their contents are private. Three alumni, three faculty, and three students act as visitors to the Board and, in unusual fashion, were present for Saturday's vote.

Casey instructed Campus Safety officers, who were guarding the door to McDaniel Lounge where the meeting took place, to keep the peace. At one point, noise issues resulted in officers pushing the protesters further back from the door.

When students began filming the meeting from the window, Campus Safety put up a black cloth to block the view. Casey explained that salaries and college costs were being discussed.

"I would hate for someone's name and salary to end up on a video with 4,000 hits," he said.

The Board's decision has garnered national attention since it went public Saturday night. One specific petition, titled "Open Letter in Support of Faculty in Art History, Religious Studies, French, German, Music, Latin, and Deaf Education at McDaniel College," had 826 signatures the morning of Tuesday, Feb. 26, ranging from high school students to alumni to professors at McDaniel and other institutions.

Casey would rather people look toward the future than the past, however.

"I wish the people who like to turn back the clock had an idea about what the real issue here is, which is the fact that institutions like ours have fewer resources," he said. "I haven't seen a solution. I'm looking for someone who actually has an idea about this."

He noted that in all his recent time spent on social media, he made sure to keep an eye out for solutions to the underlying issues.

"No one is in disagreement that excellent teaching, life-changing teaching, has occurred in these programs," he said.

Board votes to suspend art history, religious studies, French, German, and music majors

SUSPENSION, from page 1

will be reinvested to strengthen other academic programs.

"This is not a budget cut," said the email, citing the need to meet the developments of the twenty-first century.

The future of faculty in the affected programs is unclear.

"Because of our commitment that all students in an affected major can graduate with their intended degree, existing faculty may continue to teach in the affected programs of study for a number of years," Casey's email said. "The College is closely following American Association of University Professors

(AAUP) guidelines."

The faculty committee created last summer reviewed data from a ten-year span that represented student behavior, said the email.

"The review included data that related to student enrollments; student retention (including within a major); information about leaves of absences and withdraws; student yield rates; and prospective student pipeline and yield information from admissions," it said.

Casey concluded his email by thanking the student body for being a part of the College's history and positioning the College for future success.

Undergrad and grad commencement ceremonies to be separate

CEREMONIES, from page 1

length of the whole [combined] ceremony," said Towle, noting that graduate students will no longer have to attend a ceremony that lasts several hours.

While it is difficult to gauge attendance for the graduate commencement — as there is no precedent for an exclusive graduate ceremony — the undergraduate ceremony's 3,000 seats are still expected to be filled, according to Clinton.

Despite the overarching split, however, differences between the two ceremonies will be minimal. Both will follow the same format, and faculty will attend both ceremonies.

An additional change to graduation weekend activities will affect the Senior Investiture and Honors Convocation the night before commencement: instead of being held in the Gill Center as in previous years, it will take place in Alumni Hall.

"Everybody's closer," said Towle of the switch. Before this year, she said, the Gill Center had an ample amount of extra seats with the few hundred who attended, and Alumni Hall will be more comfortable.

Both ceremonies will be live-streamed.

The administration is looking forward to these changes.

"I think this will be fantastic for everybody," said Clinton.

Have opinions on the recent program changes?

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English department proposes new writing and publishing major

Marya Kuratova
Copy & Co-Features Editor

Last week, English department faculty approved the final draft of a new writing and publishing major.

The English department first started exploring the possibility of such a major in the fall of 2016 by conducting focus groups to discover whether students – both current English majors and those from other departments – would have an interest in a writing major. Since then, faculty have also taken into consideration alumni feedback and the self-designed majors of recent students who wanted to focus their course work more on writing than literature, which is the focus of the current major.

“You get feelings from talking to students over time that we needed to keep thinking about whether it would be more to the point to have a robust writing program,” said Robert Kachur, Ph.D., the main professor shepherding the major’s drafting process. “Because at first we just expanded the writing minor to have more choices, but then as we were looking towards the future, what we found is that there’s interest in an actual major.”

Now the draft is ready to present to the Curriculum and Academic Planning Committees for approval, the next step in the process. The 48-credit major will feature three tracks: creative, professional, and digital writing. Several existing English courses will be restructured and renamed to fit the new tracks,



(Marya Kuratova / McDaniel Free Press).

along with the addition of a few new classes. The major will also require an experiential learning credit, which can either be satisfied through an internship or certification as a tutor in the Writing Center. Students will also be required to take two literature classes.

“It’s a real labor of love. We all have a lot going on and creating a new major is a lot of work, but there’s a lot of motivation, and everybody is on board,” said Kachur. “We’re really excited about it. Even the folks who won’t teach in it much are still very supportive. They’ve been so thoughtful in helping us.”

The English department does not expect this new major to be affected by the recent departmental changes. According to the draft of the proposed major, the program evaluation from the STGPV encouraged the department to work towards positive

institutional investments.

“This new major will not require additional faculty to support it,” the draft states. “Future hires, should we be lucky enough to justify them, would be contributors to this major, but we can deliver it with those we have on board, now.”

Faculty are also hoping the new major will help distinguish McDaniel from other colleges that pride themselves in their writing programs.

“Colleges large and small are replete with majors in creative writing; however, our proposal is to integrate creative writing alongside experience in design and professional writing, as well as to ensure that students develop the rhetorical awareness to adapt to new writing situations,” the draft says. “Students seeking a major in creative writing would, at McDaniel College, need to learn something about the tools and instruments that

creative writers use to get their work out to the world; students seeking to focus on professional writing would nonetheless need to work on their creative chops.”

Once the major is approved by the necessary committees, the department will continue to tune in to student feedback and hold more focus groups.

“We really want to know what students really want, so we’re going to get a lot of data in the first three to four years,” said Kachur. “We’re going to keep an eye on it the next few years looking at the data, seeing what people are registering for, [and] tweaking along the way as well.”

It is projected that the new writing and publishing major will be available to students beginning in Fall 2020.

AVI Fresh introduced as College’s ‘culinary services’ provider

Atticus Rice
Co-Editor-in-Chief

The company, part of AVI Foodsystems, Inc., was introduced to the undergraduate student body in a Jan. 27 email, the day of spring semester move in.

“We are excited to kick off the spring semester by introducing our dynamic and fresh new dining program through McDaniel Culinary Services,” the email read.

“We believe customer engagement is very important to a successful program,” said Kevin Laster, resident director from AVI at McDaniel.

Students may now text 410-449-7690 to have on-campus managers directly answer their questions. All phone numbers remain anonymous.

“On-going changes to the program should be driven by student’s needs,” said Laster. “In order for us to be successful, we need positive and constructive feedback from our guests. We provided many avenues for them to accomplish this.”

Casey’s Corner now opens at

7:30 a.m. on weekdays under AVI Fresh. Sodexo, the College’s former dining services provider, started opening Casey’s at 9 a.m. on weekdays.

The on-campus Starbucks brewer has added hot breakfast sandwiches, JeannieBird Baking Company bakery items, and their signature Fresh To Go sandwiches and salads.

Englar Dining Hall, which is keeping its same hours and prices, has added fresh rotisserie meats, fresh-made burgers, a new fusion cooked-to-order station, and fresh ground peanut butter, according to Laster. A partnership with Furnace Hills Coffee Co. now supplies the coffee.

Pub has a partially new menu that maintains classics like cheesesteaks, quesadillas, sandwiches, and chicken tenders, and pairs them with new features like loaded tacos–tater tot nachos–, flatbread pizza, and a new late night menu (available after 8:30 p.m.) with street tacos, breakfast sandwiches, and mac ‘n’ cheese bites.

Pub is open weekdays 11 a.m. –

12 a.m. and weekends 6 p.m. – 12 p.m. Green & Go shares the same hours.

Green & Go now offers a selection of Fresh to Go sandwiches and salads, like Casey’s Corner, and features a new partnership with Hershey’s ice cream with a new shake machine.

New TV screens have also appeared to showcase menus in dining locations.

Renovations in Pub and Klitzberg Pavilion are both ongoing, said Laster. He said AVI plans on holding several focus groups to involve student input.

Though feedback has been generally positive among campus conversations, some concerned parents have taken to the McDaniel-monitored Facebook groups to voice some concerns.

“We are having an issue with the new food supplier,” reads a Feb. 6 post from Angela Cimino. “They no longer have carb counts available for the food, which is problematic for students with diabetes. Diabetics need to count carbs in order to know how much insulin to give for the food they eat.”

A few other parents voiced similar concerns over a lack of ingredients lists available to students.

“Having a similar issue with my daughter who gets food triggered migraines,” wrote Lois Person. “They don’t post the ingredients.”

Laster also contributed to the post, shedding some light on the situation.

“Nutritional information is vital and we’re working quickly to get this information communicated to our guests for them to make educated decisions,” he wrote. “Whenever a transition occurs to a new provider, there is often a short window before all of our systems are fully integrated and we thank you for your patience as we work out these details.”

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McComics

Comics continue

With the second print issue of the semester upon us, it is time for the second batch of McComics! This week's theme was love, and below you will see comics from Jakob Katzen, Nathan Wright, Hannah Maxwell, and Clint Wright.

Editors' notes:

The images and content are used for educational purposes in a comedic manner that reflects satire and/or parody. Use of copyrighted images complies with the Best Practices of Fair Use as described by the Center for Media and Social Impact at American University.

Problems of the Basic



ARTIST: HANNAH MAXWELL

MYTH TAKEN

BY NATHAN WRIGHT



Light My Fire

Clint Wright



WATCH AND LEARN HOW IT'S DONE

BY JAKOB KATZEN



Lifting the world

Gunnar Ward
Sports Editor

Carroll County's Miles Taylor exploded in popularity as a star in the world of sports earlier this month after a video was posted on Instagram of the lifter lifting two times his body weight with a 200-pound deadlift, despite only weighing 99 pounds.

An incredible feat in itself, Taylor does it all while defeating cerebral palsy. However, the most important lift Taylor makes is by lifting others up and encouraging the world that no one is limited by a disability.

"We all have some sort of disability whether it be mental or physical," Taylor said. "But we all have the abilities to overcome it and inspiring people to go out and do the best they can with a full heart is what it is all about."

Since the video of Taylor launched online, it has collected 593,116 views on Taylor's personal account, @smiles_taylor, and has been republished by ESPN, raking in 1,209,669 views. In addition, Taylor received shout outs from NFL star J.J. Watt, legendary bodybuilder Arnold Schwarzenegger, and many more.

"I have a new hero, you inspire me," Schwarzenegger commented after re-posting Taylor's video.

The journey to sports stardom and inspiring millions began locally in Westminster.

Taylor has been interested in athletics all his life. Connecting with sports in school was the segue into lifting and the development of a close friendship Taylor has with his current trainer Nicolai Myers.

"We have been friends for so many years now, we went to middle school and high school together," Taylor said. "He knew I was a very



Nicolai Myers and Miles Taylor at NEVERsate in Westminster, Md. (Gunnar Ward / McDaniel Free Press).

competitive person and I love sports so he passed me a medicine ball and I picked it up and the rest is history."

Myers would go on to serve in

the U.S. Army, but since then the duo has reconnected and currently train at NEVERsate Athletics in between Eldersburg and Westminster.

The sport of powerlifting or strongman competition may be an individual performance but is most definitely a team sport. This rings true at NEVER Athletics.

"[NEVERsate] is an atmosphere you will not find in any other gym," Myers said. "It is probably one of the most supportive atmospheres in any gym you will ever find."

With around 30 members, NEVERsate is built on a tight-knit community that is focused on everyone becoming better.

"The one thing we always say is 'become comfortable with the uncomfortable,'" Taylor said. "Having people to encourage you and tell you straight up when you are doing something wrong is something I take to heart."

With the foundation set, a 200-pound deadlift achieved, and millions inspired across the world, local support has been just as active as anywhere else in the world.

One of the largest areas of support comes from Westminster High School, which Taylor and Myers both attended. While attending the school, Taylor acted as the football team manager and one of their biggest athletics supporters.

"Miles is a very dedicated person. He always supported the team during games, even after graduation he showed up to the games and helped players on the sidelines,"

sophomore and fellow Westminster High School alum Garrett Vanderwalk said. "I am so happy for him. He deserves all of the attention he is getting and it is an honor to have been on the same team as him."

Often seen wearing a Westminster High School beanie, Taylor has immense pride in his school and community.

"I supported them for so many years and now they are supporting me," Taylor said. "It is just amazing to represent my town and show the world what this area means to me."

Along the journey from a medicine ball to a 200-pound deadlift, failure is inevitable. However, Myers and Taylor recognize that to get better one has to enjoy any bumps that come along the way and laugh it off.

"If you can't laugh, especially at yourself, life is going to be hard," Myers said.

Now showing the world feats of athleticism and strength, the weight being moved is second in strength to that of the friendship that Taylor and Myers have formed since their shared time in school.

"I will push him or bump him and [Taylor] will turn around and hit me as hard as he can," Myers said. "We are always joking around."

The relationship between the two has outreached a simple friendship. "[Myers] is like a big brother to me," Taylor said.

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A review of 'Velvet Buzzsaw'

Emma Driban
Contributor

"We peddle perception, thin as a bubble."

"Velvet Buzzsaw" (2019), written and directed by Dan Gilroy, is a playground for postmodern anxieties. This satirical horror embodies what philosopher Jean Baudrillard refers to as the breakdown between reality and fiction, in this case the breakdown between life and art.

Taking place in the L.A. art scene, this film pokes fun at itself with over-exaggerated characters, playful music, and well-planned camerawork. The characters are more like loathsome caricatures of art critics, gallery owners, and artists, with inane names like Morf Vandewalt (Jake Gyllenhaal), Rhodora Haze (Rene Russo), and Coco (Natalia Dyer). Director Gilroy's disdain for the art world is clear as we watch the characters squabble with each other, not caring who they stab in the back as they attempt to claw their way to the top of the food chain. The movie shifts, however, after Josephina (Zawe Ashton), protégé to gallerist Rhodora Haze, discovers a treasure trove of intriguingly dark paintings after one of her neighbors dies. Ignoring his wishes to have all of the art destroyed, Josephina takes it all and shows it to the highly-influential art critic Morf, who confirms her suspicion that she has come across a major find. The mysterious artist, Ventril Dease, rockets to posthumous fame as each character fights to get the right to display his unusual and provocative oil paintings.

These "mesmeric" paintings smear the boundary between life and art in more than one way. As Morf obsessively uncovers the history of the unstable artist, he learns that

Dease literally put himself into his art, using his own blood to create the reddish-black hues. Furthermore, to say the paintings bring their subjects to life would be an understatement. Moving faces, reaching arms, and real flames break through the canvas, weakening the separation between art and life. This happens again, when we see Rhodora unintentionally recreate the scene of one of the paintings she had hanging in her house. All of this plays into Baudrillard's philosophy of the breakdown between reality and fiction, as well as the anti-mimetic belief that life imitates art, that the image precedes and determines the "real."

Dease's work is not the only art in "Velvet Buzzsaw" that goes along with postmodern thought. All of the art is claimed to be reality-altering, from Hoboman (a humanoid robotic statue) and a life size model of a family relaxing in their family room to a soundproof room with whale noises and Sphere (a metal sphere with different holes with which the audience can interact). In addition, the camerawork for the movie highlights the postmodern desire to be seen in a particular, idealistic way. The way characters are shown makes it seem as though they are always being watched, whether by the art, other people, or even the graffiti eyes on the side of the building, which we see at one point. Just like in real life, the characters' personalities and facades are as carefully crafted as the works of art in their galleries. For the most part, these characters are all pretentious, self-absorbed, megalomaniacs who care only about how they are perceived by their peers and their status in the art world, the film's prominent setting.

The venue for "Velvet Buzzsaw,"

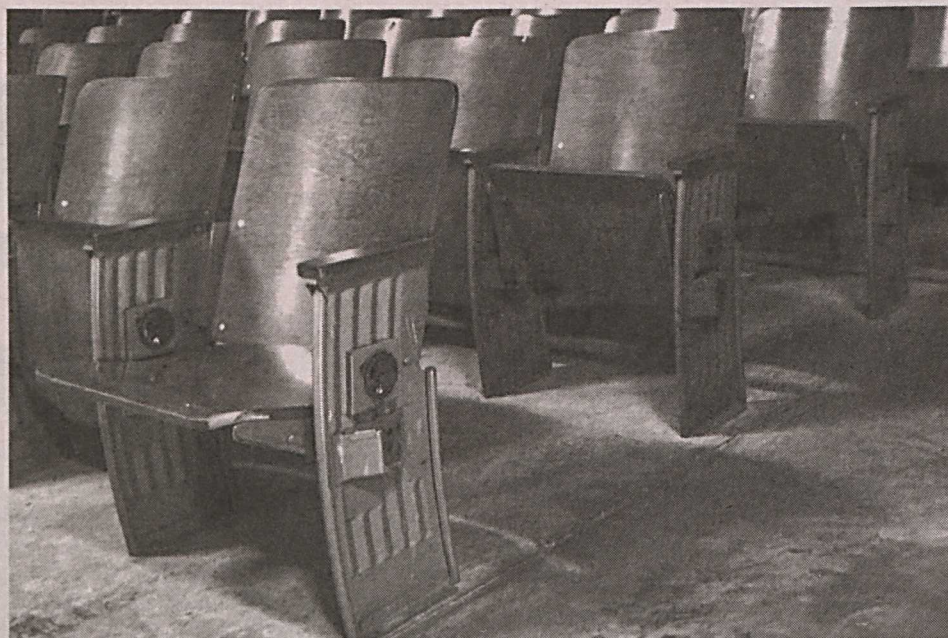


Photo courtesy of Pixabay user coltsfan.

the L.A. art scene, though satirical, is rather interesting and different for a horror flick. There are some similarities to another film directed by Gilroy, "Nightcrawler" (2014), which provides a satirical view of the grisly world of a cameraman who becomes increasingly obsessed with getting the perfect shot. In both, viewers see the darker side of media, be it the news or art, with main characters, portrayed in both by Jake Gyllenhaal, that slowly devolve into madness. As stated by Emily Yoshida of Vulture, an entertainment news source, "Writer and director Dan Gilroy is drawing from the same well of a bitter, morally compromised Los Angeles that he did for 2014's Nightcrawler, but Velvet Buzzsaw, as gleaming and sun-drenched as Nightcrawler is dark, is even more of an invective, and even more operatically heightened."

The unique setting does not prevent "Velvet Buzzsaw" from including some standard horror movie tropes, such as jump scares, a vengeful spirit of sorts, moving paintings, the no coverage trope,

and more. Though these tropes can be tired, this film breathes life into them. With help from the distinct setting, the jumps between characters, and the dedicated performances of the actors, suspense builds, which allows viewers to forgive some of the clichés.

"Velvet Buzzsaw," full of betrayal, mockery, and mental breakdowns, has had mixed reviews. From Glenn Kenny's glowing NYT Critic's Pick assessment of its "confident storytelling and bravura acting" to Huffington Post's Priscilla Frank and Matthew Jacob's more negative take on its damaging portrayal of the art world and "lack of originality," the film has elicited a divisive response from viewers. This begs the question, is it worth watching? Averaging the scores given by Bloody Disgusting, IMDb, MetaCritic, Rotten Tomatoes, Letterboxd, and Google Users, the film receives about 61.67%. Personally, I enjoyed the film, but would give it 7.5/10.

'Compulsory Measures'

Jedidiah Fowler
Contributor

This winter, the McDaniel College Rice Gallery holds an exhibit centering around the theme of obsessive compulsiveness in visual art. The exhibit, called "Compulsory Measures," explores the process of quieting one's mind and dealing with social anxiety by means of obsessive compulsive behavior. Curated by Reni Gower, the exhibit displays works of pattern, symmetry, layers, and more. Though the body of works is diverse in style and process, the one thing they all have in common is the amount of time put into each piece. At the gallery opening, Gower stated that all of the works aim to emphasize ritual, process, system, and meditation. Many of the pieces involve painstaking processes of layering and precision, emphasizing the concepts of obsessive compulsion.

Many of the artists exhibited in "Compulsory Measures" take the theme to an even deeper level. Jorge Benitez, for example, plays with perspective by painting images of impossible architecture. Gower explained how Benitez's work explores his compulsion to examine the state of the world and how things came to be. Pushing that topic, artist Joan

Elliot's work, comprised of oil and graphite on canvas covered panel, features complicated patterns woven together into perfect symmetry. Gower explained that as Elliot's reflection on the quest and ultimate failure to attain the perfection of God.

One of the more eye-catching pieces at the exhibit is Kristy Deetz' Reciprocity of Fold: a unique work comprised of acrylic on cotton scarf mounted on cotton canvas. From a few feet away, this piece simply looks like a wrinkled sheet hanging

on the wall, however, as one steps closer, it quickly becomes clear that this is not a sheet at all, but in fact a painstakingly patterned painting designed to look like wrinkled cloth. Gower described this type of painting as "Trompe-l'œil" or fooling of the eye. She also explained how Deetz sought to imprint herself in her work, following the theme of compulsion. Deetz has two of these on display in the exhibit—both truly a marvel to behold.

As a special treat, McDaniel's very own art professor Steven Pearson is featured in "Compulsory Measures." His pieces are composed of micron on layered duralar. Each

layer holds a different image, all of which work together to create the piece as a whole. Gower described his pieces as a deep inward looking which displays his own personal history as well as a focus and exploration of contemporary news.

Overall, "Compulsory Measures" is a well-organized and gripping exhibit that provides fresh insight and a new perspective on obsessive compulsion and how it can lead people to a further understanding of both the world and their inner battles. It features many talented artists and their intriguing pieces. It is well worth a look inside before its closing on March 1.

Upcoming events in Arts & Culture

Common Ground on the Hill presents Blues Master Guy Davis

Saturday, March 2, 7:30 p.m.
Carroll County Arts Center

Guest Artists Lecture: Clarissa Gregory and Jimmy Joe Roche

Monday, March 4, 4:30 p.m.
Room 104, Peterson Hall

McDaniel College Theatre presents "Clybourne Park"

Wednesday, March 6-Saturday,
March 9, 7:30 p.m.
WMC Alumni Hall

Art and Art History Honors Exhibition: "Rising Tides"

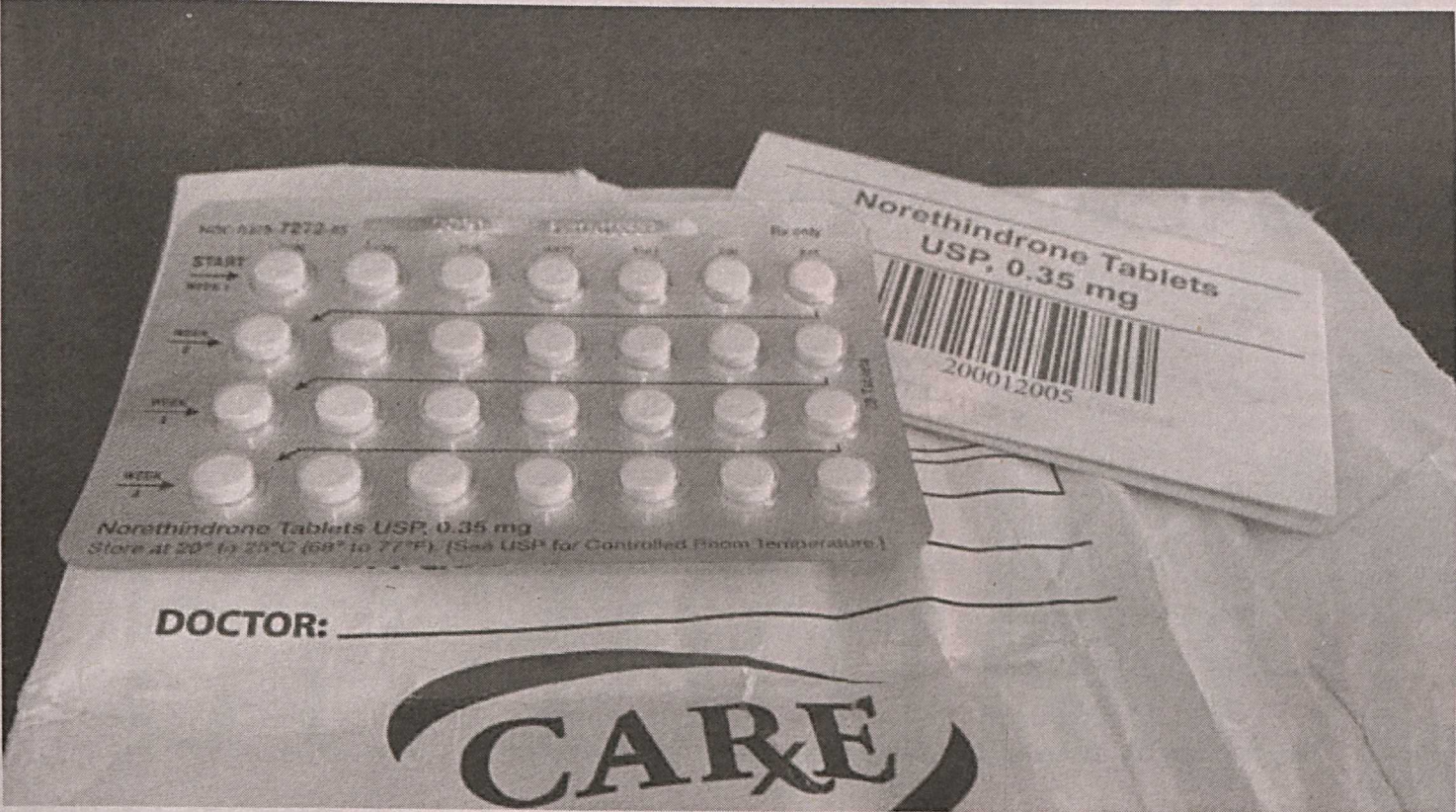
March 7-March 22
Rice Gallery, Peterson Hall

Chamber Music on the Hill presents "By George! By Ira! By Gershwin!"

Sunday, March 10, 3 p.m.
Carroll Community College

The Kathryn E. Wentz Juried Undergraduate Exhibition

March 26-April 8
Rice Gallery, Peterson Hall



Some more recent birth control brands do not feature the week of placebo pills. (Emma Carter / McDaniel Free Press).

A harder pill to swallow: IUDs should be the preferred form of birth control

Marya Kuratova
Copy & Co-Features Editor

Most women who seek birth control, whether as a response to heavy and painful periods or as a contraceptive to have safer and more enjoyable sex, are familiar with the standard pack of oral contraceptives – three weeks of medicated pills followed by a week of placebo pills to simulate the body’s natural cycle. However, the shocking reality is that women have been incorrectly instructed to take the pill for over 60 years. The popular belief is that a regular 28-day pack of oral contraceptives contains seven placebo pills to give the body a chance to reset and menstruate. Yet there is no medical or scientific backing for the placebo pills.

In fact, taking a week’s worth of sugar pills decreases the medicine’s effectiveness and can increase the likelihood of unwanted pregnancy, as a fall in hormone levels can stimulate ovulation. What has previously been deemed as menstruation during the sugar pill week is actually withdrawal bleeding as the body is shocked without the drug it has come to rely on.

And we have a man to thank for all this. In the 1950s, gynecologist John Rock joined the team of scientists working on developing the first oral contraceptive. They chose him to help advertise the drug and convince people it was safe because he was handsome, well-liked, respected, and Catholic.

At this time, the Catholic church was largely opposed to the idea of contraceptives. Rock knew that gaining the Pope’s approval was crucial in order to go forward with selling the drug to the public. So he de-

cided to make it seem more natural by mimicking a woman’s monthly cycle. When pitching the idea to the church, he explained that women would take the medicine for 21 days, stop for a few days to have their periods, then start with the hormones again.

For decades, women have been bleeding and suffering unnecessarily just to please one man in Rome. We have compromised our mental and physical health and decreased the medicine’s effectiveness just to appear “natural.” To add insult to injury, the Pope didn’t even approve the pill! Yet this practice was still adopted.

Last month, the British National Health Service issued new guidelines for oral contraceptives, stating that the week-long break was not necessary. And sure, women can change the way they take the pill to start skipping the placebo week, now that they know it is not medically-backed.

But the history of the pill is a lot darker than most of us realize, which makes supporting this form of contraceptive even more problematic. When first testing the effectiveness of orally-consumed hormones to prevent unwanted pregnancies, Rock and his team engaged in a variety of ethically concerning practices. They downplayed the small number of participants in their studies and used the number of periods that participants experienced as a measurement of success to make their research appear more legitimate. They experimented in insane asylums when first determining the safety of this contraceptive and exploited lower-class women of color for their research. And they emphasized how “natural” the pill was, in order to encourage more doctors

to feel comfortable prescribing it, even if they didn’t fully understand how it worked.

So I encourage you to consider other forms of birth control.

For instance, the IUD, an intrauterine device, was approved by the FDA in 1968. While it is easy to forget to take the pill (made even more dangerous with the placebo week), the IUD is a more stable and long-acting form of contraceptive, since one insertion is effective for up to 12 years, depending on the brand.

The copper IUD can make periods more painful and heavy, but hormonal forms of the IUD can decrease the effects of PMS and even eliminate a woman’s period altogether. And since we do not, in fact, need a period to be healthy, why would we want to bleed at all?

Of course, as with all medical devices, the IUD can bring about side effects, but women have reported significantly fewer concerns than with the pill. This comes as no surprise since the pill contains a higher dose of hormones with the expectation that it will pass through your body each day, while hormonal IUDs slowly release small amounts over the years.

Millions of women have turned to this form of birth control in recent years. According to the Guttmacher Institute, the popularity of IUDs is steadily increasing: “In 2014, about 14% of women using a contraceptive relied on a long-acting reversible contraceptive method, or LARC (12% used the IUD and 3% used the implant). This follows a trend in increasing proportions of women using LARCs, from 2% in 2002 to 6% in 2007 and 9% in 2009.”

So next time you meet with your gynecologist, make sure to ask about your contraceptive options. Don’t be afraid to ask follow-up questions. You deserve to have control over your body – not some man from the 1900s!

McDaniel Compliments

I love how confident and well-spoken Jordan Davis is. He inspires me to work on being more assertive.

Robert J. Trader is one of my favorite professors. He’s so personable and just makes learning fun and easy. Everyone should take a class with him!

Elise Simons, you are so funny! You always keep me on my toes and I love laughing with you.

Brenna Gutshall’s outfit yesterday was the bomb, she has such a great sense of fashion.

Isabella Lawbaugh is so smart and articulate! I don’t really know her that well, but she always participates in class, which is awesome.

Shout out to Progressive Student Union - McDaniel College for leading our campus in a fight towards preserving the liberal arts! Jake Fine and Sylvan Greyson are doing amazing jobs standing up for what’s right. You guys inspire me. Please keep us updated on what we can do to help!

I know things are hard right now, but Ben Michaels you are trying so hard and putting in so much effort and I really appreciate you. You do so much for this school and our theatre department.

I really love and miss Kara Coffman.

Madrigals is great this semester! Shout out to Nailah, Bryant, and Rama for being amazingly talented! And all our returning members! We all sound amazing.

Mikey Pitts and Elise Simons are the best friends anyone could hope for and I’m grateful for them.

Want to brighten someone’s day? Need a way to fulfill your random act of kindness for the day? Message *Dean McDaniel Compliments* on Facebook with a compliment, and we’ll post it anonymously for you. Here to spread some happiness on the Hill, we’ll make sure your friend, classmate, or professor has the chance to smile and feel appreciated. Your compliment could be featured in the next issue of the *Free Press*!

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The McDaniel Free Press

Volume 22, Issue 10 | March 14, 2019

INSIDE: The good, the bad, and the Oscars (pg. 2) | McComics (pg. 2) | Theatre's 'Clyborne Park' a hit (pg. 4)

PSU, SGA hold town hall meeting about academic changes

Emma Carter
Co-Editor-in-Chief

On Wednesday, March 6, McDaniel's Progressive Student Union and SGA held a town hall meeting in Decker Auditorium to discuss the recently-announced academic changes, which include the suspension of the art history, religious studies, French, German, and music majors, as well as minors in music and German, and the deaf studies graduate program.

About 30 audience members were present, including students, staff, and administrators. President Casey and Provost Jasken did not attend, as they received the invitation with too short of a notice, according to PSU. The discussion was moderated by senior Atticus Rice.

The town hall began with a presentation by PSU members senior Monica McInerney and sophomore Khalil Edwards. Their aim was to explain the process and results of the academic restructuring and to offer PSU's comments on the changes.

Edwards said he thought emails that Casey and other College administrators sent to the student body throughout the fall and early spring — which included surveys for gathering student input on current and potential future academic programs, as well as an introduction to the restructuring in September and an update in January — did not provide enough detail about the process.

"The emails felt a little bit brief," he said. "They didn't get into the mechanisms behind why these decisions [regarding the need for academic changes] were made." Edwards and McInerney also criticized what they said was the lack of a clear time frame in these emails that outlined the restructuring process.

Casey sent an email to the McDaniel community providing a link to a timeline of the process on Feb. 28 after the Board of Trustees voted to suspend the programs on Feb. 23.

The speakers also expressed their concerns about losing classes that address African studies that are offered by the affected departments, as well as about the loss of minority faculty in those departments.

McInerney and Edwards concluded with talk about future actions they believe the College should take regarding academic changes — such as avoiding following popular higher education trends in order to sidestep market saturation — as well as other measures it could have taken instead of suspending certain majors and minors.

"We realize the decision has



Julie Dobrow, director of the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies and senior fellow at Tufts University, answers questions after her Ridington Lecture on Emily Dickinson on Tues., March 12. (Marya Kuratova / McDaniel Free Press)

been made, but it's important to talk about other decisions that could have been made," said Edwards.

This opened the discussion with audience members. One recurring topic was the perceived lack of transparency from the College about its academic restructuring process.

PSU President Sylvan Greyson said she had wanted the College to provide students with more information about what was going on during the departmental evaluations. This was a factor in launching PSU's calls for testimonies about the threatened programs on the organization's Facebook page, as well as its protest at the Feb. 23 Board of Trustees meeting.

"I don't know what the alternative routes to participate [in the process] are," she said. "We made those routes out of necessity."

Audience members asked about student participation during the Board of Trustees meetings as well. Two to three students, who typically remain anonymous to the rest of the student body, are invited to the Board's meetings on a yearly basis.

Student audience members also brought forward their concerns about faculty in the affected departments: some wondered if there is still incentive for faculty to remain at the College and what would happen if professors left before their programs were phased out.

Janelle Holmboe, vice president of enrollment management, said that while she cannot speak for her colleagues, she does not anticipate faculty leaving. She cited the admiration and compassion students have for their professors as one of the reasons.

"We feel the same way about our students; we want to bring that energy," she said. Holmboe also said it is unlikely the College would not be able to find a professor to teach out the program if a faculty member did choose to leave.

PSU, SGA, and audience members dedicated a notable part of the town hall to the College's music See **TOWN HALL**, page 3

McDaniel Alert sent out false evacuation, 'stay in place' warnings

Atticus Rice
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Some members of the McDaniel community Thursday night received messages from the McDaniel Alert system warning of a threat to campus. The alert was in fact intended for Pima Community College, an institution in Tucson, Ariz.

Both colleges use Omnilert to host their alert systems.

According to Chief of Police and Director of Campus Safety Eric Immler, some subscribers of the McDaniel Alert system were also connected to that of Pima.

"We discovered that some of our community members who opted in to the system were also linked to a system for the Pima Community College," he said in an email to the Free Press Friday. "Omnilert has been able to remove the affected phone numbers we identified from the PCC alert system."

The first alert said there was a threat to Northwest Campus causing police activity, advising people to stay away and follow police instructions.

McDaniel does not have a Northwest Campus.

The second alert provided an update on the "Northwest Campus" that a search was in progress and for those in the area to continue following police instructions.

The third and final alert told people to shelter in place.

Following the series of alerts, Immler sent an email to the College explaining the situation and that they were in the process of figuring out what happened.

"Please be assured that there is no threat or emergency situation on campus," the email read. "We use a third party service that manages our emergency alert system and we are working with them to determine the issue and ensure that this does not happen again in the future."

McDaniel has been using Omnilert for more than five years, according to Immler. This is the first issue in that time period, he said.

"We are continuing to work through this with Omnilert to ensure our McDaniel Alert system remains effective for our community," wrote Immler in his email to the Free Press. "I thank those who were affected by this for their understanding and patience."

Some Facebook users in the group 2022: McDaniel Parents and Families posted and commented about the alerts Thursday night. Within an hour, Deputy Director of Campus Safety Adam Reid commented that there was no threat and that the issue was being resolved.

You may subscribe to or update your information with McDaniel Alert at mcdaniel.omnilert.net/subscriber.php. Questions should be directed to Campus Safety at 410-857-2202.

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McComics

Comics continue

With spring theoretically on the horizon, this week's comics from Nathan Wright, Clint Wright, and Olivia Culver are following the theme of "springtime" and can be read below.

Editors' note:

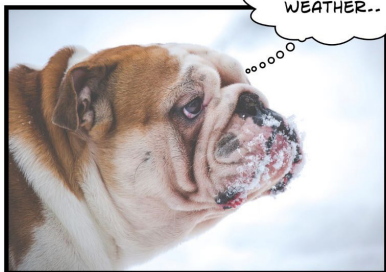
The images and content are used for educational purposes in a comedic manner that reflects satire and/or parody. Use of copyrighted images complies with the Best Practices of Fair Use as described by the Center for Media and Social Impact at American University.

OPEN SEASON



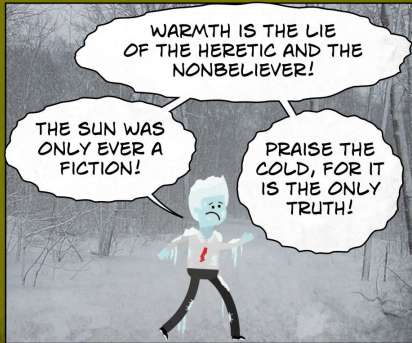
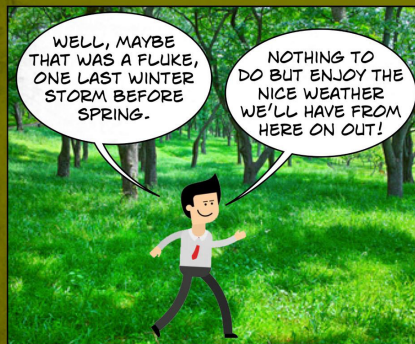
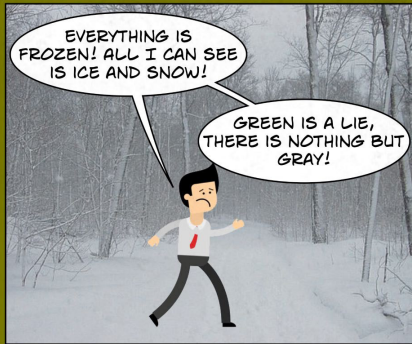
SPRING MOOD

OLIVIA CULVER



MYTH TAKEN

BY NATHAN WRIGHT



Commentary

The good, the bad, and the Oscars

Weston Funk Contributor

This Sunday, the 91st Academy Awards ceremony was held, and mistakes were made. Not mistakes in the sense of anything fixable, but mistakes nonetheless.

Mistake #1: Nominating “Bohemian Rhapsody” for anything at all.

I found this movie to be unbearable: the huge fake teeth, the truly dreadful performances, the Wayne’s World reference, that scene where Freddy Mercury hangs up on his wife because he cannot help but perform fellatio on a greasy looking trucker, all of it. To nominate the film for Best Picture is appalling, and not only because it’s actively bad at every turn. For something partially directed by a gay man, it’s shocking to see the film blame any and all problems Queen had on Freddy Mercury’s frequent predilection for

men. No, Rami Malek did NOT deserve Best Actor. If the academy wanted to reward someone for copying the mannerisms of a famous person, Christian Bale was right there! He did a better job of embodying Dick Cheney than Malek’s lip-syncing, faux-swallowing, teeth-sucking, stereotypically-gay-slang-spewing parody of a performance. Malik seems like an alright guy (barring the fact that he signed onto a film helmed by an [alleged] pedophile), but I’m sure he has a better performance in him when he stars in a competently made film down the line.

“Bohemian Rhapsody” also won the sound awards, which, fine. Those Queen songs sure sounded like Queen songs. “First Man” was robbed for its beautiful soundscape and cacophony of individually produced rocket ship screams.

The movie won for editing as well, even though it’s edited incompetently. Film critic Amy Nicholson suggests that this could be due to the fact that the film had to be assembled in the editing bay after Bryan Singer left the project

and an uncredited director took over, leaving the editor to create something close to coherent. I’d have preferred “BlacKKKlansman,” if only for using the editing techniques pioneered by “Birth of a Nation” to condemn the film and the people who embrace its message.

What Should’ve Won:

“BlacKKKlansman” (for Editing [but only for that one sequence])

“First Man” (for Sound Editing & Mixing)

Christian Bale or Bradley Cooper (for Best Actor)

Mistake #2: “Green Book”

Let me preface this by saying I believe “Green Book” is a movie with good intentions. Everyone’s mother and grandmother loved it (as long as they are white). It does have a few heartwarming scenes, and Peter Farrelly still knows how to make me laugh. I believe there’s more to Viggo Mortensen’s performance than most people acknowledge, it’s just buried under ten feet of Italian stereotypes. Mahershala Ali delivers a solid monologue.

That all said, it’s wild that, after See **OSCARS**, page 3



The Progressive Student Union and SGA held a town hall meeting on March 6 to discuss the College's recently-announced academic changes. (Emma Carter / McDaniel Free Press)

PSU, SGA hold town hall meeting about academic changes

TOWN HALL, from page 1
program as well.
“It’s not the same to have ensembles as it is to teach music as a discipline,” said Greyson, referring to the retention of activities like choir but the suspension of all music classes.
Music professor Margaret Boudreaux said the elimination of music classes was unexpected across the department, and that only having ensembles leaves nothing in the way of music for McDaniel students who do not already have instrumental or vocal experience. She also referenced the common idea that the arts are for the rich, as private musical lessons are an

expense not many can afford.
“I don’t want that to be the case at McDaniel,” she said.
Members of the audience were also worried about the future of the liberal arts at McDaniel. Several students asked how the College could remain a liberal arts school without the programs that are being suspended.
Associate Dean of Sophomore Students and Professor of Psychology Stephanie Madsen said the core of McDaniel’s liberal arts program is in its general education requirements.
“Our liberal arts are our general education plan. Every college does it differently. We are not losing in

most places, besides German and Latin, the ability to take classes in those areas,” she said. “That kind of synergy you get is still here.”
Members of PSU, SGA, and the College’s administration showed suspended.
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“Our liberal arts are our general education plan. Every college does it differently. We are not losing in most places, besides German and Latin, the ability to take classes in those areas,” she said. “That kind of synergy you get is still here.”
Members of PSU, SGA, and the College’s administration showed interest in the potential for more collaborative town hall meetings.
“How we work together to think about how to invest these dollars is really interesting,” said Holmboe.
At the conclusion of the town hall, PSU invited audience members on their way out to write on posters they had hung on the wall. These had prompts that included “incorporating greater transparency,” “alternatives,” and “other questions/ concerns.”
The student organization shared responses on their Facebook page later that evening.
Editor’s note: Free Press Co-Editor-in-Chief Atticus Rice moderated PSU and SGA’s town hall meeting on March 6. He was not involved in the editorial process of this article.

McDaniel Compliments

Ashley Fletcher inspires me to be my best self.

Thanks Tyler Elliott for all that you do to keep this place running.

Liv Lauer is so considerate. I love her.

Raquel Sobczak is so regal and elegant! I love her style.

Want to brighten someone’s day? Need a way to fulfill your random act of kindness for the day? Message *Dean McDaniel Compliments* on Facebook with a compliment, and we’ll post it anonymously for you. Here to spread some happiness on the Hill, we’ll make sure your friend, classmate, or professor has the chance to smile and feel appreciated. Your compliment could be featured in the next issue of the *Free Press*!

Read more articles at www.mcdanielfreepress.com

The good, the bad, and the Oscars

OSCARS, from page 2
the “Oscars So White” backlash, an openly racist movie can win Best Picture. I don’t have a problem with racist characters; I think “Three Billboards” was one of the best movies at last year’s awards. The fact is, “Green Book” condones much of Tony Lip’s racism and argues that some of it is beneficial. When Tony makes piano virtuoso Don Shirley listen to black music, or eat fried chicken, it is portrayed as helping the good doctor relate to his fellow African-Americans. Every time the N-word is used, even in the Deep South portion of the film, it is in reference to the white character.
Up until the last two minutes, Tony Lip only acts that his anger is in relation to the way people treat his companion. In truth, it is in relation to the way they treat Tony. The movie does point this out, but even in the climactic scene afterwards, this truth holds.
Shirley’s family has stated that the entire film is falsified, and the screenwriter (the real-life son of protagonist Tony) has tweeted Islamophobic lies, so awarding him Best Original Screenplay is a bit of an affront. I’m all for changing a true story (the man “BlackKKKlansman” depicts frequently went undercover at non-violent gatherings of African-Americans in order to allow the police to counteract their efforts for advancement), but cutting out black people from the making of “Green Book” is unforgivable when it’s supposed to be the journey of two

men, not just Tony. At least Nick Vallelonga’s next movie is about an aging pizza man.

What Should’ve Won:
Adam Driver (for Best Supporting Actor)
“First Reformed” or “The Favourite” (for Best Original Screenplay)
“BlackKKKlansman” (for Best Picture)
But don’t let me get you down; these awards still had their moments.

The Good:
Olivia Colman took home Best Actress for the delightfully weird and profane Yorgos Lanthimos film, “The Favourite.”
“Spider-Man: Into the Spideverse” won Best Animated Feature, blocking Disney’s umpteenth Oscar.
“Black Panther” won for Costume Design, Production Design, and Score.
“First Man” took home the Visual Effects award.
The Academy finally did the right thing and gave Spike Lee an Oscar.

The Overlooked:
Drew Goddard and Cynthia Erivo for “Bad Times at the El Royale”
Steve McQueen and Gillian Flynn for “Widows”
Ethan Hawke and Paul Schrader for “First Reformed”
Anton Yelchin (RIP) and Cory Finley for “Thoroughbreds”
Boots Riley and Lakeith Stanfield

for “Sorry to Bother You”
Daveed Diggs and Rafael Casal for “Blindspotting”
Toni Collete and Ari Aster for “Hereditary”
Jóhann Jóhannsson (RIP) and Nicolas Cage for “Mandy”
2018 was, as most years have been, great for movies. You just

have to look a little harder and take risks to find them. Awards season has never truly been about awarding the best or most original films, just the ones that are capital “I” Important. Let’s all just be thankful that “Bohemian Rhapsody” lost Best Picture.



Spring 2019 Editorial Staff

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‘Clybourne Park’ performs to a sold-out audience

Maddy Lee
Staff Reporter

“Clybourne Park,” a Pulitzer- and Tony-award winning play, was performed during the past week at McDaniel College. The show opened on March 6 and closed on March 9. Tickets were \$7 for general admissions and \$5 for students, alumni, seniors, and veterans.

The popularity of the show came as a pleasant surprise to the company. On the final night of the show, tickets sold out with twenty minutes still remaining until the curtains opened.

“The last night is usually pretty popular,” remarked Chris Shatzer, senior and non-major member of the Alphi Psi Omega National Theatre Honor Society, working the consession stand. “It’s everyone coming in for their last chance to see the show. I would say ‘Clybourne

Park’ overall [has been] a success.”

The ticket salesman -- Ethan Cortes -- also remarked on closing night’s large crowd. “It’s kind of intimidating,” he said, selling the next-to-last ticket.

Nevertheless, the show must go on. The many guests filed into Alumni Hall’s understage to watch. Many commented on the set -- a large depiction of a 1950s house, complete with staircase and exits to various rooms.

One guest, the mother of junior directors coming to see the show, said she was impressed with the set.

“It’s amazing how they do this. I have no idea how they built these things. I feel like I’m looking at a real house in somebody’s real life.”

The cast was composed of McDaniel students of various majors and minor. Half were inducted members of Alpha Psi

Omega. There were also several faculty and students involved in the technical side, forming the backbone of this performance. The Set Designer, Andrea Ball, has her M.F.A. in Scenic Design and is a current adjunct professor at McDaniel College. Her contributions are perhaps what made the intricacies of the set so impressive.

The mood of the show also relied heavily on its use of lighting and sound. Songs frequently came in and out as the energy required. The importance of “techies,” those volunteer students who work the lighting and soundboards, in this show cannot be understated. They ensure the show goes off without a hitch.

“The show went as well as to be expected,” said sophomore Anna Odell, light board operator, “It ran like any college production would. Rushed at the very end. Everyone thinks the show won’t be ready in time, then everything goes with just a few hiccups.”

The show is a two-act contrast between racist housing policies of the 1950s and gentrification in the modern era. The scenes captivated the audience with witty, fast dialogue, often interrupted by sudden bouts of intense emotion and conflict. The mood in the house was consistently rising and falling. For all the times the audience laughed, there were equal periods of somber silence.

“I feel as though the racial discussions with the play were very accurate,” said Jamar Mackell, McDaniel student and theatre fan. “The portrayal of a certain type of stereotype within a race makes me really believe and feel the tension between these characters.”

Some people doubted the effect of the themes on the audience. Yuli Marchman, McDaniel first-year student, said, “I actually liked it. I thought it was a good show about gentrification. I don’t know if everyone got that in the second act, but it wasn’t [the cast’s] fault. It’s a good show. People should go see it.”

News

Progressive Student Union remains active in wake of academic changes

Emma Carter
Co-Editor-in-Chief

On Saturday, Feb. 23, McDaniel’s Progressive Student Union gathered outside of McDaniel Lounge as the Board of Trustees met to vote on proposed academic changes. The Board ultimately voted for the suspension of art history, religious studies, French, German, and music majors, along with minors in music and German and the deaf studies graduate program.

Members of PSU, the self-described leftist campus group that backs various student interests, distributed pamphlets, which included testimonies from students and alumni about programs that were then rumored to be threatened, to individuals on the Board of Trustees as they entered the building.

Several students also held signs with phrases such as “please don’t stop the music,” demanding that certain academic programs be kept.

The student organization’s protest outside the meeting was an effort to display dissatisfaction with the academic restructuring process,

according to PSU President Sylvan Greyson.

“One of the things we wanted to do was give a physical impression of people who wanted there to be more accountability in the process and information about what was going on,” said the senior.

The group also prepared a statement regarding the academic changes that they had planned to read in the Trustees’ meeting, to which they had hoped to gain access. PSU was not permitted to enter, however.

Video surfaced on Facebook hours after the meeting that showed students chanting “let us speak” in front of McDaniel Lounge’s doors, as well as tense interactions with Campus Safety officers.

“There were students who were physically pushed back from the door [by Campus Safety officers],” said Greyson.

Head of Campus Safety Chief Eric Immler said this action came after verbal warnings from the Campus Safety officers who were present.

“Unfortunately some of the students involved attempted to physically push their way into the meeting after being verbally told several times that they could not enter,” he said. “This resulted in a student being prevented from entering McDaniel Lounge.”

Some students were threatened with conduct violations as well, Greyson said, but none of the protesters received write-ups.

“The Department of Campus Safety worked to ensure two things that morning: [that] the Board of Trustees were able to conduct their business meeting without disruption, while the students were able to peacefully protest in a safe manner,” said Immler. “I am pleased that the majority of the students present were able to express their point of view while cooperating with the Campus Safety officers who were there to manage the situation.”

PSU shared the over-700-word statement they had planned to read to the Board of Trustees later the same day on their Facebook page.

“Although these proposed restructurings have been compared to similar movements in liberal arts education, like cutting Latin and Greek as required subjects, we believe that there is a genuine difference between the removal

of those programs and what is currently happening here,” read the statement, referring to the loss of German, music, and other programs that are “integral to the creation of well-informed citizens and academics.”

The organization’s statement also touched on the student organization’s concerns about the future of faculty in affected departments, as well as their criticisms of a lack of student input and transparency at the administrative level.

“We also realize that there was a survey that went out [about potential future academic offerings], but it was still combined with a lack of information about what the reality of the restructuring might bring,” the statement said.

The statement followed a series of Facebook posts by PSU that started a week before the Trustees’ meeting, largely criticizing the College administration and calling for testimonies from students and alumni in response to the restructuring process. The group created an email account dedicated to receiving these testimonies.

Read the full article on our website:
www.mcdanielfreepress.com

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The McDaniel Free Press!1!!!

Volume 22, Issue 11 | April 1, 2019

INSIDE: Fake news (pg. 2) | Lies (pg. 4) | Editors attempt "jokes" (pg. 5) | Nothing remotely valuable (pg. 6)

McDaniel introduces new housing for anti-vax students

Leland Flory
Does Not Have Chickenpox

The College has announced it will open a new block of housing specifically for unvaccinated students.

This new housing decision comes in an attempt to create a campus inclusive to all students beliefs.

"The anti-vax community at McDaniel felt oppressed and unheard," said a spokesperson for the College, "so we're doing our part to make sure all our students are represented."

This new housing is a step in a new direction for the College. Minority groups are finally being heard.

The new residence hall will be built on the far end of campus near the golf course, a private and nearly secluded location for those who choose to reside there. Incoming and current anti-vax students will have priority choice of living in the new dorm, and will even be able to move in as early as tomorrow. The new building also offers new, high-tech video software that allows these students to be able to attend their classes right from their dorm rooms.

The College wants the anti-vax community on campus to feel right at home here at McDaniel, as quickly as possible. They deserve to live just as comfortably as the rest of us, apparently. The College also assures the community that this new housing has nothing to do with the recent measles outbreak on campus.



McDaniel College President Roger Casey cites the Free Press when another source would probably be better. (Staff Photo / McDaniel Free Press).

Feed me, Seymour: College to cut more programs

Spenser Secrest
Not To Be Confused With Ryan

McDaniel College has announced that still more majors will be suspended.

In addition to the departments that have been cut, it has been announced that majors in the kinesiology, psychology, communication, and education departments will no longer be offered.

The Board of Trustees' vote to suspend these majors was, again, unanimous.

The announcement came in an

email from President Casey to the student body.

The email cited rising enrollment numbers as the primary reason that the majors were no longer being offered. However, the email also stated that the communication major was cut due to it being worthless and unnecessary both for society and for McDaniel's future.

The suspensions come after a lengthy process that began two weeks ago when President Casey pointed out that, in addition to some majors having low enrollment, other majors had too many students.

All faculty members in the

suspended departments will be terminated as soon as the 2019 spring semester concludes and any students who are rising seniors will not be allowed to finish their degree during the Fall 2019 semester.

Rising seniors who have majored in any of the suspended majors will still be able to graduate from McDaniel in the spring of 2020, though they will not be given a degree. Rising seniors who have already completed the requirements in the suspended major will be given a participation degree.

Casey's email concluded by thanking the students for understanding the unanimous vote and decision that they had no voice in.

Despite Casey's nicely worded **See FEED ME, page 2**

President Casey cites *Free Press* articles in email announcements, speeches, personal conversations

Emma Carter
Jaded Senior

Since October 2018, the *Free Press* has published several articles surrounding the recent academic restructuring announcement and the process that led to the changes.

President Casey, on multiple occasions, has referenced these articles in communications to the McDaniel community regarding the restructuring.

It is unclear whether this is a coy attempt to get our attention.

The first reference was in an email to all students sent by Casey on Jan. 7. The president was "writing [the student body] with an update," in which he linked an October *Free Press* article as a summary of the academic update process in order to keep the email's word count

down.

The president also announced on Feb. 28 the creation of a web page dedicated to the academic changes where, at the bottom of the page, readers are directed to "additional resources" – two relevant *Free Press* articles.

Scholar of presidential communication in higher education after liberal arts slashes Serena Faux said this amount of attention on an otherwise overlooked student publication is normal.

"College presidents often cite the university newspaper in situations like this," she said. "They're basically saying, 'Hey, look – these kids have managed to deliver this information in a digestible format. Please read it and maybe you'll be less angry.'"

Faux said the references to **See CITE, page 3**

There's a big rat in the *Free Press* office

Nathan Wright
Licensed Bone-Haver

April 1 was meant to be a normal day in the office. Wake up, write out some drafts, edit some things, the usual work. But the hapless author of this article found out how wrong that was when I came in and found a big rat sitting in the *Free Press* office.

When I say big rat, I'm afraid you'll think of a normal rat that's just kind of fat. No, this is a BIG rat. It's at least as big as an opossum, or a decently sized child, but that doesn't really matter because the important thing is that it's big enough to touch my knees with its nasty little rat paws.

I'm currently standing on top of a desk chair typing this article with the handle of a broom while the rat circles around me. It's tried to climb

up with me, but the height of the chair and my high-pitched screams have stopped it each time. I'm not sure how much longer before it figures out how to get up here. My throat is getting sore from all the screaming.

How did this even happen? I just wanted to come in and polish some articles, and now I'm desperately writing this article for the paper in the hope that when it gets published someone will find out about my plight and come save me. The rat keeps licking its terrible yellow teeth and looking at the computer with its beady little eyes of sin. I'm terrified that it knows what I'm trying to do and it's going to chew through the power cable just before I can send it to the printers.

If you're reading this, please come to the *Free Press* office and help me! Bring a big stick or a taser or an expendable friend with you, the rat is pantomiming eating my face. I'm sorry that you have to read this instead of a normal article, but I really don't want to be touched by this nasty little rodent fellow. Please help me!

Feed me, Seymour: College to cut more programs

FEED ME, *from page 1*

thank you, there has been a variety of feelings about the decision on campus.

“I’m actually really glad that the education department is being cut because I hate learning,” said first-year art history major Kathryn Payne.

“There are too many students in the kinesiology department, so it makes sense that they voted to cut that one,” said junior music major Alfred Huston.

“I don’t like how they are getting rid of the psychology major because I think psychology is important and our society needs plenty of psychologists,” said sophomore French major Carole Reed.

“I’m a senior and I don’t care,” declared German major and Latin

minor Felix Bergman.

“I never understood the communication major, is it the same as a major in communications?” asked senior communication major Batticus Mice.

Some alumni have also voiced their concerns about the additional majors being suspended.

“It makes me sad, but doesn’t surprise me,” said Albert Saltzman, class of 1962.

“I don’t care about any decision Dr. Rog and the Board of Trustees make; McDaniel College and the liberal arts died when the name changed. Western Maryland College forever,” declared Julia Ford, class of 1999.

President Casey’s new Manhattan condominium could not be reached for comment.



College turns to necromancy to collect debt from dead students

Nathan Wright
Definitely Human

In the face of recent budgeting problems, McDaniel has begun looking into a number of unorthodox methods of gathering funding. After selling squirrel hunting licenses and harvesting student kidneys failed to turn a profit, President Casey has come forward with a bold new plan: use necromancy to raise dead students in shambling undeath and collect on their debt.

“Dead students are a tremendous untapped resource,” President Casey said in the original press release. “And while previously they were excused from their financial obligations after shuffling off this

mortal coil, new developments with necromancy have helped us to overcome this obstacle. While we understand the desire of our alums to embrace the soothing emptiness of non-existence, we’ve made the decision to drag their spirits back from the Great Beyond and shackle them into their rotting bodies so that we can collect on their debts.”

This decision was quickly met with backlash from the student body, who cited the inordinate expenses of holding hundreds of dark rituals to reanimate the dead.

“Goats just aren’t cheap,” said Shelia Evans. “It would be bad enough if the College bought one or two, but a goat for every dead student? That’s outrageous!”

Others were more concerned

about the potential issues regarding the staff’s experience with the dark and forbidden magics they plan to use.

“Look, I’m sure the professors could cast a prestidigitation without much problem,” said an edgy student who wished to remain anonymous. “But a spell to pull the dead from the grasp of Mordiggan, the Great Shadow Below? Maybe I passed my Calculus test then, because apparently the college believes in miracles.”

The reanimated students were presumably of a similar mind. While some could be reached for comment, the college’s practice of reanimating the longest dead students, and thus the ones whose debt has gained the most interest, has made the process difficult. Most simply screamed about the strange and terrifying world they were reintroduced to shortly before

being demanded to pay impossibly large sums of money by their 19th century standards, while the rest had no tongues to speak of thanks to decades of hard work by dedicated worms.

Attempts to reach out to President Casey for an interview have all fallen flat. At his last known location, he was clawing down through the muddy earth into the grave of a student who died in 1932, hands dark with goat blood and eyes gleaming with greed as he wetly muttered nonsensical phrases about cash flow and money.

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Theatre department to perform edgy rock musical

Erin Pogue
Appreciator of the Arts

The McDaniel theater department has decided to branch out this semester and perform a rock musical, with some hard-hitting themes.

The musical is an adaptation of a 1987 film that was based on a novel, translated from Russian, and modified from the original opera. The first run of the show was rather short, but the theater department hopes to shed some light on this lesser-known work.

The cast is quite talented, and excited for the college to experience the show.

“This will be a great way to show everyone how wonderful my singing is, as well as educate people on complex drug related problems,” said sophomore actress Louise Smith.

The entire department has been working very hard on this production, but the technicians’



work will likely be largely ignored. The musical will feature many students from a variety of majors, but all theater minors.

Students should be warned going into the production that there are several difficult subjects being

discussed. For a complete list of topics, please view the full list on their website, as it was too long to publish in print.

Tickets are available at the door and are \$145 for students and \$157 for community members. Payment

can be made in cash, McDaniel Bucks, or helping with strike the day after the show. The show will be performed April 1-4, and despite the projected large turnout, will be held in the understage, so make sure to buy your tickets soon!

McDaniel’s sports teams receive more funding

Derek Webber
Didn’t Create a Byline

McDaniel College has taken its new profits and decided to spread the wealth back to the sport teams on the Hill.

“We realized that it’s nearly been a whole year since the sports teams received more funds,” President Casey said. “I think it was about time they had more.”

When asked about other departments needing more funds he replied, “we did give other departments more funding, just look at kinesiology.”

Students seem relatively unmoved by the decision.

“I never really cared for sports, let alone went to any games, but I guess I’m glad some people are happy with more funds,” said one student.

“I really just wanted better dining options or more things to do around campus,” one player on the football team stated.

With the campus clearly overwhelmingly approving of the new budget decisions, it is an enigma why the College is having trouble getting new students to attend.

McDaniel College Upcoming Budget



(Atticus Rice / McDaniel Free Press).

President Casey cites *Free Press* articles in email announcements, speeches, personal conversations

CITE, from page 1

student-published news die down after about two weeks.

However, Casey has continued to mention the Free Press and its articles well past Faux’s two-week mark.

In a recent Q&A session with parents of prospective students in McDaniel Lounge, one father asked about the available Jan term courses McDaniel offers.

“I believe the *Free Press* has several articles about Jan term courses,” said Casey. “Why don’t you visit their website? Next question.”

Casey also referred several parents to the Free Press about sub-

jects that ranged from the College’s athletics to Westminster restaurants. Eventually, a PowerPoint slide was projected with the *Free Press* website in bold text that remained on while Casey spoke.

An anonymous source also overheard the president speaking on the car phone in one of his Rolls-Royces.

“Ah, yes, why don’t you read the *Free Press* to find out a bit more about that,” he reportedly said.

The *Free Press* is waiting for President Casey to reach out to us for comment.

Academic cuts prove not enough; McDaniel sells Memorial Bell to local pawn shop for quick cash

Marya Kuratova
Not To Be Confused With Your Other Local Russian Spy

Last Thursday morning, students were surprised to see that the Memorial Bell usually found in Red Square was suddenly missing.

“There was just an empty spot,” said Myla Brown, senior. “I usually pat the bell for good luck on my way to class, but it was just gone.”

The senior biology major was not the only one to notice the absence. Soon faculty and students all across campus were talking about the missing bell. Several particularly concerned students called Campus Safety, suggesting that a campus alert be sent out to look for the bell thief.

“We got quite a few frantic calls,” said a Campus Safety spokesperson.

“We didn’t think students would care that much, but there were several seniors worried about being stuck here if they couldn’t ‘ring out.’”

The following day, the College finally responded to comment. In a private Facebook post, President Casey explained that the bell was sold to a local pawn shop in anticipation of future financial difficulties the College might experience.

“We are unable to disclose the name of the exact shop, nor can we specify how much the bell sold for, but we would like the campus community to rest assured that we are supporting small local businesses,” the post read. It has since been deleted.

Casey went on to send an email to faculty, students, and alumni over the weekend, in which he further explained that the proceeds from the pawned bell will help pay for renovations to Decker College Center.

“This will also free up crucial time during commencement and introduction convocation ceremonies,” the email read.

“Students will no longer have to waste time ringing the bell, and are instead encouraged to partake in other traditions, such as giving a class year amount to the Fund for McDaniel.”

This news has been met with strong opposition. A “Return Our Bell” Facebook group has been made, in which students are suggesting taking shifts visiting all the nearby pawn shops to find the bell, creating a GoFundMe page to raise money to buy back the bell, and even setting up watches around other noteworthy McDaniel relics, such as the caboose near the football field, to guard against the administration’s supposed plans to pawn other items.

When approached by The Free Press, Casey declined to comment on these allegations, instead touching on the College’s broader plans.

“We are doing everything we can to preserve McDaniel’s rich culture and history, while still keeping up with other institutions in this day and age,” Casey said. “And sometimes that requires difficult sacrifices that students can’t possibly understand.”



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Obituary

The Free Press extends our condolences to the following:

Art History major

Music major

French major

Music minor

German major

Religious Studies major

German minor

Religious Studies minor

Latin minor

Master’s in Deaf Education

McHoroscopes

Your sign and your new major

Laurel Pogue
New Kinesiology Major

Spring is a time for change, and some people may be finding that their current major just doesn't suit them any more. Some underclassmen may not yet have a major at all. In times like this, it helps to look at the stars, and let them guide us. Look for your sign below, and make sure to consider your sun, moon, and rising signs, to find the major that is right for you.

Aries (March 21-April 19):
Kinesiology

Taurus (April 20-May 20):
Kinesiology

Gemini (May 21-June 20):
Kinesiology

Cancer (June 20-July 22): Kinesiology

Leo (July 23-August 22): Kinesiology

Virgo (August 23-September 22):
Kinesiology

Libra (September 23-October 22):
Kinesiology

Scorpio (October 23-November 21):
Kinesiology

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21): Kinesiology

Capricorn (December 22-January 19):
Business Administration

Aquarius (January 20-February 18):
Kinesiology

Pisces (February 19-March 20):
Kinesiology



Daily doses

Nathan Wright
The Accident Wasn't Your Fault, You Need To Let Me Go

Aries (March 21-April 19): Today will be many things for you. Painless and blood-free are not some of those things.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): You really overreacted with that spider yesterday, you should really go apologize. Seriously, say you're sorry before its revenge has gone too far to take back.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): Shortly after you finish reading this, a man will appear in your room. He will be tall, sinuous, and boneless, with a mouth far too wide and with too many obsidian-like teeth. He will also make the best damn pasta you've ever had and show you your new favorite movie. Enjoy your new boyfriend!

Cancer (June 20-July 22): They're going to name it after you. Don't worry about what, just enjoy your day!

Leo (July 23-August 22): Whenever you pass someone today, offer them a hand and you won't be disappointed! The police will have a much harder time tracking you down when you're not the only one with a bunch of severed hands in their backpack.

Virgo (August 23-September 22): I hate to break this to you, but you're a woodland animal. You've been a woodland animal all along. On the bright side, you don't have to worry about job applications anymore!

Libra (September 23-October 22): Left octopus. We're not sure what that means, but that's what the stars say, so go left octopus your heart out!

Scorpio (October 23-November 21): You know that one twinging pain that keeps bothering you? Good news, it's just one of many things you won't be bothered by in about three hours!

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21): There are infinite possible universes, so tonight you can comfort yourself with the knowledge that you're not in the universe where you got eaten by a swarm of flaming locusts.

Capricorn (December 22-January 19): You will die a grizzly death. That's not a typo, the stars think you should watch out for bears.

Aquarius (January 20-February 18):
Hahahahahahaha!

Pisces (February 19-March 20): You have some paperwork you need to focus on, but you'll watch that three-hour video of cute cats anyways.

McHoroscope is brought to you by the Green Terror's Greater Form. (Kyle Parks / McDaniel Free Press).

McDaniel student practices necromancy; accidentally revives old Green Terror mascot

Colin Lyon
Suffering From Third-Degree Kimchi Slaps

On a cold March morning, about the time when the sun rises and procrastinating students promise themselves they'll "just take a ten minute nap before starting that paper," one McDaniel student accidentally raised the previous Green Terror from the dead.

Riley McIlwain, a senior religious studies major, was going for his morning jog when he discovered a copy of the Necronomicon, a textbook of magic, lying beside the caboose by the stadium lot. Given that McDaniel students find a copy of the Necronomicon every other week or so, this isn't surprising; what is surprising is McIlwain's apparent ability to read it.

"I'm a religious studies major," McIlwain said. "You just kind of pick up things like reading ancient, soul-bending runes."

Naturally, McIlwain's first idea was to abandon his run entirely and work on deciphering the secrets of this. After poring over it for "an hour or two," McIlwain decided that summoning the dead would definitely get him an A on his capstone.

"It's necromancy," McIlwain said, as if that explained everything. "You could make a religion out of that."

McIlwain got to work immediately. After a long and arduous ritual, the details of which we at the Free Press are obliged to omit in case of accidental sanity loss, McIlwain succeeded in summoning something from beyond the grave. It wasn't a student tragically felled by finals, however. It wasn't a person at all.

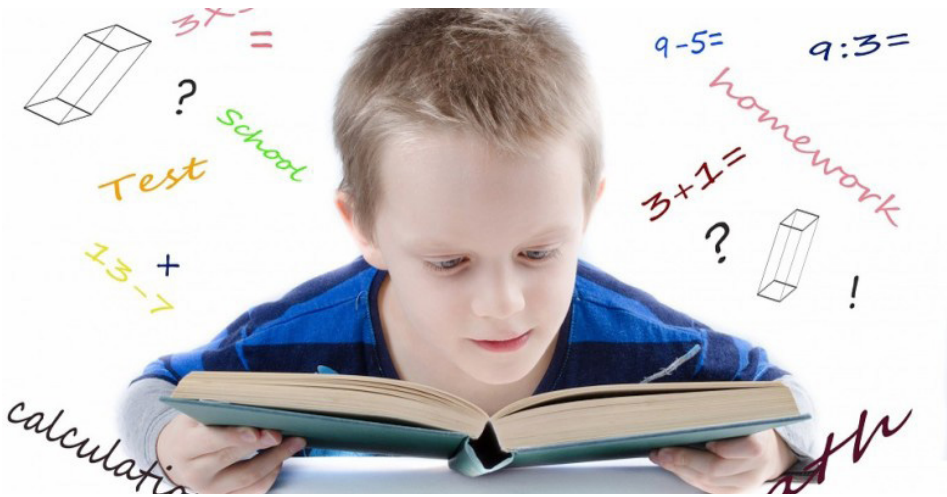
It was the old Green Terror. McIlwain stated that as soon as the furry suit was resurrected, it immediately made a run for it. "I don't know where it went," he said. "I just wanted to get an A on my capstone."

Daquan Manlowe, a junior studying business administration, is interested in finding the former mascot.

"I always wanted to find out what it has seen," he explained. "I bet it has some great stories about the one time the football team actually won."

Neither the Green Terror nor the Necronomicon could be reached for questioning.

The mascot is still out there somewhere. The Free Press urges students to report any sightings to the Provost's Office. The Green Terror's grave, nestled between the graves of adjunct professorship and Roger Casey's on-campus reputation, is currently being filled by the WMC namesake.



(Photo courtesy of Pixabay user PublicDomainImages).

Student complains about assignment, had ample time to finish it over break

Laurel Pogue
Should Also Be Doing Work

Remy Travers, a sophomore political science major, has a 15-page research paper due tomorrow, and he needs everyone to know that.

"I'm very busy," he said, when asked about how his Spring Break was. "All of my professors gave me so much homework — it was way too much to get done in a week. I basically have to write a whole essay tonight. 15 pages is way too long for any assignment, and nothing should be due the week we get back from Spring Break."

Sharon Morey, a senior English major in the same class, disagrees.

"We've known about this assignment since February, I don't

see what the problem is," she said.

When asked about the length, she answered, "I have a draft for my capstone due a few days from now, and you don't see me complaining."

Other students, when asked for their opinion, chose not to comment on Travers's paper, but instead refuted Morey's comment, showing her Snapchat story from earlier that day, which stated "i [sic] refuz [sic] to rite [sic] my capstone unless i [sic] am drunkk [sic]."

Travers was last spotted stress-eating cupcakes in Englar Dining Hall, typing frantically into a Word document, and telling nearby students that he was pretty sure that the professor would be fine with 10 pages.

SGA does something right, entire world in disbelief

Atticus Rice
Fake Anarchist

In an unprecedented shift in campus culture, the Student Government Association has done something that anyone might deem to be the right thing to do.

That something, according to one student who wished to remain anonymous, is actually representing the student body in any way whatsoever.

“They’re always talking about how they represent the students,” they said, “but no one can name one concrete thing they’ve done to actually represent us. They’re always so reactionary and self-serving, which is frustrating.”

SGA’s decision to represent the student body comes after two years of tumultuous leadership and decision-making left the governing body with no visiting members to the Board of Trustees, the main pipeline to student representation in College decisions. Because of this situation, no one is sure how exactly students will be represented at the highest level of College governance.

SGA’s leadership team remains supportive of their new initiative.



(Photo courtesy of Pixabay user niekverlaan).

“We recognize that we haven’t done anything productive for the College,” they said in a statement to the Free Press. “Moving forward, we’ll be representing students day and night, until we get mildly tired or uninterested.”

No plans were revealed to regain their representation with the Board of Trustees, though SGA does not seem concerned.

“Trust us when we say we will represent the students,” the statement continued.

The news came as such a shock

to the undergraduate community that word quickly spread to local off-campus news outlets.

News channel WWHY-TV aired a brief broadcast highlighting the on-campus development. Their clip took off within hours with viewers from around the world.

“We’ve received clicks from nearly every country,” a spokesperson for WWHY-TV said in an email to the Free Press.

Perhaps the only thing more surprising than SGA doing something right is that someone cared about something SGA did.

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Lean mean grilling machine promoter George Foreman announced as College grill master

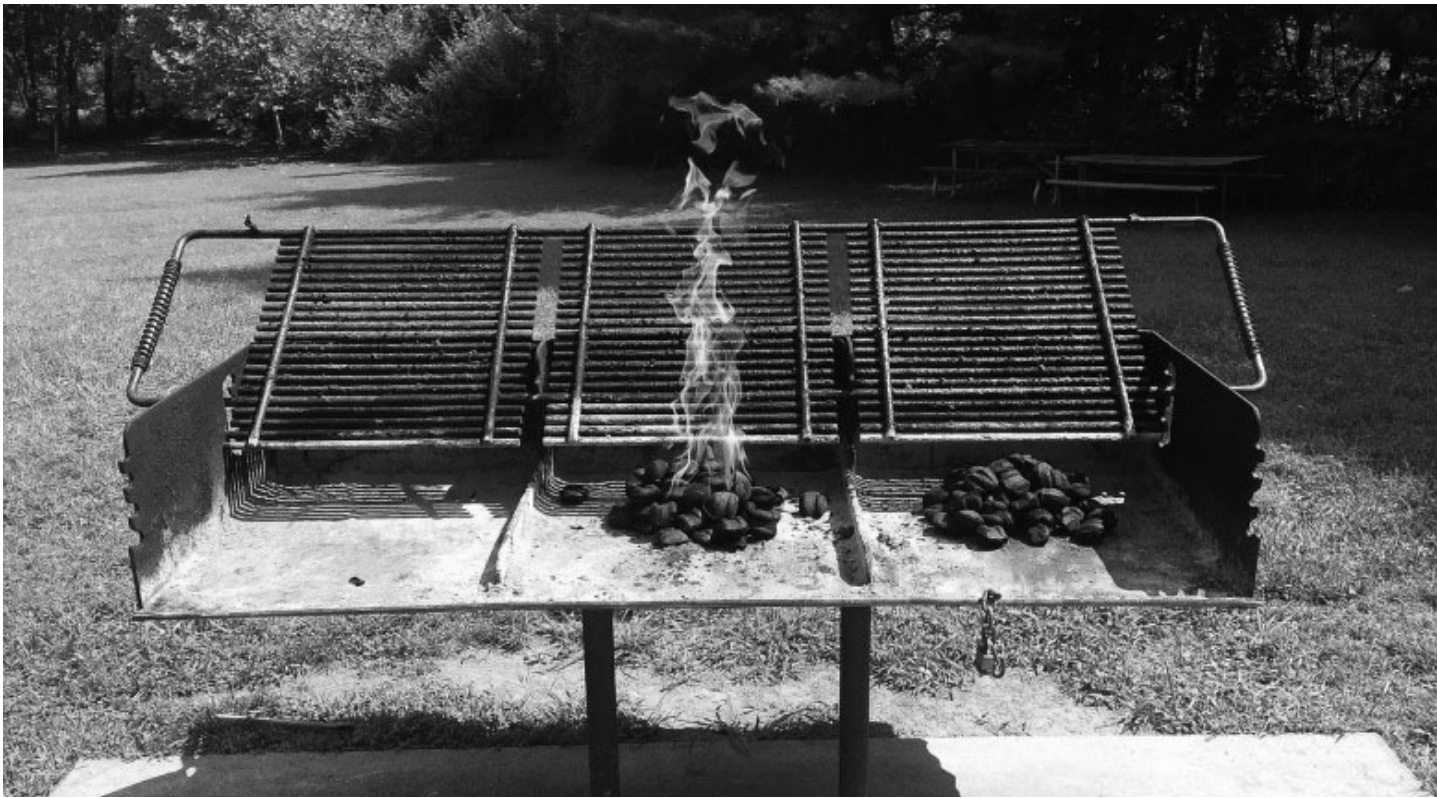
Gunnar Ward
Resident of Flavortown

AVI Foodsystems announced over Spring Break that the grill station in Englar Dining Hall would now be operated by George Foreman, former heavyweight boxer and lean mean grilling machine promoter.

The announcement comes just in time, as the approaching spring weather means that grill masters around the country will be lacing up crisp white New Balance sneakers to celebrate the long-anticipated mark of grilling season.

The College’s decision to bring in Foreman comes with great pressure, as the dining hall has been on a continuous streak of 63 days of serving hamburgers and veggie burgers.

Englar Dining Hall’s grilling streak is closely followed by the number of continuous days the



(Photo courtesy of Pixabay user BruceEmmerling).

College’s wifi completely crashes at least once. With both streaks still going strong, many are left wondering which one will be broken first.

With Foreman’s lean mean grilling machine ready to rumble, students can expect food to be prepared in hundreds of seconds.

In addition, the appointment of Foreman as the College’s grill master brings reenforcement to dining hall security services.

Foreman, whose boxing career ended in 1997 with 76 wins by way of 68 knockouts, has agreed

to serve as the backup to current Glardian Ms. Ceil, should students be found loitering for guest swipes or caught stealing chicken tenders on Thursdays.

Foreman’s grills are also expected to be implemented in the Pub starting next semester and will be installed at Harvey Stone to accommodate all the College’s grilling needs.

Students and faculty who wish to use the coming grills are required to attend a training session with Foreman and McDaniel dining services general manager Erik

Rochard.

Foreman’s partnership with the college is one of the several ways AVI is taking McDaniel to new culinary heights, and more celebrity chef signings are in the works.

To culminate the celebrity signings, the college will be officially announcing Guy Fieri as the College food systems operation manager on April 31.

With Fieri and Foreman at the front, McDaniel is expected to catch a straight blast right into Flavortown.



(Photo courtesy of Pixabay user LoggaWiggler).

Bustling job fair attracts McDaniel professors

The Author of This Article Wrote This Article

The Forum was filled to capacity last week at McDaniel’s spring job fair, which recruiters say not only drew students, but their professors.

Teddy “Ted” Edwards of Random House was surprised — and delighted— to find such a wide variety of job candidates at the Westminster campus.

“I’ve been coming here to meet students for years,” says the human resources manager, “but have never had the pleasure of meeting so many professors, too. They’re such interesting people!”

Indeed, professors made up the largest new demographic group at the annual Job Fair. Seven tenured and tenure-track professors in art history, German, French, music, deaf education and religious studies, all recently offered severance packages by the administration,

stood alongside their students at the recruiting tables. Cutting faculty appears to be central to President Casey’s vision for the future of the College.

Speaking from his Manhattan apartment, Casey expressed excitement about the job fair’s growth.

“Whether I am on a cruise ship heading to Antarctica or in a vintage convertible being driven around Havana, I am always sharing with others what great employees McDaniel College graduates make,” he said. “Now I get to express the same enthusiasm about our professors.”

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Nature is calling — will AVI answer?

Ryan Hess
Wears Boots

Every student’s McDaniel College experience would not be complete without Englar Dining Hall. Whether it be Chicken Tender Thursday, or playing “Guess That Meat!” with the soup du jour, or having a lovely conversation with Ms. Bobbie in the salad line, or finding moldy bread, memories from McDaniel’s dining hall will forever be etched into our minds.

However, even with the new dining experience, courtesy of AVI, the needs of some residents on campus are still not being met.

Cornwallis, president of the McDaniel chapter of the National Rodent Association (NRA), is a fourth-year resident at McDaniel and is fed up with the NRA’s underrepresentation in dining options.

“Sodexo’s dining options were positively presumptuous,” said Cornwallis, with a puff of his tail. “I voice the opinion of our entire organization when I say that we hope AVI will do better.”

Cornwallis and the NRA are calling upon AVI to expand their dining options, and allow NRA members to finally dine properly with their fellow McDaniel residents, instead of being forced to rummage around campus in search of a meal.

“We have grown tired of giving McDaniel one star on Yelp,” said Cornwallis. “It was time for our organization to take action.”

The NRA was founded in 2010 by S. Q. Earl – who first took notice of their need to organize – and the

association finally gained a foothold on campus after their generous funding and contributions to the president’s marketing campaign last spring.

Much of this funding was acquired through an audacious real-estate venture spearheaded by Cornwallis, in which the NRA surrendered their holdings in Presidential Pines, a large pine tree with prized proximity to the president’s house on campus.

Although a productive exchange, Cornwallis had notable regrets after realizing too late what the campus had planned for the estate that had been in his family for centuries.

“As beneficial as the campaign funding has been for the NRA, I would have considered other options had I known the campus had plans to chop the tree down,” said Cornwallis.

The loss of Presidential Pines served as a double-edged sword for the NRA, both limiting on-campus housing for NRA members, and exacerbating the more prominent issue: feeding NRA members.

Busch E. Tayle, NRA vice president and self-appointed liaison to AVI, is taking this issue head-on.

“The NRA will be hungry no longer,” said Tayle. “I see a new partnership between AVI and the NRA in our future, and it’s gonna be huge.”

Tayle sees his initiative as a harbinger of better relations between the NRA and McDaniel College as a whole, and hopes to stymie the organization’s historic underrepresentation.

IT mandates new password requirements

Emma Carter
Pink Dog

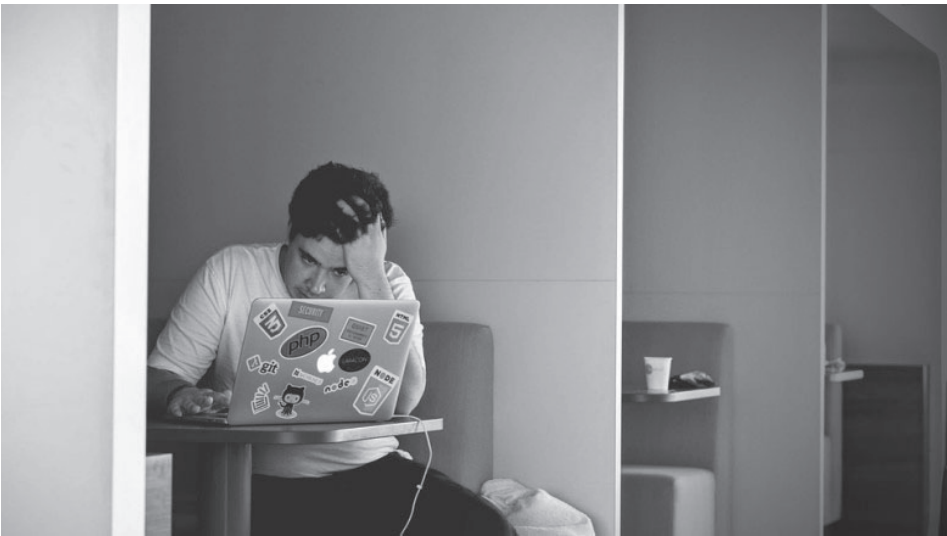
The McDaniel IT Department has announced via email to students and faculty a new, stricter set of system password requirements.

The new requirements will take effect as soon as the wifi is working again.

Among the changes is the lifespan of passwords: instead of the current 180 days, members of the campus community will be required to update their passwords every 20 hours, when they receive a notice about Blackboard maintenance, or whenever they have an assignment due by email in five minutes — whichever comes first.

“We just slightly narrowed the window of time in which passwords are functional,” said IT spokesperson Gillian Bates. “This will help keep students on their toes, because it is my personal belief that they don’t already have enough to be stressed out about.”

IT will also mandate that the characters within passwords be more complex. Passwords must contain a minimum of six special characters,



Chuck Carp sits at his computer, visibly frustrated. (Photo courtesy of Pixabay user punttim).

which may include square root symbols and the Sanskrit alphabet.

However, characters with accents commonly used in the German and French languages may not be used. This is due to these symbols’ heavy universal usage, which renders passwords containing them easy for hackers to break.

“A password like p@\$\$W0rd!a! is a great start,” said Bates.

Some students are anxious about the new requirements, though, according to one senior.

“It’s going to take me, like, thirty minutes to come up with a password,” said business administration major Chuck Carp.

Carp said he wishes IT would simply assign a combination of random animals and colors as pass-

words, as was the protocol when he was a first-year student — “simpler times,” he called them.

A group of underclassmen also created a shareable Word Online document through their McDaniel Office accounts to gather complaints to bring to IT. The students were met with complications, however, when several first-years forgot their passwords and had to wait to reset them.

Despite student concerns, IT plans to go forward with the changes.

“These new guidelines will keep McDaniel secure,” said Bates. “I’m looking forward to developing even more.”

Senior suspected to actually be two first-year students in a trench coat

Amber McDonald
Burger King Enthusiast

At first glance, McDaniel senior Jacob Smith appears to be like any other senior. He majored in business due to pressure from his father and toed the line of being blackout drunk every weekend. He seems like your average McDaniel senior; but rumors have been spreading about Jacob that can no longer be ignored.

People have been speculating that Jacob is not a senior, but actually two first-years in a trench coat. The rumors started on the first day of classes of the 2018-2019 academic year. We have traced the rumors back to the origins; Smith’s basic arithmetic professor.

“They told me he was a transfer,” said the professor, who wished to remain anonymous. “I did not think much of it when I saw there was a senior transfer student in my class. The strange thing was when he walked in. He was wearing a long trench coat and had to be about 12-feet tall. I thought to myself ‘that’s strange,’ but didn’t care that much. After all, he’s just another student. What was especially strange was he did not sit down.”

From there, it is believed that the professor discussed the strange occurrence with her supervisor and thus the rumors were born. The rumors only spread worse when Smith tried to go to Down Under on Thursday night.

“I knew something was wrong with him,” said the bouncer who refused to let Jacob in. “I’ve worked in this bar a long time and have seen many underaged kids try to come in. We always stop them. I have never seen two kids try to pass as one person in a trench coat.”

The *Free Press* managed to get a statement from Smith himself: “We’re — I’m not two first-years in a trench coat.”

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(Atticus Rice / McDaniel Free Press).

Local squirrel rallies cicadas under banner to terrorize campus

Colin Lyon
Marsupial Whisperer

It’s no secret that McDaniel is home to an abundance of squirrels. They’ve managed to coexist peacefully—for the most part—with students for more than a century, occasionally earning degrees and provoking conflicts between fraternities. The squirrel population is reluctantly beloved by the students and staff.

The return of both McDaniel’s most infamous squirrel and the newest cicada brood could change this

for years to come.

Cicadas are, in the words of senior Mario Fernandez, “one of the worst things to happen to campus.”

Some might notice, lugging their backpacks up and down the Hill, holes poking out from the greening grass. These, dear readers, are the birthing places of the reviled cicada. The newest brood, marked Brood VIII by an enigmatic cicada expert known only as Dan, only emerges every seventeen years. Dan notes that Brood VIII is found mainly in Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia, but there are possible

stragglers in Maryland. McDaniel’s campus appears to be a nest of these stragglers.

The problem could be mitigated if it were only the army of cicadas on the scene. Their signature buzz, a mating call made only by the males, is obnoxious and gut-wrenching, but with proper mental fortitude it can be combated. Even worse is their molting process, where their exoskeletons stick to branches and buildings only to fall on unsuspecting students.

The true danger, though, comes from the cicadas uniting under one leader: Squaug.

Some seniors might remember Squaug from an article written in 2016 by Danielle Fatzinger. Squaug, who was infamous for hoarding every lost ID card and key on campus,

was thought to have vanished after attempts to capture him in 2016 ended in failure. However, junior Ryan Michelson recently stumbled upon a Squaug hoard behind Elderdice Hall, along with something even more terrifying: an entire army of cicadas.

According to Michelson’s report, their screeching can only be described as “a noise that bounces around in your head, even after you’re gone.” Fortunately, Michelson managed to escape the brunt of the attack and is recovering nicely. His discovery comes with a dire warning.

Students and staff alike must be ready for the inevitable cicada invasion of campus. Trust no insect. Trust no squirrel.

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The McDaniel Free Press

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Interfaith prayer room opens on campus

Atticus Rice
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Students, faculty, and staff gathered together to celebrate the opening of McDaniel's new interfaith prayer room on Tuesday, April 9, 2019.

Sponsored by the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, the room is designed to serve the prayer and meditation needs of students, faculty, and staff, as well as cultural and religious organizations on campus.

"Religion and spirituality are a big part of our students' identities," said Director of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion Jose Moreno, "so it's important that we honor that."

Located in Hill Hall 106, the room is open seven days a week from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.

"We are really excited about having one central place for people of any faith to go together and feel connected and supported on campus," said sophomore Nicolette Brookman, president of McDaniel's InterVarsity Christian Fellowship group. "I'm personally



Warmer spring weather has brought a pleasant scene to the Hill. (Marya Kuratova / McDaniel Free Press).

very thankful to Jose [Moreno] and ODI for making this a priority and for inviting us alongside him in this unifying action."

Each registered religious student organization or group will have access to the room during these hours. According to Moreno, the *See PRAYER, page 2*



The interfaith prayer room opened to the campus on Tuesday, April 9 thanks to efforts from the Office of Diversity and Inclusion. The space is furnished with resources for students, including prayer rugs. (Atticus Rice / McDaniel Free Press).

Take Back the Night walk a moving success

Atticus Rice
Co-Editor-in-Chief

More than 40 students and community members gathered in Red Square at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 11, 2019 for the College's second annual Take Back the Night walk.

The walk was organized and hosted by Consent and Sexual Education, a student group formed just last year by current sophomores Mackenzie Hunt and Rachel Gunnerson and junior Ariana Schneider.

"You are here to have your voices heard," said Hunt in her opening address. "Our society and our campus allows rapists to walk free and they blame victims. Tonight we are here to challenge those beliefs and change our culture. We are here to take back the night."

Members of CASE opened the event by reading aloud stories that the McDaniel community had anonymously shared with them beforehand.

"We want to thank everybody who courageously shared their narratives with us," said Hunt. "Thank you for your strength and bravery. We know that we cannot give your stories justice that they deserve since we have not experienced them ourselves, but we felt that it was necessary to make your voices heard. We hear you, we love you, we believe you."

In an email before the event, Hunt referenced an "activist high" she felt after a successful walk last year. This year was no different.

"Yes," she said ecstatically of her high this year. "Love it. My voice is shot, as per usual, but it was tons of *See WALK, page 2*

Maryland Art Place understands art is a need, not a want

Shelby Hickey
Contributor

The power of art can be monumental, but finding a way and a place to personally express yourself can be difficult. Maryland Art Place, a non-profit gallery in Baltimore, is helping solve that.

"Art transcends other means of communication in terms of accessibility and articulation," said Maryland Art Place Program Manager and Registry Coordinator Caitlin Gill. "For example, it is easier to visually express complex ideas or feelings than it is to verbally express them. I think a lot of that has to do with the fact that a visual vocabulary is universal whereas other means of expression can be limited. Therefore, due to the nature of art, I feel that it is positive in that it isn't inherently exclusive; anyone can appreciate art. This is positive because, from a Western perspective, we are very divided. I think art can be unifying. This translates on an international, national, regional, community, and individual level."

MAP uses its resources to help up-and-coming artists merge themselves into the contemporary art scene. Their annual spring benefit Out of Order, or OOO, is one such resource. This year was their twen-

ty-second annual event with a second year addition of a youth show called KidOOO.

At OOO, any artist may come and pay a small submission fee of \$10 to hang their artwork anywhere in the gallery. This year, close to 300 participants came to install their work: people who consider art as their life and career choice, people who love art but now only do it as a hobby, parents, college students, and the homeless. Everyone is equal, no matter experience or artistic standing.

"I think the only way art can do its job is by being seen — otherwise, it's not fulfilling its purpose," said Gill of the visual arts. "Small scale, local artists I find tend to be minority groups, women, people of color, youth, the elderly, people who make up society yet are excluded from it. These artists are important to provide platforms for because their invisibility in society is problematic. We don't want cultural producers to be invisible. It's a form of censorship. I don't believe in censorship."

Installed art is put up at the silent auction at OOO, for which 500 tickets were sold this year. About half of the submissions were bid on, with some doubling their original price.

See ART, page 6



Interfaith prayer room opens on campus

PRAYER, from page 1

Jewish Student Union, Catholic Campus Ministries, Intervarsity, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, the Muslim Student Association, Voices of Praise, and Gospel Choir will all have group access codes.

Those not affiliated with a group can receive personal access through ODI.

InterVarsity is already planning to hold their annual 24-hour prayer room in the new space, said Brookman.

The room is stocked with prayer rugs, a resource library of various texts, including the Quran, Bible, and Torah, among others, and can also act as a space for religious/spiritual affiliated student organizations.

One feature that has students excited is the volunteer program where religious leaders will hold weekly office hours to provide guidance and religious/spiritual comfort for those in need.

"I'm hoping that many college students who don't know where to go to get their spiritual questions answered will see this as their safe space to go and find out what they believe and to connect with people who can help them do that," said Brookman.

"We're currently partnering with local religious leaders who can volunteer an hour every week or every other week," said Moreno.

These volunteers will also assist ODI with religious/spiritual programming and will be able to answer any questions about religion, faith, or spiritual guidance.

A few have already completed a training program to begin their work, Moreno said.

Brookman had the opportunity to meet some of these volunteers during the opening.

"I appreciate [their] thoughtfulness and receptiveness," she said of their giving of their time, "and I can tell they are really ready to come in and serve students well."

Before Hill 106 became available, Gold Room B served as an interfaith prayer space, but wasn't incredibly effective, given that Moreno had to continually reserve the room and it was commonly locked.

The Hill 106 space has been nearly two and a half years in the making, Moreno said.

Those with questions about the room are encouraged to contact Director of Diversity and Inclusion Jose Moreno at jmoreno@mcdaniel.edu or 410-857-2265.



Cecilia Bowens, Kerry Duvall, and Lacey Utz were the 2019 recipients of the Phenomenal Woman awards. (Photo courtesy of Lana Williamson).

McDaniel students, faculty, and staff honored at third annual Phenomenal Woman Awards Banquet

Erin Pogue
Co-Features Editor

On Wednesday, March 27, the third annual Phenomenal Woman Awards Banquet was held to celebrate the accomplishments of women at the College. Over 25 female students, faculty, and staff were nominated for awards by friends, classmates, students, and professors.

Cecilia Bowens, who most community members have met on their way into the dining hall, won the staff award; Kerry Duvall, assistant

professor of economics and business administration, won the faculty award; and Lacey Utz, a senior psychology major, won the student award.

The celebration was organized by Phenomenal Woman, a student organization founded "to create a sense of unity amongst women so that [they] can come together in unity to help one another strive in life," according to their profile on Orgsync. Their events and meetings focus on empowering and support-

ing all women and giving them a safe and welcoming atmosphere.

The event began with a welcome address by Jose Moreno, the director of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion. Also featured was a reading of the poem "Phenomenal Woman" by Maya Angelo, after which the club was named. Each line of the poem was read by a different member of the club from around the room. A keynote address was given by Tirrany Thurmond, the director for the Center for Student Diversity at Mount St. Mary's University.

The theme of this year's banquet was "Breaking the Glass Ceiling," aiming to show how women can overcome the limitations that are seemingly put over them by society.

Take Back the Night walk a moving success

WALK from page 1
fun."

Led by Hunt and other CASE members, students briskly walked from Red Square to Klitzberg Pavilion while shouting a mix of chants prepared and passed out.

"It was awesome that a lot of people just took initiative when we were walking around chanting," said Hunt. "My voice--I couldn't do it--but people would do it and make up their own."

The route took participants past the fountain and through the circle by McDaniel Hall before turning at Peterson Hall to eventually pass by Conference Services and walk north on Pennsylvania Ave. Officers from Campus Safety helped keep walkers safe from vehicle traffic as they turned from the sidewalk back onto campus through North Village and eventually into Klitzberg from the entrance near the water tower.

Once inside, people mingled and discussed their actions before a performance of "Til It Happens To You" sung by first-year Rhema Jones.

Hunt closed the night out by thanking everyone for their participation and togetherness.

"It was great," she said, "because last year it was kind of hard to get people out, but I think it was cool that people were [in Red Square] when I showed up, which is really amazing."

Given the nature of and emotions surrounding Take Back

the Night, members from the Rape Crisis Intervention Service of Carroll County and Director of the Wellness Center Heidi Huber took part in the walk and surrounding events to counsel anyone in need.

CASE was founded in part by the efforts of Cathy Orzolek-Kronner, a social work professor who all three founders had classes with.

"All of their passion on these topics was insurmountable," said Orzolek-Kronner. "At this same time, I was working closely with the college's Title IX committee, and realized that we as a community needed more awareness and education around consent, healthy masculinity, and the reality of sexual assault. While the Wellness Center, First Year Team, and Athletic Department offers programming on these topics, it was simply not enough according to these students. In addition, the Title IX team was looking for more ways to bring about greater understanding and illumination to these very important issues. I thought about the passion of these three young women and suggested that perhaps we could create an avenue for them to advocate and educate for a common cause. We set up a meeting to discuss ideas and the synergy was overwhelming."

It was at this point last year that members from RCIS became involved with the group. With this

far-reaching support, CASE has been able to make a relatively large impact in a short amount of time.

"It is remarkable how many students have gravitated towards this group," said Orzolek-Kronner. "It is also noteworthy that this group is new to campus as of last spring and two of the founders are studying abroad this semester, leaving the Take Back the Night event under the sole leadership of Mackenzie [Hunt], who I understand is bringing together quite an inspirational event."

Despite the successful event, the work of CASE is far from over.

"CASE has grown to fill the void where administrative support and resources should be," said Schneider in an email preceding the walk. "There is not enough education on the McDaniel campus regarding issues such as consent, STIs, and sexual assault. Along with this, when sexual assault happens on campus, students are not given information they are entitled to and are sometimes pressured to act in ways outside of their best interest. It is so important that survivors of sexual assault are supported and allowed to proceed in a manner they determine that helps their healing."

Editor's note: Those who have experienced any form of sexual violence should contact local resources like the McDaniel College Wellness Center and RCIS or national resources like RAINN or NSVRC.

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Manny Ruiz, Ph.D., making impact with CEO as director of student development programming

Atticus Rice
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Director of Student Development Programming Manny Ruiz, Ph.D., joined the Center for Experience and Opportunity last October. Now in his first full semester on the Hill, he's already made a lasting impact on students and staff alike.

"Ruiz is an excellent listener, who continues to surprise students with his breadth of knowledge and the substantive connections he fosters," said Associate Dean of Campus and Community Engagement and Executive Director of the Center for Experience and Opportunity Josh Ambrose. "He is not afraid to challenge students as they develop their professional skills for the workplace, but he does it in the most instructive way possible. He is already proving his deep investment in our community, attending student events, working collaboratively with students and staff across divisions, and sharing his upbeat attitude with everyone."

Ruiz has felt that community investment since his first day.

"The minute you walk on campus you feel that sense of community," he said. "People talked to me when I got lost."

This friendly atmosphere has transcended from a campus stroll directly to his daily work.

"I'm blessed to work with [Ambrose]," Ruiz said. "He's given me a lot of autonomy."

Ambrose has seen how Ruiz's prior experiences in his field can add value to his work at McDaniel.

"Ruiz has an extensive background in higher education and brings a wealth of expertise and professional connections to the office," Ambrose said. "He has a large network of contacts with industries/career opportunities across the nation, which we've already seen benefit students from a wide variety of majors."

Ruiz's role puts emphasis on intentional student development

programming, specifically for sophomore students.

"So much is offered here as a first year student and when you're in that sophomore slump there's nothing here," he said.

To combat this, he's assisted in developing and teaching the My Career course, which is the junior and senior component of the College's new McDaniel Commitment initiative.

Ruiz is also working with Associate Dean of Second-Year Students Stephanie Madsen, Ph.D. and Associate Dean of Students and Director of Residence Life Michael Robbins to create a sophomore resources program.

His impact has already been felt elsewhere.

The history major at Montclair State University continued his education at the New Jersey college and earned a master's in counseling in higher education in 2001. Ruiz later earned a doctorate in education with a concentration in critical race theory from Northeastern University in 2013.

During this time, he spent the better part of 2008-2018 working at Gettysburg College in their career development office.

At the Rt.-97 athletic rival, he organized their first job fair despite resistance.

"I was always told no," Ruiz said of his very first efforts at putting the event on. But he would always reply with "you don't know if you don't try," so try he did.

Naturally, one of the first large-scale projects he was tasked with was putting on the CEO's spring career and internship fair, which took place in early March.

To do so, he made sure students would want to come by bringing in desirable employers.

"I was intentional in reaching out to seniors to see what they want," Ruiz said.

These included the U.S. Census Bureau, the FBI, and the Secret Ser-



Manny Ruiz, Ph.D., joined the CEO last October. He brings 18 years of experience in student programming to the evolving experiential office. (Atticus Rice / McDaniel Free Press).

vice, among many others.

Moving forward, he's looking to bring an employer advisory board. This group would consist of about ten employers from various industries who could get to know the McDaniel student body and advise the College on hiring and recruiting trends, as well as what employers are looking for in recent graduates.

Just approved, the board will leverage partners in for-profit, non-profit, education, and abroad sectors.

At Gettysburg, Ruiz worked a lot with international students, many of whom weren't aware of the resources and opportunities available to them.

"I did everything I could in that role," he said.

He put on intentional programming to get international students in the door at places that aligned with their academic interests.

"So many students were under the impression that they couldn't do an internship, couldn't do x, y, or z," he said.

He also worked the other side of the game, educating employers and faculty so that they could best help international students and allow them to successfully participate in events like job fairs.

This type of work allowed Ruiz to learn extensively about leveraging partnerships in the name of community engagement.

As part of the sophomore resources program, he envisions communicating with alumni so that students on the Hill can participate

in job shadowing, informational interviews, and learn more about their job prospects.

Ruiz would also like to see more involvement from the community to help prepare students for the job market.

"I would love to implement a challenge to parents and alumni as a part of the McDaniel Commitment," he said of accomplishing this goal.

Ruiz wants to coordinate with the College's major gift officers, too, by putting together talking points about the CEO and his initiatives so they can recruit interested alumni for these programs.

"We all represent the brand," he said of himself and other College employees working toward the same goal.

At the end of the day, it's all about the people for Ruiz.

"What I'm excited about is cultivating relationships with employers that are going to aid us," he said. "In essence, bringing an employer relations program to the College that doesn't exist."

And the people are all about him.

"Ruiz is a great colleague," said Ambrose, "who joins a team that believes in the future of this institution and the potential of our students. He is a much appreciated addition to the office, and we are all enjoying the fresh infusion of energy into the critical work we do here to support students' experiential learning and help them along their vocational exploration."

Rich Goodman moves to CEO as associate director of career development

Atticus Rice
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Rich Goodman, area coordinator for first year housing within the Office of Residence Life, has joined the Center for Experience and Opportunity as the associate director of career development.

Goodman started work in the CEO in February, but has continued his area coordinator work. He'll finish out this academic year in the dual role before carrying on with the CEO full time.

His work in the CEO will focus on careers and internships, two of the CEO's four main components, along with study abroad and service opportunities.

This will include mock interviews, resume building, career fairs,

general advising, and job search assistance.

"Anything that you can think of that will help you become more prepared for a job," said Goodman of what he'll do for students.

He knows his work will be impactful, as he's seen some students falsely believe that college automatically turns into a job.

"You have to actually set yourself apart in some way," he said.

Helping students get internships to set them up for success in the job market is one way that Goodman will help with this in his new role.

He's excited for upcoming events, like the classic career and internship fairs and alumni panels and events. But he's also excited for new projects.

"We would love to have more

increased demonstration opportunities for various majors and various career paths," he said. "We would love to see some kind of documentation for each department saying what resources to tap into and what specific things the CEO can do for that department."

According to Associate Dean of Campus and Community Engagement and Executive Director of the CEO Josh Ambrose, Goodman is the right person for the job.

"Rich has a wealth of higher [education] experiences to draw on for his work at the CEO, including a background in biology, two years in residence life here on the Hill, and much more," said Ambrose. "He is a skillful listener, an impressive writer, and a wise voice of mentorship for our students."

Goodman earned a bachelor's of science in biology and bachelor's of arts in psychology as an undergraduate at Shepherd University, a public liberal arts college in his home state of West Virginia. He then earned his master's degrees in college student

development and administration and in teaching for secondary science, also at Shepherd.

"I very much like a small liberal arts college," he said of both Shepherd and McDaniel.

It's at these small schools that he's been able to have some of his favorite work-related experiences.

"The best part," he said of his area coordinator position, "is definitely the relationship that you get to build with your [resident assistants] and your residents."

For his one-on-ones, regular meetings that area coordinators have with their resident assistants, he makes sure to go out and do something, like get ice cream at Hoffman's. Being outside of an office setting helps everyone get more comfortable, he said.

"Being vulnerable and being real with people I find is the best way to get to know each other," he said. "I've really enjoyed the conversations I've got to have."

This approach has evidently paid

See **GOODMAN**, page 10

Higher Achievement Baltimore takes the lead

Aaron White
Contributor

In the past few years Baltimore City has made budget cuts to help close a financial gap of 130 million dollars. This lead to the the layoff of teachers, staff, custodians and student support student programs. Now there is little outlet for students to grow academically outside of the classroom. So where does this leave students to go after school for help with learning?

Among many programs, Higher Achievement Baltimore has taken the lead. Higher Achievement Baltimore is a program that was started in 2009. The program originated in Washington D.C. and since then has evolved to serve students in the DMV area.

The mission of the program is to help aid Baltimore City students in their crucial transition from elementary to middle school. Higher Achievement starts students off as early as fifth grade and expects them to make a four-year commitment of year-round academic support. With year-round support, these students, or scholars, are exposed to various activities, opportunities, and receive constant academic and social support from mentors and staff.

I had the pleasure and oppor-

tunity to visit their East Baltimore site and sit down with Executive Director Traci Callender, Site Director Derrick Sydnor, and a scholar named India. India, a sixth grader and scholar at the East Baltimore Achievement Center, claimed that the program “helps you with school, and it also helps you become confident, and you have the opportunity to make a lot of friends.”

The program offers a lot of opportunities for the scholars to become immersed in their learning. Scholars participate in a wide range of electives. These range from cosmetology to self-defense classes. India participates in the self-defense elective. In this class, they learn karate and Chinese.

“When we do curriculum, we not only learn things that are being taught in school, but also we also learn new things,” she said.

Curriculum is their version of a study hall. This is where they receive supplementary learning. They perfect current grade-level topics while being exposed to the next ones. This helps keep scholars on their toes and ahead of the game.

Sydnor, the director for the East Baltimore center, said that an introduction to college concepts is crucial.

“Exposing scholars to college

early helps put it on their table early and helps them grow as they continue to be exposed to college academia,” he said. “This encourages them to receive extra education whether it is at a four-year college or university or community college.”

Upon deeper conversation about the program, he said that Higher Achievement is “a program that is housed in academia. We have a curriculum that is culturally and socially relevant to the scholars. We connect learning topics to what is going on around [the students] to help invigorate their minds so they can perform at high marks.”

Executive Director Traci Callender is one of the newest executive directors of Higher Achievement and has only been in the organization for three years. She has bright ideas about where to take the program.

“Here at Higher Achievement, not only are we building our next generation of leaders in the scholars we serve — [we also] offer an asset to the community to bring opportunities to our scholars,” she explained. “Since the backbone of our program is mentorship, we recruit people from different backgrounds and allow them to come in and work hands-on and learn more about the community around them and its needs.”

In addition, Higher Achievement has taken on an advocacy role. Recently, Governor Larry Hogan was going to invest in our

jail system rather than our education system. One of my biggest questions for Callender was about Higher Achievement’s role in reducing to the student-to-prison pipeline for these students.

“The student-to-prison pipeline looks at the education outcome when they are building prisons to determine how many jails they will need in the next 15 years,” Callender said. “[We are] helping out with grade-level proficiency and educating our scholars about social issues and teaching how not to fall victim to it.”

After talking with Callender, I learned that Higher Achievement works closely with Annapolis and the mayor’s office to help shed light on the issues and educate parents on the social issues. From my personal experience, Higher Achievement has really helped me become the student I am today. I don’t think I would be in college if it weren’t for them. As a scholar living in Baltimore City, sometimes the odds are not always in your favor, and that’s why programs like Higher Achievement Baltimore are pertinent to every student’s success.

It helps set up these Baltimore City kids for success and gets them inspired to turn their dreams into reality. Having this level of academic and social support is very crucial at this time in their life. Other programs like CollegeBound and the Akoben Foundation are also making an impact in the community around them.

Pollution in Ocean City, a chain reaction of effects

Wyatt Church
Contributor

I was born and raised in Ocean City, Maryland and growing up there was always so special. People constantly ask me “do you actually live in Ocean City?” and “what is it like living there?”.

Well, to be honest, it is truly amazing. The summer seasons are always crazy with millions of tourists crowding the town, spending their money so carelessly, traffic backed up for miles, and lines every place you go. All these little problems are looked over because pretty much the only problem you have in the summertime in Ocean City is whether to go to the beach or go out on the boat. I know. Rough life, right?

Then time transitions into winter and the town is like a deserted wasteland. Tourists leave, renters’ time is up, and it’s just the people who are the ‘regulars’ of the town left to stay. A lot of people say that they like winter better than summer because it’s not as crowded and you can actually drive down the road. One of the biggest issues that summertime brings, though, is waste and pollution left in our city.

Pollution is one of the biggest problems in our society today. 35 billion plastic water bottles are thrown away every year, and the average American throws away approximately 185 pounds of plastic per year. Ocean City does a good job of handling all the tourists that come for a visit in the summertime,



(Photo courtesy of Pixabay user 821292).

but you can only do so much when it comes to handling all the trash that is left behind by vacationers. Beach and ocean pollution is very important to me because it is killing marine life and turning away tourists wanting to come to our town for a vacation.

My family owns a real estate company on 79th street that has been established since 1984, and we rely heavily on tourism. Our annual sales are very much dependent on tourists coming to our town and buying or renting units. My point is that if our beach, ocean, and town as a whole is dirty and covered in waste, then nobody is going to want to come to Ocean City which will negatively affect our livelihood.

Ocean pollution is also very important to me and the town of Ocean City because it is killing off many marine animals such as fish and crustaceans. Over 100,000

marine mammals are killed annually from plastic in our oceans, and plastic creates \$13 billion of damage to marine ecosystems annually. The town of Ocean City heavily relies on its seafood and restaurant industry to bring in millions of dollars in revenue each year. Without the seafood, many local restaurants would struggle and most likely go out of business.

It takes an effort from everyone to conquer the waste and pollution problem not just in Ocean City, but in the world. People should care what is happening to our environment; specifically, our beaches and oceans because once they are hurt it is hard to retrieve them back. When people come visit Ocean City, just pick up after yourselves and limit the amount of waste you bring to the beach. Try and reduce, reuse, and recycle any materials that you can. If there is an opportunity for a com-

munity beach clean-up, then go join it and bring your family and friends! Instead of using plastic straws, try and use paper straws. Instead of using plastic bottles, use aluminum bottles, which are reusable. Everyone needs to take strides like these so that not only our town can remain clean, but every beach and ocean in the world can remain clean and healthy.

The town of Ocean City is a great place with great beaches, restaurants, businesses, and overall atmosphere. The goal is to keep it that way. With more and more people coming to visit, it’s hard to keep the beach clean, but with help from everyone it can be done. Treat the beach as if it were your home and clean up after yourself. Beach pollution leads to many other negative effects, so do as all the locals say and “leave only your footprints!”



McDaniel offers a few reusable water bottle filling stations, like this one located outside of Glar. (Photo courtesy of Jake Scott).

Stop the single-use plastic bottle pollution

Jake Scott
Contributor

According to a 2017 report from The Guardian, 1 million plastic water bottles are purchased world-wide every minute. That’s expected to jump another 20 percent in the next two years.

And plastic water bottle use in the U.S. is particularly problematic, according to Chase Hartman, marketing coordinator for Atlantic Blue, a water treatment company.

“On average, Americans throw out approximately 78,000 water bottles every minute and 2.5 million water bottles every hour,” said Hartman.

These stats show how much plastic is thrown out by humans and the majority of that plastic either goes into our oceans, pollutes our land, and also hurts animals. What those statistics don’t tell you is that every

time you drink out of a plastic water bottle, you are drinking tiny pieces of plastic that can get stuck in your bloodstream.

In a 2018 article from Business Insider, Aquafina, Nestle, and Dasani are called out for the plastic particles within their bottled water products, which the author mentions negatively affect the human body.

This is particularly alarming because it has yet to be uncovered what exactly these plastic particles are doing to humans.

“We don’t know exactly what these plastic parts are doing to our bodies, but we’re drinking them in anyway,” the article reads. “That’s an alarming prospect, because in the ocean, these little plastics are doing harmful things to fish. In some species, they’re even slowing down growth and reproduction.”

Not knowing what these small plastic particles are doing to our

bodies is scary because every time we are drinking from a water bottle, we could be harming our bodies rather than helping them with drinking water.

“While there isn’t clear evidence yet that the plastics in disposable water bottles can increase cancer risk, we know that bottles containing a chemical called BPA do,” the article continues. “The endocrine-disrupting hard BPA plastics in certain reusable water bottles can lead to higher instances of infertility, breast and prostate cancer, and early puberty. And a few studies suggest the softer kinds of disposable water bottles can have similar, endocrine-disrupting chemicals inside.”

Given that plastic water bottles are not only thrown out at egregious rates, but that they also may harm your body while doing so, I ask for all of you to stop using single-use plastic water bottles. It is ruining the environment every time you throw one away and it is also harming yourself every time you drink out of one.

Quiet the mind, live in the now: The benefits of meditation

Dylan Chainey
Contributor

Meditation can lower blood pressure, improve blood circulation, and lower heart rate. So why isn’t it a part of everyone’s daily routine? Meditation has many different names and has been practiced in many different cultures. It has even been proven that meditation can cause changes to the brain and reduce anxiety and stress levels.

But what exactly is meditation? It is a practice that requires you to relax your body and to clear your mind of all thoughts and focus on the present moment. You focus on your breathing and the sensation you feel in your body while keeping your mind clear of your thoughts or worries of the day.

It may sound impossible to not think of anything, but meditation is a skill that can be learned and is abstract in a sense that you can personalize what mediation is to you. Some people meditate for as little as five minutes, while others meditate for longer.

There are different types of meditation that have different focuses and types of methods. One that I normally do is called body scan, I start the meditation by closing my eyes, taking some deep breaths, and then focusing on whatever sensation I’m feeling in my feet. Then I start to incorporate the rest of my body from the bottom of my feet, until I get to the top of my head.

When I first started, I found my mind wandering off to other places, but as time went on, I became better at controlling my thoughts. Beginners trying this new experience might find it challenging. To improve at it, you must practice and eventually it will become effortless.

From personal experience, the benefits of meditation, like any exercise, become more noticeable when they are done consistently. I can feel a big difference from when I’m meditating regularly and when I am not. Meditation has some misconceptions; some people think of it as being a part of some religious or spiritual practice.

Meditation can be used to aid in



(Photo courtesy of Pixabay user Wunderela).

whatever you need it to. My reason for getting into meditation was to help me relax at night before I went to sleep. It helped me, so I got into it more and eventually started to like it. When I do it regularly my thoughts are clearer, and I feel less stressed about things like school or other daily responsibilities that I have.

I know it’s not for everyone, but in a world where we are constantly going from one thing to the next, I find it nice to put my phone on silent and not worry about deadlines, but simply relax in the present. As a

McDaniel Compliments

Maddy Lee is such a talented writer. Your prize-winning story in *Contrast* made me cry. I can’t wait to read more of your work.

Congrats to everyone involved with *Contrast*! What a beautiful magazine. I can tell you all worked hard.

Congrats McDaniel College Theatre on such a successful performance! Thanks for a night full of laughs.

Tim Olson has the coolest hair! You rock, man!

Sam McCarthy gets my vote for best-dressed student on campus.

To the dude learning piano in Ensor earlier today: every piano player since like the 1800s has struggled through “Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star.” You’re doing great!

Want to brighten someone’s day? Need a way to fulfill your random act of kindness for the day? Message *Dean McDaniel Compliments* on Facebook with a compliment, and we’ll post it anonymously for you. Here to spread some happiness on the Hill, we’ll make sure your friend, classmate, or professor has the chance to smile and feel appreciated. Your compliment could be featured in the next issue of the *Free Press*!

Editor’s note: Opinions expressed in the Commentary section do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Free Press or McDaniel College and are solely representative of their respective authors.

The Free Press encourages all readers to submit a letter to the editor or a commentary piece should they have an opinion on any of our published material. Visit mcdanielfreepress.com to get started.

April 23, 2019

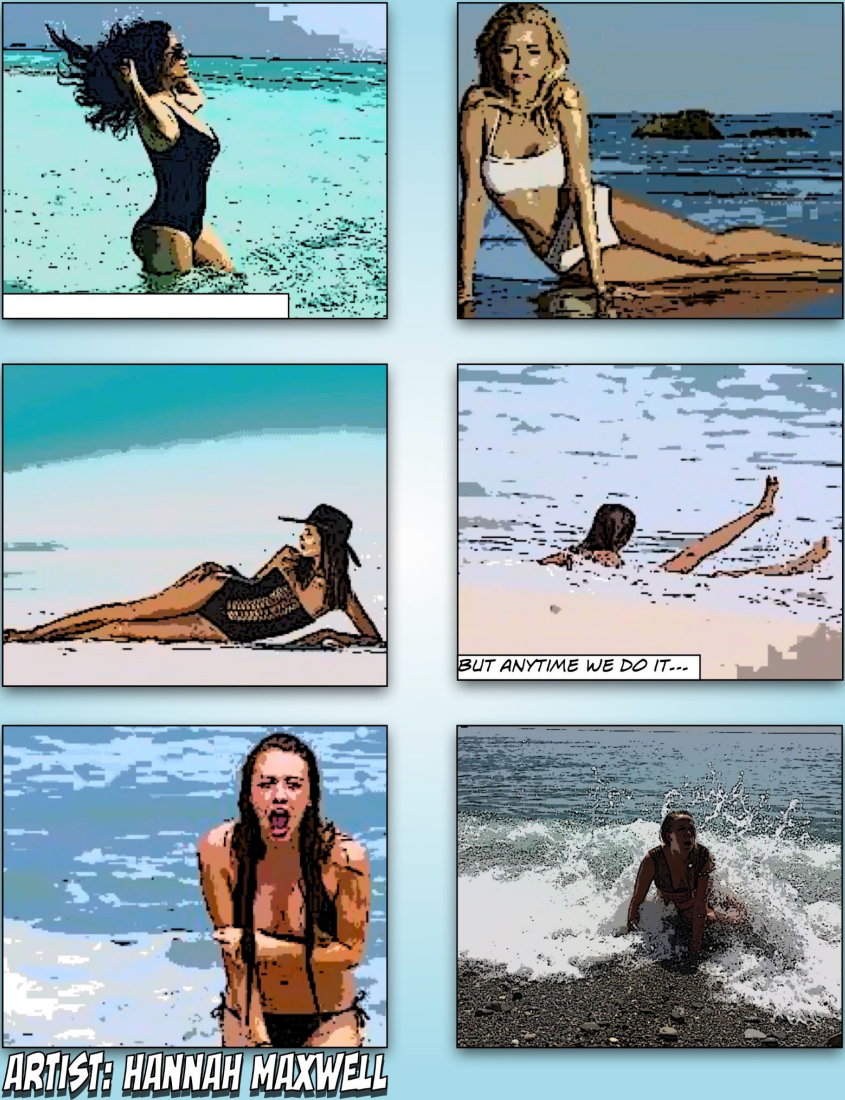
Another print issue means another round of comics! This time you'll find below comics following the theme of "The Ocean" by Hannah Maxwell and Nathan Wright.

Editors' note: The images and content are used for educational purposes in a comedic manner that reflects satire and/or parody. Use of copyrighted images complies with the Best Practices of Fair Use as described by the Center for Media and Social Impact at American University.



McComics

Problems of the Basic



Writer of the Week: Lucille Clifton

Colin Lyon
Assistant Editor

Maryland is a geographically small state, but its history and legacy are as rich as any other's. No one writer exemplifies the rich history of this politically, socially, and racially conflicted area more than poet and activist Lucille Clifton.

Clifton was born Thelma Lucille

Sayles in 1936 in Depew, N.Y. Clifton's childhood in Buffalo, N.Y. was one filled with literature. Much of her parents' earnings from their laundering and factory jobs went toward literature for Clifton and her siblings.

Neither of her parents had been formally educated, but that didn't stop Clifton from excelling. Clifton flew through her primary education, and was accepted into Howard University at the age of 16.

After three years at Howard, she transferred to Fredonia State Teacher's College. It was here that an appreciation for poetry began to sprout within her. Soon after, she

married her husband, Fred James Clifton.

Clifton's career choices shifted in an unexpected direction when she worked as a claims clerk in Buffalo from 1958 to 1960. But her love of poetry and literature persevered, and in 1960 she began work as a literature assistant in 1960.

Clifton's poetry career began in 1966, when a fellow writer, Ishmael Reed, who himself is a celebrated writer and poet, took some of her poems to Harlem Renaissance leader Langston Hughes. Hughes included them in his collection, *The Poetry of the Negro: 1746—1970*.

Clifton moved to Baltimore the

year after and stayed in Maryland for most of her life thereafter.

In 1969, Clifton published her first poetry anthology titled *Good Times*. It was subsequently listed as one of the ten best books of the year by *The New York Times*. Her career expanded from that point when she became a poet-in-residence of Coppin State University in 1971, and in 1979 she was awarded the title of Poet Laureate of Maryland.

Clifton's career continued around both poetry and teaching. She signed on to the University of California, Santa Cruz as a creative writing professor in 1985. She earned the *See CLIFTON, page 8*

Maryland Art Place understands art is a need, not a want

ART from page 1

This event brings back the fun and excitement of what you can do and where you can go with your art. It brings a confidence to the artists as well as a community standing behind them, cheering for their success.

For many participants, this was their first ever exhibition. Some felt that their work would not be good enough in comparison to other artists' work, or that they couldn't afford the installation fees of other galleries. But MAP offers a reasonable, judgement-free space for artists of any level to feel comfortable and confident in their work.

Around 50 of the pieces submitted this year were hung on the gallery's fifth floor, where children ages 5-16 participated in KidOOO for free. MAP has offered workshops for children in partnership with local

artists, where their work can be automatically submitted into the show.

"Art can benefit children in many ways," said Gill, "including improving fine motor skills. I think that the most important thing art can do for children is to help them express themselves, notably at a young age when they have a limited vocabulary and struggle to articulate ideas or issues. Especially for children who have suffered trauma, displacement, or abuse. I think art-making is beneficial in a child's emotional and creative development."

Getting the youth show as big as the adult show would be an amazing accomplishment, and will give children a space and opportunity to be proud of their artwork and gain confidence in their abilities, whether they decide to go into the art world or not.

With budget cuts at schools



Visitors at Maryland Art Place enjoy the opening exhibition of the Out of Order gallery show on April 5, 2019. (Photo courtesy of Shelby Hickey).

taking away art classes to the societal notion of the "starving artist," the excitement and learning possibilities of art are diminishing and the world's exposure to art seems to be dwindling. When you reach a certain age, the idea of pursuing the arts becomes laughable and unrealistic, an impossible dream. My hope is that places like Maryland Art Place will

become more popular and successful so that young kids, people stuck in unfortunate situations, the elderly, the under-appreciated, the dreamers, the people in need of a voice, or the just-your-average neighbor, can truly benefit from the power of art, and can give rise to a new era of artists and an appreciation for what it can do.

Unveiling ceremony releases 2019 Contrast literary magazine

Colin Lyon
Assistant Editor

On April 18, McDaniel’s *Contrast* literary magazine returned to debut their stellar 2019 issue. The newest issue of the magazine came after months of hard work from the co-editors-in-chief, Editorial Board, and contributing writers and artists. It was received by an eager body of readers.

The *Contrast* Unveiling Ceremony began with refreshments and a chance for the assembled guests to mingle. Among the throng this year were poets, writers, and artists from all backgrounds and majors — several professors were also in attendance. After a few minutes of chatter, the Unveiling Ceremony began.

Co-editors-in-chief Marya Kuratova and Emma Driban opened the ceremony by celebrating the many authors and artists that contributed. Alongside a slideshow of the many art pieces and photographs that were published, contributors were invited to read their entries to the crowd. Among these readings were



Maddy Lee reads her first-place prose piece at the Contrast unveiling ceremony on Thursday, April 18, 2019. (Colin Lyon / McDaniel Free Press).

John McEachern with his first-place poem “Diary from the End of the World” and Maddy Lee with her first-place prose piece, “A Woman’s Routine.” Kuratova and Driban both read selections from their published work as well.

The 2019 issue is 103 pages long, with a photograph of Baltimore’s Domino Sugars sign splashed on the cover, the classic “Domino Sugars” replaced with the words “Contrast Literary Magazine.” Its three sections of poetry, prose, and art each received a multitude of submissions, organized in the issue by contributor

last name rather than section type.

Each category has three cash prize winners: \$100 for the first-place winner, \$50 for the second, and \$25 for the third.

The winner of the prose category was “A Woman’s Routine” by Maddy Lee. Second and third prizes were awarded to Lucas Craig’s “Novelty Pens” and Kaylan Hutchison’s “You’ll Love Your First Job,” respectively.

The art category’s first-place winner was Lauren Beckjord’s “The Terror of Man.” Second place was given to “Hooper Island” by Jon-

athan Nepini. Third prize went to Brenna Gutshall’s piece entitled “His Name is Conroy.”

The poetry prize winner was John McEachern’s “Diary from the End of the World.” Second prize was awarded to Becca Halaney for her poem “I Love You So Much.” Jacob Summerlin received third prize for “James Gatz.”

Editor’s note: Copies of the Contrast literary magazine are free of charge, and can be found in multiple locations around campus.

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It's time to end the mental illness stigma for student-athletes

Emma Lorenzen
Contributor

Mental health stigma has become an increasingly large problem in society. The NCAA has, in previous years, disregarded athletes' mental health. However, the organization has made the initial effort to conduct surveys that ask athletes to speak up about their mental health.

There is not a specific standard procedure that the NCAA follows, though. Mary E. Wilfert, associate director of the NCAA Sport Science Institute, confirmed this.

"Intervention cannot come out of the national office. We are not a medical organization," she said.

I am writing as a part of the student-athlete community. After being a collegiate athlete for two years in an NCAA program, several concerns have come to light. Why is mental health not a top priority for the NCAA?

It is easy to find an athlete with a physical injury during his or her season, but it can be near impossible to recognize an athlete's mental health problem. Athletes would have to come forward and admit to their struggles, and with an athlete's typical mindset, it's rare to see that happen. As athletes, we are trained to be tough and to not show weakness.

Jordan Butler, a counselor for the Wellness Center, said he believes that athletes are most likely to be nervous to admit to mental struggles.

"I think the main reason [athletes are hesitant to ask for help regarding

mental health] is because seeking help is often seen as anathema to the 'warrior' culture that sport espouses," Butler said.

We are trained to leave our bad days off the court or field, because if we do show weakness, we might suffer heavy backlash. Athletes give up hours of their day to academics, practice, extracurricular activities, work, and at some point have to find the time to take care of our bodies. That includes rest, physical therapy, and eating.

But there are even more expectations for athletes: a successful social life and keeping up with personal relationships. If we even think to ask for a break or for a second to breathe, we are perceived as weak. We are athletes, we are tough. We aren't supposed to struggle.

As my concerns about student-athletes' mental health grew, I wanted to take action starting with our campus — my mission is to not blame the NCAA for the number of athletes who struggle with mental health. The NCAA has made conscious efforts to work with coaches by using training modules and other resources. McDaniel College has the resources to help mental illnesses, but do our athletes know about those services?

"I do not think that all athletes are aware of mental health services on campus. That being said, I encourage any person that wants to know more to contact me at the Wellness Center," said Butler. "Working with athletes is one of my favorite parts of my job at McDan-



McDaniel volleyball player Haley Mills takes to the hardwood during spring training. (Photo courtesy of Emma Lorenzen).

iel."

I want my fellow athletes to be aware of the services we have on campus. Jessica Wolverton, the head coach for the women's volleyball team, said she recognizes that the Wellness Center is a valuable resource for students.

"As coaches, we should not be mental health counselors for our athletes, but we do know that sometimes they come to us before they're willing to seek out treatment," she said. "Our job is to listen and to point our athletes in the direction of professional help, and in the case of mental health, that's the Wellness Center."

We stigmatize mental illness and characterize it as an uncommon experience, especially for athletes. We cannot just blame the NCAA for a high number of mental illnesses in student-athletes; we, as members of a student athlete program, have to stand up for ourselves and take advantage of the on-campus support we have.

The Wellness Center provides

counseling for every student on campus for free. There is even a counselor specifically for athletes, and it takes less than a five-minute phone call to schedule an appointment with the Center. We need to make the conscious effort to fight the stigma around mental illness, and we need to talk openly about mental health and be willing to talk about our experiences.

It is crucial to educate one another on the importance of mental health. Choose to empower one another — mental health does not dictate who we are as people. Our goal as a community is to reach out to one another and shine light on ways we can help those with mental illnesses. With the bond that we share as athletes here on campus, let's continue to help one another. Stop stigmatizing mental health and start sharing the knowledge of resources we so greatly have.

Editor's note: Students looking for mental health solutions may call the Wellness Center at 410-857-2243 or visit the second floor of the Winslow Center.

Will Giles '18 named interim head tennis coach

Emmanuel Brown
Staff Reporter

After former Head Tennis Coach Jason Clark stepped down from coaching before the beginning of the spring season, Graduate Assistant Coach Will Giles was appointed as the interim head coach.

As a former player for the College, Giles was a four-year member and three-year captain for the team. He was also viewed as a mentor to many of his younger teammates.

Outside of being a graduate assistant coach for the team, Giles's other coaching experiences include coaching for his local team, which is based out of Cumberland, Md.

Despite being new to the head coaching position, Giles is changing the culture of the team, according to several players.

"He's challenging us to change our mindsets," said sophomore Luke Shuck.

Shuck said that Giles is really making an effort to make his presence known. He hosts team meet-

ings, contacts players individually, and gets them new team gear.

Senior Tate Myers admitted having to adjust to seeing Giles as a coach, since Giles is a former teammate to many members of the team.

"It was little strange at first, just kind of seeing him in that different [role]," said Myers. "But he stepped up into that leadership role really quickly."

He explained that Giles's former ties to the team help him with his coaching methods.

"He knows what it's like to be [on the team]," said Myers. "He knows what worked and didn't work for us."

Shuck also said that Giles is more than a coach.

"Not only is he like a coach," said Shuck, "but he's also a friend."

The transition is going well for Giles, though he did admit to running into some challenges.

"Our biggest challenge moving forward is gaining some players," he said. "You need six [players] to play. We have six women [and] seven men."

That said, Giles has been devoting a lot of his time to recruiting more student-athletes to play for the team.

Although he is an interim head coach, Giles said that the College will grant him another year as a graduate assistant coach should they find a permanent coach.

Writer of the Week: Lucille Clifton

CLIFTON from page 6
title of distinguished humanities professor at St. Mary's College of Maryland, and in 2006, she accepted fellowship at Dartmouth.

Clifton's poetry had a strong focus on describing the pressure and difficulties of being a black woman during the Civil Rights movement. Her fellow poet Reed and acquaintance Hughes supported this style of writing, and it came to a focus in her anthology *My Black Me: A Beginning Book of Black Poetry*.

Other themes common across

her works were health problems and her ancestry as a member of the area now known as the Republic of Benin. Clifton's utilization of the black female body as a source of power, pride, and inspiration is also prominent among her works, especially her poem "homage to my hips."

Clifton passed away in 2010 at the age of 73. Her legacy lives on in African-American poets and writers, as well as in the Lucille Clifton House at St. Mary's College of Maryland. Clifton's poems can be bought at most major bookstores, but her influence has been felt far beyond the world of poetry. She has left her mark on decades of African-American cultural development in the United States, and her poetry is a clear expression of her desires to see African-Americans flourish.



Will Giles with the men's tennis team. (Photo courtesy of Erin Benevento).

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The death of a nation: identity politics and public political discourse

Sam McCarthy
Contributor

In the age of Trumpism, it is not difficult to discern that the caliber of political discourse in our nation has fallen to lows unparalleled in recent years. Identity politics are ravaging the very fabric of our society. Why is this? How has such unbridled hatred, such volatile disdain, permeated the heart of the United States? The answer is quite simple: a failure to recognize human dignity.

Every human being is gifted with a level of inherent dignity. At present, that dignity is under siege. One of the chief weapons used against it is identity politics. When an individual chooses to associate him or herself with a particular political party or candidate to such an extent that it becomes a form of identity, that individual is consciously choosing to sacrifice his or her own persona, either in full or in part, to a certain political creed. Such is an assault on one’s own dignity. By partaking in the identity politics culture, an individual is choosing to cede a part of his or her own inherent human

dignity.

Conversely, the identity politics culture also fosters hostility towards others. If one associates oneself completely with a political party or candidate, it breeds an “us versus them” mentality. A civil debate between conservatives and liberals is no longer commonplace, it is the anomaly; intelligent discourse is no longer the norm. Instead, soundbites and ad hominem attacks reign supreme.

There is a tendency to dehumanize those on the opposite end of the political spectrum, to treat them as less valuable than they truly are, and to completely forget their inherent human dignity: for no other reason than their political tendencies. One need look no further for evidence than our nation’s estimable news services. Networks such as Fox News and MSNBC consistently go out of their respective ways to belittle and ridicule those on the opposite end of the political spectrum.

This dehumanization is all-pervading, it is not simply relegated to D.C. and the newsroom; it seeps into our workplaces, our dining



(Photo courtesy of Pixabay user Jackelberry).

halls, even our homes. Families and friends fight viciously over politics; a mother might turn on her son or a father on his daughter – over nothing more substantial than a political candidate. Our country is at war, and that war is being fought with cruelty.

How, then, is this counteracted? In short, by reclaiming human dignity. Learn to differentiate between a person and the political candidate they support. Seek fulfillment outside the sphere of public politics. Recognize that politics are simply a

tool: seek fulfillment in friendships, healthy family relationships, your institutions, your religions. Maintain an informed electorate, of course, but use that information merely as a tool, not as an end in and of itself. If necessary, learn to avoid discussing politics. Instead of reading or watching news constantly, just hit the highlights – spend the rest of your time working, reading a favorite book, or talking with a friend. Learn to recognize the dignity inherent in all people, regardless of their political views.



The College’s Honor Code is found in all campus classrooms. (Emma Carter / McDaniel Free Press).

Adhering to the Honor Code versus passing the class

Emmanuel Brown
Staff Reporter

At McDaniel College, the Honor Code is displayed on a plaque in every classroom to discourage students from cheating. Unfortunately, this does not stop students from doing just that.

“If you’re cheating, you’re still going to write the Honor Code,” said Erin Watley, Ph.D., an assistant professor of communication at the College.

In order to assuage this problem, it is important to understand why it is taking place.

At the College, depending on a

student’s major, he or she is required to take pre-requisite classes and pass with a C or better to move on to the next class. As a result, this leads some students to look at one aspect: passing the class.

When students only focus on their grade, it causes professors to become concerned whether students are retaining information from their classes.

“I, as a teacher, am less concerned with you just getting [the assignment] done,” said Watley. “And [I’m] more concerned with knowing that you actually understand it.”

Kathy Mangan, Ph.D., who has been teaching at the College for

more than 40 years, said she agreed. She explained that because of the McDaniel Plan, she will get students in her classes who are there as a result of the Plan. Her goal is not for them to fulfill the McDaniel requirement — it is to leave her classes with certain life skills.

“As long as they’re applying what I’m trying to teach them,” said Mangan, “I am a happy teacher.”

Even though some may have a better understanding of why students cheat, how does the College handle cheating?

Dean Stephanie Madsen, who is the associate dean for sophomore students and the chair member of the Honor Board, explained that it is a multiple step process.

“When a faculty member suspects a student may have violated the Honor Code,” said Dean Madsen, “[the faculty member] will

submit an Honor Code violation [form].”

This form is submitted to the dean of the faculty, who will then decide if there is enough evidence to conduct an Honor Board hearing.

Madsen’s role before the hearing begins is to be a mediator for the student and answer any questions they have. Once the meeting begins, her role is to make sure the hearing runs smoothly.

“We want this to be a process that is fair to the student,” said Madsen, “and allow them to learn from that mistake.”

She also explained that when a student violates the Honor Code, it does not always result in a meeting with the Honor Board. This is known as an alternative adjudication process.

This was started two years ago, and it allows professors to handle minor offenses with their students. It eliminates students having to meet with the Honor Board unless they want to.

Despite the College implementing processes like this, it does not resolve the problem of students wanting to pass a class versus understanding the material.

No matter how personable professors make their course material, there are still a handful of students who will cheat, especially if they are not interested in the material.

In order to lessen this issue, it is important that the College combats it by formally speaking about it. As a liberal arts college, the administration and professors emphasize the importance of being a well-rounded student. But they do not talk about the dangers of just passing a class.

By starting a new initiative to speak out about this mindset, it will challenge students to critically examine their goals and incentives in the classroom.



(Photo courtesy of Pixabay user StockSnap).

Thought-out decisions in politics

Samuel McDermott
Contributor

Politics has always been a hot-button issue in the United States of America and today it has been even more prevalent in everyday conversations. However, recent news has proved, to me, that not thinking things through can have potentially dangerous results.

There are reasons why I believe people should be careful and think before acting when discussing politics. One reason is that my ideal quality for a political leader is not only respectful, but also mature. Another reason is that even though political memes are supposed to be humorous, there are limits to what is funny and what is disrespectful. A third is that politicians showing favoritism shows proof of unprofessionalism.

Politicians should be careful of what they do or how they act or there will be consequences. While growing up, I have learned that everyone has different political ideals, perhaps some that are more vocal.

However, I have read some news stories where politicians have behaved poorly. For example, I read an article that talked about President Trump starting a name-calling dispute with Kim Jung Un. I thought to myself, “really?” as I read through the article looking at what names President Trump said. I was also thinking to myself, “it is pathetic for a grown up to engage in something childish, immature, and unprofessional, let alone the President of the U.S.”

While I am thankful that nothing disastrous happened because of the name-calling dispute, that does not mean that we would not have the same type of luck if something like this were to happen again. Another example was when Hillary Clinton had government documents in her private email. These were documents, while not very serious national security breach-wise, that should have been protected in a secure facility.

I have even seen poor behavior on multiple media platforms today. On the internet there are memes that seem to show politicians in a negative light; such memes seem to have a cyberbullying theme. There was a picture of Hillary Clinton edited into making her look like the Wicked Witch of the West from the Wizard of Oz. Calling someone a witch is not only disrespectful, but also harsh, especially if it’s just because of political disagreement.

Another meme was an an-

ti-Trump meme that is designed to make fun of Donald Trump supporters, claiming they have mental health issues. Mental health is a very serious and urgent topic; it is something that should not be taken lightly. To have a meme like this is not only inappropriate, but also demeaning to people who have mental health issues.

This sense of negativity regarding political disagreement is also present on certain radio stations. For example, one time while hearing “The Rush Limbaugh Show,” I overheard the comments they made when talking about not letting immigrants in the U.S. What I heard not only infuriated me, but also made me sick to my stomach. They were talking about supporting the wall that President Trump was thinking of building.

Even now, while finishing up spring semester of 2019, I still listen to Fox News and “Justice with Judge Jeanine Pirro.” This show was removed from the air for comments made on Representative Ilhan Omar for wearing a hijab. When this talk show was taken off the television studio air, President Trump went on Twitter and tweeted to the Fox News station to bring back Jeanine Pirro’s show.

When I first saw President Trump’s tweet on the article, I was completely speechless. In fact, I had the same reaction when I read another article about how President Trump does not allow any other news stations, except Fox News, to interview him. When looking into the article more deeply, I found out that Fox News was generating pro-Trump propaganda. As a result, that made Trump happy with Fox News and in turn gave the reporters of Fox News personal interviews.

In my mind, when talking about or dealing with politics, people should think more about what kind of positive and negative impact political decisions can make. For example, Donald Trump’s tweets defending Jeanine Pirro can send the wrong message about himself. Memes designed to be funny may not be funny to everyone and could hurt people’s feelings. Building the wall across the Mexican border and denying immigrants a chance to find a better life will also send out a bad impression about the U.S.

If anyone engages in aggressive political debates or posts a negative political meme, or anything else potentially harmful, they should just take a step back, think about what they are doing, and ask themselves: “is this a wise or right decision?”

Rich Goodman moves to CEO as associate director of career development

GOODMAN *from page 3*
off.

“Rich has become more than a mentor,” said Rachel Pigott, a junior and resident assistant in Rouzer, one of Goodman’s buildings, “he’s become a confidant and friend.”

Luckily his affection for these conversations won’t be wasted in the CEO, as he gets to dive deeper into the advising side of higher education, what he describes as his passion.

“My time is being more intentionally used for the advising part,” said Goodman.

With this time, he’s helping students find their passion and pursue it, not too far from some of his conversations in Residence Life.

“Similar conversations, different roles,” he said of his work at McDaniel.

This different role is also more in line with what Goodman had in mind for his post-master’s work.

He originally wanted a job that would involve leadership, service, and careers.

“I always gravitated toward opportunities to help people grow,” he said.

To boot, area coordinator roles often span a time of two to three years, according to Goodman.

“It’s a common first step for people who are getting into higher [education] after their master’s,” he said.

Even before taking his position with the CEO, Goodman had already collaborated with the experiential-focused office quite a bit.

From helping with the McDaniel Local program last summer to taking on a leadership role with Home on the Hill, the College’s food pantry,

to work on other projects, he’s made himself known.

“[Rich] is extremely collaborative, having spent the last few years volunteering for a wide variety of projects on campus and working across divisions in a way that is recognized and appreciated by all—and this is the future of our work not just in the CEO, but for the entire institution,” said Ambrose.

Goodman will have the opportunity for increased involvement with McDaniel Local now that he’s with the CEO, something that both he and Ambrose are excited about.

“Rich has an attention to detail that is appreciated, and an ambition to do well by our students and our institution that is impressive,” Ambrose said. “He will be taking a lead role with employer relationship building in the months ahead, as well as working on individual student meetings and McDaniel Local workshops this summer.”

This role in McDaniel Local will not only give Goodman the chance to connect with more students even earlier, but also allow them to get to better know a lifelong resource, an affect already felt by students.

“[Goodman] encourages all of his staff and coworkers to grow both professionally and personally and his passion for the students is unparalleled,” said Pigott.

And encourage he does.

“I am thankful to have met so many of you so far,” Goodman said, “and I hope that you stop by the CEO to say hi, because I’m going to miss being your [area coordinator]. I have seen so much potential in you all, and there’s a lot more that we can do, so let’s set up a meeting to talk about your future.”



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Human rights, a nonpartisan issue

Mario Fernandez
Commentary Editor

Somehow, in the short time that human rights have been truly established, they have become a partisan issue all around the world, and from my point of view, a particularly partisan issue in the U.S.

First and foremost, though, what are human rights?

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted in 1948, determined what human rights are. I will not get into all of the details; however, certain passages of the preamble are important to note:

“Whereas recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world...” and “...the advent of a world in which human beings shall enjoy freedom of speech and belief and freedom from fear and want has been proclaimed as the highest aspiration of the common people...” are crucial to an understanding of human rights.

Equal and inalienable rights. Freedom from fear and want. These words should sound familiar to those from the United States.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. These are the familiar words of the Declaration of Independence, written by Founding Father Thomas Jefferson.

Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free. These are the words engrained into the plaque on the Statue of Liberty, written by American author and activist Emma Lazarus.

Do not tell me that it is “un-American” to leave tyranny and oppression behind in order to create a new place to live. Do not tell me that “it is not the American way” to accept immigrants into the country. Do not tell me that it is not American to care for our fellow humans and not mass incarcerate them, and do not tell me that it is not American to provide drinking water and proper shelter to them.

Because, in fact, those who preach these messages are un-American. Yes, this country has its flaws, some of which are irreparable, and so does every country. But the U.S.

has human rights running through its veins.

It is these same rights, however, that the nation has violated across the world.

Latin America, the Middle East, its own backyard. The U.S. has forgotten what it means to be American, or at least almost half of the country has. If we look toward the Republican and Democratic parties, there is a clear divide in how human rights are perceived. I do not claim that the Democrats are perfect – they are far from it. However, it is the Republicans who seem to apprehend human rights and dignity at every point.

The recent Republican rhetoric has been one of protecting the U.S. and its interests, and that is alright; they are from the U.S. and want their homes protected. They use that same rhetoric, though, to place children in cages on the U.S. border. They use it to allow the FBI to infiltrate the Black Lives Matter movement. They use it to label children whose friends died in a school shooting as “un-American” because these kids want more gun control. It is that rhetoric that Republicans are using to create an idea that human rights are only something the “left” cares about.

As a matter of fact, it is not.

Human rights should not be debated between the “left” and the “right.” Human rights are more important than that. Human rights are about human dignity and the security and ability for humans to progress.

If the U.S., and particularly the Republican Party, want to say that the U.S. is the “best country in the world” and a “beacon for democracy,” then it needs to start behaving that way. Treat people with respect and dignity, for it is only when your people, all of your people, are respected and dignified, that you will truly be the best country in the world.

Let me finish with a quote from the late South African president, Nelson Mandela: “A nation should not be judged by how it treats its highest citizens, but its lowest ones.” Although Mandela was specifically referring to prisoners, it is important to expand this standard to all of the abused peoples in the U.S., for the lowest citizens in the nation have been the immigrants, the racial minorities, the LGBTQ+ community, and women. And it has been their rights, as humans, that have been violated. It is up to us now to make a change, and to make all politicians realize that human rights are above political divides.

The hidden meanings in horror films

DeShawn Cooper
Contributor

When you watch a movie, how often do you question the meaning behind it? For decades, filmmakers have incorporated symbolic references to real-world events in their work while still providing audiences with the entertainment they seek. It is important to point out these underlying messages, as many of them go overlooked, because often no one is looking for them in the first place.

A popular example is Jordan Peele’s Academy Award-winning film “Get Out.” This film is blatant with its focus on racial tension in racially diverse couples. The film’s protagonist is an African-American male who struggles when preparing to meet his white girlfriend’s parents. It’s revealed later that her parents abduct and brain-wash African-American men in order to biologically transfer the brains of ailing Caucasian people into them. They also decide who gets the African-American body by auction — similar to how slaves were sold.

During the climax of the film, after the protagonist is brainwashed and tied to a chair, he tears cotton out of the chair and puts it in his ears in order to prevent himself from being hypnotized once again. This alludes to how slaves were forced to pick cotton on their plantations.

The film also has some significant references to deer, with the protagonist hitting one with his car early on, and his girlfriend’s father claiming to despise deer. The protagonist later uses a mounted deer head to impale and ultimately kill her father during his escape. The story behind



(Photo courtesy of Pixabay user DariuszSankowski).

these references to deer again comes from history: male slaves were historically called “bucks.”

Peele didn’t let his success make him complacent, though, and in 2019 he released his second horror film, titled “Us.” This film has an even bigger variety of underlying references than “Get Out.”

This film follows a family of four as they move into their vacation home during the summer, and are attacked by duplicates of themselves. The goal of these “doppelgängers” is to kill the real-world versions of themselves. Once that task is complete, they stand in unison, forming a human chain. This chain is a reference to Hands Across America, a 1986 publicity campaign in which 6.5 million people held hands and formed their own human chain across the United States for fifteen minutes. A commercial for this very

event was shown at the beginning of the film.

“Us” also includes a musical reference; when a neighbor asks their home’s smart system to call the police, it instead plays “F*** tha Police” by N.W.A. This song was written as a strategy of resistance towards police brutality during the 1980s.

But the overall message this film wants to deliver is that we are our own greatest threat. The fact that the doppelgängers can only kill their surface-world counterpart shows that while we as a country seem to have a fearful discrimination of people from other countries, in reality, we are all the same. We are them, and they are us.

These are just two examples, but there are hundreds of films through which creators take the opportunity to address real-world concerns.

These writers and directors have used their platforms to highlight some of the biggest issues in society, and have done so in a way that keeps audiences guessing throughout their films.

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2019

Senior Editor: Emma Carter

Laurel Pogue
Arts & Culture Editor

Emma Carter, *Free Press* co-editor-in-chief, will be graduating at the end of this semester with majors in French and communication.

She has been on staff of the *Free Press* for all four years, one as a staff reporter, two as features editor, and this final year as co-editor-in-chief.

“Getting involved with the *Free Press* was kind of a fluke,” she admits. “I signed up at the involvement fair as a freshman and just kept coming to meetings. Since then, I’ve had an incredible time reporting and learning about journalism. The *Free Press* has become really special to me over the past four years.”

While on campus, she worked as a tutor both in the Writing Center and in the French department. She has also been involved with History Club and has served as their secretary for three years. She also served as co-president of French Club for one year.

Carter is also a member of Alpha Lambda Delta, Lambda Pi Eta, Phi Sigma Iota, and Phi Beta Kappa honor societies.



Co-Editors-in-Chief Atticus Rice and Emma Carter don't know what to do with their hands during photoshoots. (Marya Kuratova / McDaniel Free Press).

Carter quite enjoyed her time on the Hill.

“Aside from a lot of really engaging courses and great relationships with professors who you know have your best interests at heart, I’m not sure there’s anything better than living with your best friends or living a 30-second walk away from their dorm,” she said.

Friends were especially important to her, and a notable experience that stood out in her four years was one specific post-all-nighter Dunkin’ run in her junior year.

“When we got back to campus, *See CARTER, page 8*

Senior Editor: Atticus Rice

Marya Kuratova
Copy and Co-Features Editor

For *Free Press* Co-Editor-in-Chief Atticus Rice, working hard comes naturally. In just the four short years he spent at McDaniel, Rice applied himself in two majors and a minor, held multiple jobs, and served in office positions within a dozen different clubs.

“I tend to say yes to everything, so my biggest challenge has been overcommitting myself and ending up stretched too thin,” said Rice.

“Pretty much every semester I somehow took on yet another few things to do, which caught up with me a few times. This isn’t to say that I don’t like all the things I do, but rarely a day or week goes by where I didn’t wish that I was able to turn down opportunities rather than take them all on.”

Despite feeling overcommitted, Rice has showed his aptitude for handling it all time and time again, celebrating many successes both on and off campus. He’s led organizations such as the Honors Program, Alpha Phi Omega, Lambda Pi Eta Communication *See RICE, page 8*

College’s 149th Commencement

The undergraduate commencement ceremony will take place on Saturday, May 25, at 3 p.m. in the Gill Center. Martin K. P. Hill, who is stepping down as the College’s board chair, will serve as the commencement speaker and honorary degree recipient.

The graduate ceremony will take place at 9 a.m. in the Gill Center. Former McDaniel President Joan Develin Coley will speak.

Senior Editor: Spenser Secrest

Erin Pogue
Co-Features Editor

With his final semester drawing to a close, Spenser Secrest looks back fondly on his college career.

Secrest will be graduating with an English major and a history minor, having finished his degree with the capstone paper “The Sound and the Fury of Cultural Hegemony in Macbeth.”

He has held several roles at the *Free Press* since he joined his sophomore year, including staff reporter, assistant editor, and news editor. Additionally, he served on the editorial board of the campus literary magazine, *Contrast*, his junior and senior years. Beyond

these organizations, he focused on academics and attending various campus events with friends.

During his studies, Secrest gained several mentors in the English department. He had his First Year Seminar with Professor Spence, and continued on to have two more classes with him. He also considered Dr. Zajac a mentor, and took four of his courses throughout his time at the College. He also took four courses with Dr. Mary [Bendel-Simso] on a variety of topics, including senior seminar and an independent study, which allowed him to get to know her.

Secrest said he generally enjoyed his time at the college.

“Being at any place for as long a time as one is at college, one realizes that there will inevitably be good and bad days,” he said. “However, I *See SECREST, page 8*

Professor of political science Herb Smith, Ph.D., retires after nearly 50 years on the Hill

Spenser Secrest
News Editor

“Is that a trick question?”

Herb Smith, Ph.D., is retiring after nearly 50 years on the Hill and he’s enjoyed his time too much for us to ask.

Smith, who began teaching in the political science and international studies department at McDaniel in the fall of 1973, says that he could count the number of bad days on one hand.

“I got to do what I wanted to do, which is immensely satisfying,” he said.

His fondest memory comes from teaching the U.S. Campaigns and Elections course in 2008.

“I publicly tore up the syllabus after two weeks,” Smith said.

The class was so popular 15 people audited it which made for an outstanding group, he said.

But his achievements are a little harder to pin down than his memories. One of them is being able to teach through relevant and practical assignments that help students connect to their future and prepare them for the assignments of the 21st century, Smith said.

“My achievements are micro,” he added.

Away from the Hill, Smith is also proud of his lobbying on behalf of the College in Annapolis, Md. and Washington D.C.

Another of Smith’s accomplishments is his co-authoring of the book “Maryland Politics and Government: Democratic Dominance” which he wrote with John Willis and was published in 2012. It became the backbone of his State and Local Government course, his favorite to teach.

“I get a royalty,” he said of every purchase students make when buying the book for his class.

Smith has also been powerful in bringing speakers to campus, many of whom held office or were running for office. Former Maryland Gov. William Donald Schaefer and Gov. Larry Hogan are just two of the more than 100 that stand out to Smith. Schaefer visited in 1986 as a gubernatorial candidate where students gave him a standing ovation as he toured through Glar. Hogan made the trip in 2014 to talk about state funding for private colleges.

Smith humorously added that elected officials are always free.

Not free, however, was Smith’s regular Jan Term trip to Belize which ran for 15 years until the last trip in 2012. As many as 30 students would join him on a trip to San Pedro to explore the local culture.

Smith’s care for his students, like providing a fun-filled Jan Term, was enhanced by his experience as a father. Becoming a parent, he said, helped him realize that each student *See SMITH, page 2*



Free Press News Editor Spenser Secrest. (Marya Kuratova / McDaniel Free Press).

Longtime Spanish professor Thomas Deveny, Ph.D., to retire

Spenser Secrest
News Editor

McDaniel’s time with professor Thomas Deveny, Ph.D., is soon drawing to a close, as Deveny is retiring after 40 years of teaching.

“McDaniel College has been a great experience for me. I taught here for 40 years,” Deveny said. “I especially enjoyed interacting with generations of students, which gives me many fond memories, and I enjoyed growing as a teacher and scholar in ways I had never imagined.”

As a Spanish professor, Deveny “taught all levels of Spanish — from Elementary to the Senior Seminar.” He began by teaching Medieval and Renaissance literature, and moved on to on more contemporary Spanish literature and culture later in his McDaniel career.

Deveny also said he values the ability to pursue a variety of intellectual abilities.

“One thing I value about my career is that McDaniel gave me opportunities to continue to develop intellectually. With my first sabbatical, I began to concentrate on Spanish cinema,” he said. Deveny’s film courses included classes such as Spanish Novel to Film, Migration in Hispanic Cinema, and Spanish Cinema of the New Millennium.

“The latter two [courses stated] are the subjects of my latest books,” Deveny added.

Deveny also taught courses in McDaniel’s Honors Program.

“I also had the opportunity to teach Great Works of the Western

World I, from The Odyssey to Cervantes, and II, from the eighteenth to the twentieth centuries, in the Honors Program, which was a delight,” he said.

However, Deveny points to one course as perhaps his personal favorite.

“I would say that one of the courses I most enjoyed was teaching Don Quixote, both in Spanish and in English, a course I named ‘The Greatest Novel Ever Written,’” Deveny said.

He said he has several fond memories of McDaniel, from inside and out of the classroom. Deveny enjoyed “taking students to Spanish restaurants or flamenco shows, [and] interacting with students in the Spanish House.” He also reinstated language houses on campus.

In addition to on-campus courses, Deveny said he is also fond of Jan Term trips.

“I also led or co-led Jan-term trips several times to Spain, once to Mexico, and most recently, to Morocco and Spain. In addition, as advisor to the Peace Club, I took a group of students to an anti-war rally in Washington, D.C.”

Colleagues play just as an important part in Deveny’s time at the College, too.

“I...fondly remember my association with colleagues — lunches in the now defunct Faculty Lounge or dinners at our homes, and, in my early years, playing on the Faculty championship-winning intramural basketball team,” he said. “And of course, greeting my



Thomas Deveny, Ph.D. (Photo courtesy of Thomas Deveny).

colleague and dear friend [German professor] Mohamed Esa each day with a hug and the words ‘assalamu alaikum [an Arabic phrase that translates to “peace to you”].”

While Deveny is retiring, he still has a handful of tasks to complete, he said.

“[I’ll be] wrapping up some publishing projects [which include] two books and some articles.”

However, Deveny also hopes to spend more time with his granddaughters, his home garden, and hopes to travel more — especially to Spain.

Deveny has accomplished much during his time at McDaniel. Deveny said the accomplishments he is most proud of were the Ira G. Zepp Professor of the Year Award and being named the Ralph and Dorothy John Humanities Chair.

He also hopes that he “touch[ed]

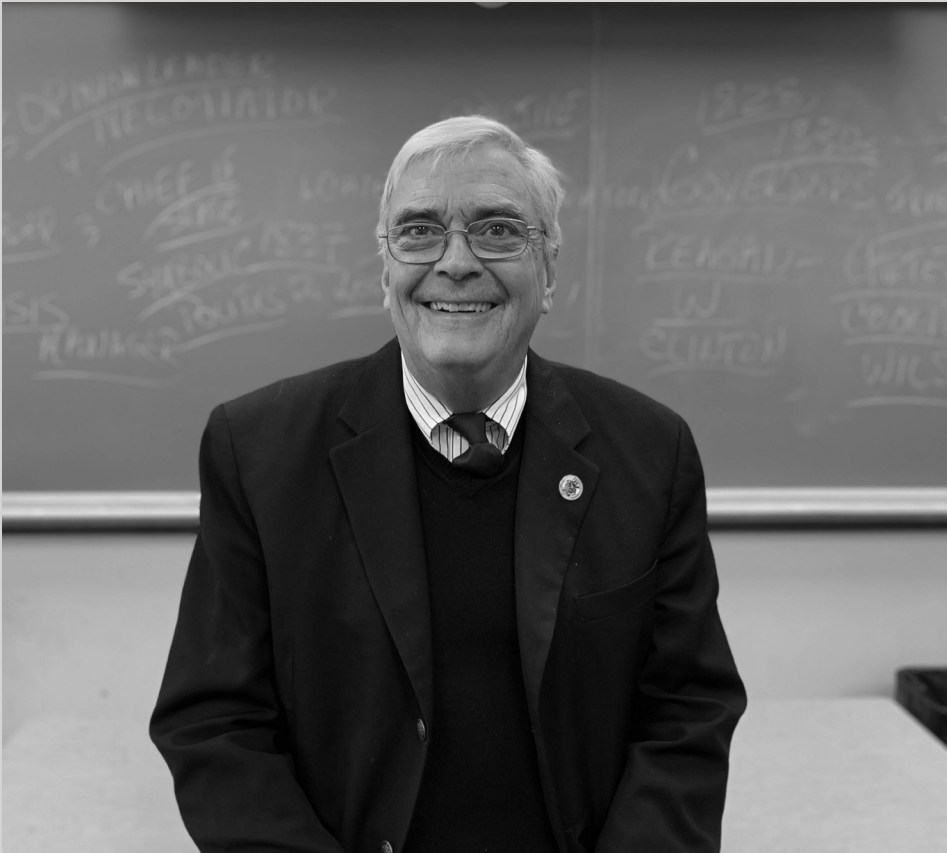
the lives of generations of students while sharing my passion for the Hispanic world — the language, the literature, the culture.”

After a long career, Deveny said he is proud of the reception of his academic work.

“I am also happy that my books and articles have been well received both in the United States and in Spain. I was especially gratified last year when I was invited by the University of Murcia in Spain to participate in a conference, and I was interviewed by a local cultural magazine and by Radio Nacional de España.”

When asked what advice he’d like to share with the McDaniel Community, Deveny encouraged students to “enjoy your time on the Hill! Get intellectually engaged and socially involved, explore, take chances, have fun.”

Professor of political science Herb Smith, Ph.D., retires after nearly 50 years on the Hill



Herb Smith, Ph.D. (Gunnar Ward / McDaniel Free Press).

SMITH, from page 1 is someone’s child.

Once his retirement is finalized, Smith plans to enjoy his time on Pine Island, Fla., where he lives with his wife, gardening, playing tennis, fishing, crabbing, and boating.

After 46 years, it’s the people

at McDaniel that Smith will miss the most, from his students to his supportive department and amazing colleagues.

“Optimism is a great force multiplier,” he said as a final thought to these people. “I try to pass that along.”

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Annemarie Duerr. (Photo courtesy of Annemarie Duerr).

What is your major and minor?
What other academic programs were you a part of?

Political Science major with a specialization in American politics and law.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?

Welcome Desk assistant.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

Women's lacrosse team.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

Yes. The friends I made and through sports.

Who do you think was/is your best mentor?

Herb Smith.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?

Spending warm days in the Quad with friends and studying abroad in Hungary for a semester.

What are some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?

Being away from home. Established a great group of friends.

What are your plans for after graduation?

Law school at the University of Baltimore.

What would you tell yourself as a first-year at McDaniel?

Make the most of your time, it goes quick.

Kirsten Gibson

What is your major and minor?
What other academic programs were you a part of?

Kinesiology major.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

Four year starter and senior captain on the women's soccer team and member of the Kinesiology Club.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

I enjoyed how many close relationships I made with people and the small campus environment. Everyone is so friendly and here to help you succeed.

Who do you think was/is your best mentor?

Sandy Lagana because she pushed me out of my comfort zone on the field and in the classroom.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?

When my soccer team won the ECAC championship game in our home stadium.

What are some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?

Balancing a sport and academics was tough, but having a great group of friends and a coach to help push me helped to keep my grades up. Time management is very important when transitioning from high school to college.

What are your plans for after graduation?

Working as a personal trainer and sport nutritionist.

What would you tell yourself as a first-year at McDaniel?

Take it day-by-day through the harder times and know that I made it into this school for a reason and to take advantage of that opportunity.

Is there anything else you'd like to share with the McDaniel community?

Enjoy your time here because it will fly by. Surround yourself with people that make you a better person and push you to do better in life.



Kirsten Gibson. (Photo courtesy of Kirsten Gibson).

Dustin Miller

What is your major and minor?
What other academic programs were you a part of?

Communication major, sports management minor.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?

Ambassador for the Office of Admissions and tutor for SASS.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

McDaniel varsity football team, FCA member, and president of SAAC.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

I couldn't imagine having gone anywhere else. These four years on the Hill have been and will be the most memorable moments of my life. I've met people that will truly be friends for life. I've had coaches, professors, bosses, and peers who all cared for me. McDaniel provided me with the opportunities time and time again to help me grow as a young professional. I'll never forget the football games, the tours given, the classes, SAAC meetings, and of course, all the fun stuff in between.

Who do you think was/is your best mentor?

[Former football Head] Coach Mike Dailey.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?

The Philadelphia Eagles winning their very first Super Bowl. February 4, 2018. Gardens Apartment 155 101.

What are some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?

Balancing school, football, work, and countless other extracurriculars. All of this can be overcome by time management.

What are your plans for after graduation?

To attend graduate school to earn my master's of education in student affairs in higher education and administration.

What would you tell yourself as a first-year at McDaniel?

You will never, ever believe all of the things you will accomplish. All of the memories you'll make. And all of the people you'll meet. Enjoy the time because it goes way faster than you'll think until graduation is just over a month away. You'll never get this time back on the Hill. Live it up and be grateful for each day.

Is there anything else you'd like to share with the McDaniel community?

McDaniel can change your life like it changed mine if you want it to. What you put in is what you get out. People make a place, and McDaniel truly has some special people.

“Surround yourself with people that make you a better person and push you to do better in life.”



Dustin Miller. (Photo courtesy of Dustin Miller).

Paul Van Nevel



Paul Van Nevel. (Emma Carter / McDaniel Free Press).

What is your major and minor?
What other academic programs were you a part of?

Environmental studies major, with business administration minor. Member of the Honors Program.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?

Lifeguard, swim lessons instructor, environmental studies department tutor, intern for McDaniel’s Department of Risk Management and Environmental Health and Safety, and Facilities intern at Knorr Brake Company.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

Member of McDaniel’s swim team for four years (captain for one season), treasurer of Just Food club at McDaniel.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

Yes, I made a lot of lasting friendships on the swim team and in the environmental studies department. Spending time with friends and making memories, and not stressing about school work too much. I will always remember the good times on bus rides to and from swim meets, and the environmental studies camping trips to the Dolly Sods Wilderness in West Virginia.
Who do you think was/is your

best mentor?

Dr. Jason Scullion, environmental studies department head, and Jeffrey Hiestand, head coach of the swim team.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?

Nothing specific, but the time spent hanging out with my teammates between practices during Jan Term, when there was no homework to do or classes to attend, will always be remembered.

What are some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?

Managing time as a student-athlete is never easy, but I was able to get through it with good time management practices and a lot of late nights. Understanding when it was possible to procrastinate and when something needed to get done.
What are your plans for after graduation?

I will be moving to Idaho for five months to work with the Student Conservation Association to help conserve our public lands, and eventually I hope to go to grad school.

What would you tell yourself as a first-year at McDaniel?

Get more involved in different groups on campus.

Dr. Ferraris, Dr. Marx, and Dr. Craig.
What is your best memory at McDaniel?

Performing summer research with Dr. Ferraris while also spending the summer with my friends on campus.

What are some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?

The biggest challenge for me was the difference in time management and workload for college courses versus high school classes. It was a lot of learning how to learn and the best way to study, since a lot of the work is done outside of class in college. Also, having a 3-4 hour lab every week for each of my science classes was a huge transition from high school.

What are your plans for after graduation?

I will be working as an analytical chemist for Bimax Inc. in Glen Rock, Pa.

What would you tell yourself as a first-year at McDaniel?

It may be cliché, but four years will go faster than you think. Enjoy the time you have in college and make the most of every opportunity.

Kelsey Johnson



Kelsey Johnson. (Emma Carter / McDaniel Free Press).

What is your major and minor?
What other academic programs were you a part of?

Environmental studies major with a focus in policy and management, writing minor.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?

Current health, safety, and environmental intern at Knorr Brake Company.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

I was the vice president of the History Club and played a part in its revival as an organization on campus. I was also a member of a super secret mountaineering club, but that’s all I’m allowed to say.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

Of course! We have to make the most of our time here, and I had great friends who helped make these four years an adventure. Late nights watching horror movies, trips to get coffee, and long weekends spent hiking through the Dolly Sods Wilderness are all wonderful memories I’ll cherish for years to come. Memories I’m sure I wouldn’t have if I hadn’t kept an open mind, learned to move forward, and remembered to love myself.

Who do you think was/is your best mentor?

Dr. Jason Scullion, aka JScull, and his blonde labradoodle Sam are my two most influential mentors. Without our long meetings telling ghost stories or afternoons playing fetch, I wouldn’t have had the peace of mind enough to balance my time and make use of all the opportunities offered here.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?

There are always millions of “best memories” when you spend four years living with your closest

friends, but if I were to pick one, it would be one cool spring night sophomore year when I lived in the McDaniel House on the edge of campus. Armed with big, plushy duvets, a few friends and I sat out on the house’s wrap around front porch in white lawn chairs telling stories, laughing, and watching the stars.

What are some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?

Coming to this small school in the equally small town of Westminster was a stark difference from where and how I spent most of my life leading up to college, but my friends and the environmental studies community made it possible to craft these differences into new experiences. I took my time finding little things around town and campus that were unique, and that would eventually make me come to miss this place after graduation.

What are your plans for after graduation?

I can’t say for sure where I’ll be in the next year, or even the next several months. I have a lot of decisions to make, and hopefully each of them moves me closer to saving the planet. My dream is to become a professional environmental warrior, move to Kristiansand, Norway with a cute Siberian Husky and buy a sailboat to sail across the Northern Sea Passage with my seafaring boyfriend. But that’ll just be my gap year.

What would you tell yourself as a first-year at McDaniel?

Don’t be so discouraged. When plans aren’t going the way you want them too, and you feel like walls are closing in around you, always remember that things usually turn out in your favor, either through hard work or a pleasant surprise. Also, drink more water and call your grandma.

Eli Williams

What is your major and minor?
What other academic programs were you a part of?

Chemistry major and biology minor.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?

General chemistry lab TA, organic chemistry lab TA, chemistry tutor.
What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

Green Terror Programs (GTP) committee chair sophomore year, secretary/treasurer junior and senior year. Gamma Sigma Epsilon Chemistry Honor Society vice president junior year and president senior year. Honors Program secretary junior year. Heroes Helping Hopkins event coordinator senior year.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

My four years at McDaniel were amazing. I developed lasting friendships and learned more than I ever thought possible in four years. McDaniel really was my home away from home.

Who do you think was/is your best mentor?

Dr. Ferraris, Dr. Marx, and Dr. Craig.
What is your best memory at McDaniel?

Performing summer research with Dr. Ferraris while also spending the summer with my friends on campus.

What are some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?

The biggest challenge for me was the difference in time management and workload for college courses versus high school classes. It was a lot of learning how to learn and the best way to study, since a lot of the work is done outside of class in college. Also, having a 3-4 hour lab every week for each of my science classes was a huge transition from high school.

What are your plans for after graduation?

I will be working as an analytical chemist for Bimax Inc. in Glen Rock, Pa.

What would you tell yourself as a first-year at McDaniel?

It may be cliché, but four years will go faster than you think. Enjoy the time you have in college and make the most of every opportunity.



Eli Williams. (Photo courtesy of Eli Williams).

Is there anything else you’d like to share with the McDaniel community?

The McDaniel community is

amazing and I cherish the friendships I developed during my time on the Hill.

Kaylan Hutchison

What is your major and minor? What other academic programs were you a part of?

Communication major, psychology and writing minors. I am also a member of five honor societies: Alpha Lambda Delta, Lambda Pi Eta, Sigma Tau Delta, Pi Gamma Mu, and Omicron Delta Kappa.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?

I have been a parent preview guide for OSE, a Writing Center peer tutor, and a student ambassador at McDaniel Admissions.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

I am co-vice president of McDaniel Dance Company, a member of Student Alumni Council, and a sporadic contributor to the McDaniel Free Press and Contrast Literary Magazine.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

I love McDaniel! Though every college has its qualms, I met best friends and amazing professors, pushed past my comfort zone and studied abroad twice, took inspiring classes that gave me real-world experience, and have enough funny stories to make me feel like I can truly shine during awkward cocktail parties.

Who do you think was/is your best mentor?

Dr. Trader in the communication department was one of the best professors I've had, encouraging me, validating my strengths, and pushing me in and out of the classroom. He's always been a friendly person to vent to. Vanessa Flora-Nakoski has also pushed me in terms of professional development at the Writing Center, and has always been someone I can get advice from. Dr. Holly Chalk was also a great mentor, offering me a collaborative research opportunity at the end of my freshman year. She taught me a lot about

research, scholarly writing, deadlines, and working with a team.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?

I have too many amazing memories to name! I would say that overall, my four months in Budapest, Hungary on the McDaniel Europe campus were the most fun I've ever had. Living on my own (in the sense that I had a wonderful roommate, but was away from parents and RAs) was much more liberating than I expected. I loved trying Hungarian foods and drinks, exploring the ruin bars, learning the language and the culture, and, of course, traveling. I went on nine trips (seven countries): to Krakow, Prague, Berlin, Vienna, Milan, Paris, Venice, Madrid, Nice, and plenty of different cities in Hungary. Plus, our group got really close with the students abroad, and I still connect with them even now. I met people from Algeria, Nigeria, Croatia, Serbia, even Minnesota

and New Jersey, and got to share an incredible four months with them, as well as my best friends.

What are some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?

Every college experience has challenges, from brief stints of homesickness, to work issues, to hearing information about you traveling through the grapevine that you didn't even know about yourself! I think for many people, the small size of our school can feel a bit boarding-school-for-college-students, and the rumor mill can feel toxic, but surrounding yourself with good people is important.

What are your plans for after graduation?

I am currently in the interview process with Booz Allen Hamilton, for a junior strategic communications position. I hope to go into editing and one day publish my own short stories and novels.

What would you tell yourself as a first-year at McDaniel?

I would tell myself, as a first-year, to prioritize internships more (and that doesn't mean taking the first thing you get, but instead actively searching from the jump). I waited for internships until later in my college career, but internships really help you get your foot in the door with companies you do connect with, and peace of mind to cross companies — or entire careers — off your lists with companies you don't.

Is there anything else you'd like to share with the McDaniel community?

Say yes to everything! Many students who haven't connected with the campus also haven't applied themselves. Join clubs, take on jobs, study abroad, stay on campus over the weekends. I loved my college experience because of my involvements and the connections I made, and to get the most of your college experience, you really need to make the most out of it.



Kaylan Hutchison. (Photo courtesy of Kaylan Hutchison).

Jackie White

What is your major and minor? What other academic programs were you a part of?

English major, Cinema minor.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?

Writing Center tutor, SASS tutor.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

I was in History Club for four years (promotional chair for one year), English honor society Sigma Tau Delta for two and a half years (vice president for one year, president for one year), The "We Spell McDaniel" Spelling Bee team for three years (captain for two years), first year honor society Alpha Lambda Delta for three and a half years, and honor society Phi Beta Kappa my last semester.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

Yes! I was really able to explore new interests, take classes in subjects I never knew I'd enjoy, and make friends that I'll have for many years to come. I think that I really became a more confident person through all of the opportunities and experiences McDaniel provided, and even though the schoolwork could be stressful, it provided me with a great

sense of accomplishment! I don't know if I would have enjoyed my time equally anywhere else.

Who do you think was/is your best mentor?

Dr. Mary [Bendel-Simso]! She's a great professor who has pushed me to do my best academically, but she's also someone I feel completely comfortable talking about my personal life with. Her hospitality and guidance are things that I really appreciate, and I will definitely be asking her for advice even after graduation!

What is your best memory at McDaniel?

Definitely getting to live in McDaniel House my sophomore year. For one year, McDaniel House was used for History Club affinity housing, and it was a great experience. I can't narrow that year down to one great memory, but that house as a whole has a lot of great memories in it.

What are some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?

I struggled with a heavy workload my sophomore year, and I really had to push myself to get through it. When I realized that my stress was affecting my mental and physical health, I took a step back and figured out how to correctly prioritize all of the items on my to-do list.



Jackie White. (Photo courtesy of Jackie White).

If I had to miss a few club meetings to get a research paper done, then so be it!

What are your plans for after graduation?

I'm going to spend the summer traveling and spending time with my loved ones while I cast out my net for potential careers! I'm going to take my time and try and find the best possible post-college job I can! **What would you tell yourself as a first-year at McDaniel?**

I would tell myself that although it's terrifying to start your first steps as a young adult, you're going to face your fears and leave McDaniel a stronger person for it. It's healthy to be a little scared, but don't let that

stop you from learning and growing! **Is there anything else you'd like to share with the McDaniel community?**

I'd like to share my absolute love and gratitude for the English department at McDaniel. Even if you're taking just the bare minimum requirements in the English department to satisfy the McDaniel Plan, appreciate and connect with the professors! I think they're the nicest, coolest people on campus. Not that I'm biased, or anything...

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Yessica Rodriguez



Yessica Rodriguez. (Photo courtesy of Yessica Rodriguez).

What is your major and minor?
What other academic programs were you a part of?

Kinesiology major, psychology minor.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?

I was a peer mentor for two years. I worked some part time jobs off campus as well.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

I was a part of many organizations such as HLA, P2W, CCM, SAC, Global Bridge, and Africa's

Legacy. I was the HLA president my junior year going on to my senior year and the Palabras to Words (P2W) president for two years. I was the treasurer of Catholic Campus Ministry (CCM) for a year and the public relations chair for Student Alumni Council (SAC) for a year. Also, I was an FYS peer mentor for two years for Dr. Mangan's Love Gone Wrong in Literature class.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?
I enjoyed the adventure of choosing a major in the sciences that best fit my future goals. I made a lot

of connections with professors and students here at McDaniel College. I enjoyed being part of so many organizations and taking leadership roles in them because I felt that I got the chance to help students find a safe place to be themselves while also helping the community around me with the events planned through the organizations I was in.

“I felt that I got the chance to help students find a safe place to be themselves while also helping the community around me...through the organizations I was in.”

Who do you think was/is your best mentor?

I wouldn't be able to choose out of the three, but the best mentors are Dr. Mangan, Dr. McKenzie, and Dr. McNichols.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?

My best memory at McDaniel was being able to get through the process of setting up the HLA din-

ner as the president of the organization. When everyone comes together to help organize a huge event like this, it can be very heartwarming.

What are some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?

I had many struggles in life during my sophomore and junior years. They dealt with people passing away and getting sick. I overcame everything by focusing on my schoolwork and organizations that I participated in.

What are your plans for after graduation?

I plan on working in security for the BWI airport or as a flight attendant while I get my master's in nutrition online. Then, I will apply to physical therapy schools. In the future, I would love to get my own gym.

What would you tell yourself as a first-year at McDaniel?

I would tell myself that it's okay to step outside of your comfort zone to get to where you want to be in life.

Is there anything else you'd like to share with the McDaniel community?

I love to dance, so in the future when I get a gym, I would love to add a dance studio in which I can teach people multicultural dances.

Liv Lauer

What is your major and minor?
What other academic programs were you a part of?

Psychology major with minors in education and art. I was involved in the jazz band all four years.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?

I stage managed in the theatre and worked as a secretary in the psychology department on Fridays.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

Alpha Psi Omega and Alpha Phi Omega where I was the sergeant-at-arms.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

Yes! I got by with a little help from my friends. We laughed, we cried, and we worked really hard. I am glad I did it all with my best friend, Megan Mitchell.

Who do you think was/is your best mentor?

Linda Van Hart, Tim Jenkins, and Rose Blizzard.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?

Spring Fling 2019.

What are some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?

I encountered many challenges while student-teaching in local elementary schools. I overcame them by staying positive and staying pumped for my future classroom.

What are your plans for after graduation?

I am applying to become an elementary school teacher.

What would you tell yourself as a first-year at McDaniel?

Surround yourself with people who inspire you and make you feel loved and never diverge from that.

Is there anything else you'd like to share with the McDaniel community?

Stay inspired and passionate no matter how hard things get. Also it is super easy and fun to have a cat on campus!



Emma Driban. (Photo courtesy of Emma Driban).

Emma Driban

What is your major and minor?
What other academic programs were you a part of?

English major, writing and marketing minors.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?

I worked for three years as a student ambassador through the Admissions Office.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

I am the VP and religious life chair for the Jewish Student Union, co-editor-in-chief for Contrast Literary Magazine, and a member of the Honors program and a few honors societies.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

I've loved my time here! It's been a great environment for both educational and social experiences.

Who do you think was/is your best mentor?

I've had so many professors help me along my way, but Dr. Robert Kachur has been a great advisor

since my freshman year.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?

One of my best memories is going sledding in the golf course for the first time freshman year. One of my suite mates had never seen snow before that winter and it was her first time sledding ever, so it was an amazing experience.

What are some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?

I've been pretty fortunate to not have any major challenges. And for the little things, I've always had my family and friends to back me up.

What are your plans for after graduation?

Hopefully a job in publishing/editing.

What would you tell yourself as a first-year at McDaniel?

Take a deep breath, changing your career path freshman year is not a big deal.

Is there anything else you'd like to share with the McDaniel community?

Thanks McDaniel for a wonderful four years, I can't imagine having spent it anywhere else!



Liv Lauer. (Photo courtesy of Liv Lauer).

Brandon Rozanski



Brandon Rozanski. (Photo courtesy of Brandon Rozanski).

What is your major and minor?
What other academic programs were you a part of?

Biology major.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?

Biology tutor.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

Beta Beta Beta Biological Honor Society (Vice President), Delta of Maryland Chapter Phi Beta Kappa, Alpha Lambda Delta honor Society, Army ROTC (Battalion Commander), NCAA DIII Men's Soccer, and Army ROTC Running Team.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

Yes. Attending McDaniel was the best the decision I have ever made. McDaniel has presented me with opportunities I would have never imagined, ultimately propelling me into the next chapter of my life. Whether it was participating in intramural sports, playing golf with my friends, or being a part of the Army ROTC program, I made the most out of my time. McDaniel will forever be the institution that shaped me into the individual I am today.

Who do you think was/is your

best mentor?

Dr. Cheng Huang. He is one of the primary reasons for the success I have experienced and without his guidance, compassion, and the high standard he kept me to, I would not have become the same student. He is the embodiment of what it means to be a part of the Green Terror family, and I will forever be in debt to him for all his above and beyond help.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?

Taking Comparative Anatomy with Dr. Katie Staab. This class not only consisted of dissecting several organisms (Squalus, cat, sheep's brains, pig's heart, and lamprey), but allowed me to get a broad, big picture view towards the similarities between humans and other animals. If there was a class I wish I could retake (minus the exams), it would definitely be this class. What made this class the best class ever was the fact that I was practicing my future surgeon skills and preparing myself for the intensity of medical school. Dr. Staab taught this class exactly like a medical school class and really sparked a keen sense of interest in not only the human body but the make up of other organisms.

What are some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?

Finding a balance between academics, my personal life, and Army ROTC. This was by far no easy task, especially as a student on the pre-med track. However, I overcame the adversity that came. Whether that be all nighters or making sacrifices to excel academically or making time for others, I always kept the big picture in mind. My goal when I stepped onto campus was to attend medical school at the end of my four years of undergraduate. I have reached this goal through an optimistic, resilient, and ambitious mindset. No challenge or failure can deter me from achieving what I put my mind to.

“Whether that be all nighters or making sacrifices to excel academically or making time for others, I always kept the big picture in mind.”

What are your plans for after graduation?

Medical School at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, F. Edward Hebert School of Medicine.

What would you tell yourself as a first-year at McDaniel?

There are two pieces of advice that I would tell myself as a first-year at McDaniel. The first is, possess two indispensable qualities that our society tends to strive away from.

These two qualities are embracing the possibility of finding a solution to every problem and charging yourself with an endlessly curious mind. These two qualities would go on to help me see our world through a “can-do” lens and the idea that anything is possible. It would let me inspire others and instill that belief that anyone can achieve greatness against all odds. The second is, take every opportunity that comes my way because you never know what an opportunity to might lead to or what door may open next. Every career choice I have made has been based off the opportunities McDaniel or Army ROTC has offered me. By saying yes to opportunities, I have grown, developed, and gotten out of my comfort zone, to experience things my peers may have never had the chance too. The world is full of endless possibilities and I should never let someone tell me something is impossible.

Is there anything else you'd like to share with the McDaniel community?

When I graduate I will be stepping away from McDaniel as a student who has taken advantage of every opportunity that has come his way. Most importantly, I have evolved into an individual who is prepared to be a part of something bigger than himself. McDaniel has equipped me with a well-versed bag of tools that will allow me to positively impact people not only in our own country but around the world. The wide-eyed freshman who rang the Old Main Bell freshman year is now ready to ring the bell on Commencement Day, turning the page to a new chapter in my life full of helping others around the world and becoming the best version of myself.

Lacey Utz

What is your major and minor?
What other academic programs were you a part of?

Psychology and elementary education majors.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?

Resident assistant (McDaniel Hall); head resident assistant (ANW, McDaniel Hall, DMC, Forlines, and Blanche); tutor at the Boys and Girls Club.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

Alpha Phi Omega (fellowship vice president); Heroes Helping Hopkins; Psi Chi (psychology honors society); Kappa Delta Pi (education honors society); Alpha Lambda Delta; Pi Gamma Mu (social sciences honors society).

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

I loved my time at McDaniel. In the last four years, McDaniel has become my second home and I can't even imagine what life would be like

if I didn't go here. I gained so many friendships that are going to last a lifetime. I have so many memories and stories that I will take with me after graduation. I gained a lot of mentors on campus. McDaniel gave me amazing opportunities to connect with the campus and the community and to be a student leader on campus.

Who do you think was/is your best mentor?

I think my best mentors were the ones I had in [the Office of] Residence Life. All of my area coordinators and supervisors helped me get to where I am today. One of my best mentors was Azhar Ali. He always believed in me and has been my biggest supporter for the past two years. He helped me find confidence in myself and taught me how to be an effective leader. He helped me to achieve my goals and find my place at McDaniel. Being an RA was one of the best opportunities I have ever had, and I gained many inspirational mentors and lifelong friends because of it.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?

This is a tough question! There are so many memories to choose from. I think one of my best memories from McDaniel was probably when I was nominated as a Maryland Teacher of Promise this year. I knew since I was seven that I wanted to be a teacher and make a difference in my students' lives. I came to McDaniel knowing exactly what I wanted to do and where I wanted to be when I graduated. This nomination proved to me that all my hard work and dedication had paid off and that I am doing exactly what I am meant to be doing. It made me even more excited about being a teacher and finding even more ways to be a leader, not only in a classroom, but back on campus as well. **What are some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?**

One of the biggest challenges I faced was during my last semester while student teaching because it took up a lot of time and energy. I had to find a balance between teaching and having a life in addition to completing all of my responsibilities as an RA. I overcame that by prac-

ticating time management and taking time for myself.

What are your plans for after graduation?

I plan to spend the summer in Massachusetts and teach elementary school in Maryland but I'm hoping to stay in Carroll County.

What would you tell yourself as a first-year at McDaniel?

I would tell myself that everything happens for a reason and not to worry about the little things.

Is there anything else you'd like to share with the McDaniel community?

I'm really excited to see what happens after graduation! I think McDaniel does a great job to prepare us for life outside of campus and I can't wait to see what comes next!

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Senior Editor: Atticus Rice

RICE, *from page 1*
Honor Society, Alpha Lambda Delta First-Year Honor Society, Green Terror Ultimate, and our very own Free Press. Rice was also an editorial intern at Baltimore Magazine, a campaign intern with Emily Shank for State Delegate, and a marketing intern for Advantage Internet Marketing while juggling a full course load each semester.

The hard work inevitably came with challenges along the way, but also paid off in the form of memorable experiences.

“Coming to McDaniel was one of the best decisions I’ve made so far, and I’ve enjoyed my time immensely,” said Rice. “From amazing friendships to the incredible opportunities and connections, I’ve felt that every second was worth it.”

So many challenging and exciting opportunities make choosing just one favorite memory difficult.

“I think my best memory comes down to having fun with some amazing people while being myself,” Rice said. “Whether that was trekking through the jungle, traveling around the state to meet APO brothers, or taking some wacky class with a friend just because, it’s been all about the people. McDaniel has a lot of good ones.”



Atticus Rice. (Marya Kuratova / McDaniel Free Press).

And Rice’s hard work ethic won’t end after graduation. He plans to work for a year or two before pursuing a master’s degree in either public policy, journalism, or higher education administration.

“I’m pretty sure I’ll be happy with whatever I end up doing and I

certainly don’t plan on having one career,” he said.

He encourages current students to know their limits when agreeing to new opportunities, but still put themselves out there.

“Say yes, but know when to say no. Alternatively, stay on top

of things,” said Rice. “There are few assignments or extracurricular projects that I didn’t do at the last minute. While it all worked out in the end, I can’t imagine how many more times I could’ve cycled through *The Office* if I had stayed on top of my work.”



Emma Carter. (Marya Kuratova / McDaniel Free Press).

Senior Editor: Emma Carter

CARTER, *from page 1*
delirious and giddy from a complete lack of sleep, we were walking across the North Village quad and just keeled over with laughter, our giggles echoing across North Village at way-too-early in the morning.”

She cites Martine Motard-Noar, Ph.D., and Silvia Baage, Ph.D., in the world languages, literatures, and cultures department as two wonderful mentors who have helped her to grow and follow new opportunities.

“They are always encouraging and supportive of my college

endeavors -- outside of French, too -- and they’ve been there to give me an extra nudge when I could use it for things like switching my French minor to a major and applying to study abroad,” she said.

Her time at McDaniel was not without challenges, however.

“My first year or so, I struggled with giving myself enough time to breathe in between all of my assignments and obligations,” she said, “And I would end up being so stressed and hard on myself, which I don’t think is uncommon for college students.”

She was able to power through. “Eventually,” she said, “I started giving myself more breaks and time for fun, which helped me realize the importance of having an even

balance of school and social life.”

Carter has some sound advice for her younger self, should be be able to go back to her first year.

“Where life takes you is going to be surprising at times. You’re going to find, or stumble across, things you never thought you’d be interested in. Really dive into these, whether they be classes, extracurriculars, or something else. Don’t feel bad about getting excited about something that wasn’t in your original college plan.”

After graduation, Carter is moving to Lille, France (about 150 miles north of Paris) to be a teaching assistant for English classes in middle and high schools until the spring of 2020.

“After that, who knows!,” she said.

Senior Editor: Spenser Secret

SECRET, *from page 1*
can certainly say that I have absolutely enjoyed my time at McDaniel, and that the good days far outnumber the bad days, and that McDaniel absolutely deserves to be one of the colleges that changes lives, as it has certainly changed mine for the better.”

Like all students, Secretstr overcame some challenges while at McDaniel. He had some issues with housing during his years, but was able to find a good living situation for his senior year.

When asked for his favorite memory, Secretstr found it a difficult question.

“As trite and cliché as it is to say, I honestly don’t know if I can single out one favorite memory,” he said. “Certainly, I have enjoyed all of the time I spent with my friends, whether it was having fun and socializing on the weekend, or even just doing work for different classes during the week together.”

Secretstr has not finalized any plans for post-graduation life, as he still needs to hear back from several positions to which he has applied. Ideally, he would like to work as an editor or writer somewhere.

While admitting it sounds cliché, Secretstr tells incoming students to make sure to enjoy their time on the Hill, as it goes by faster than it seems.

His parting words to the College double as a recommendation: to read the novels of William Faulkner, and to watch the films of Ingmar Bergman.

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Lindsey Farrell

What is your major and minor?
What other academic programs were you a part of?
Communication major, marketing minor.
What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?
Assistant technical director of Sports Communication.
What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?
Women's soccer: forward
Women's lacrosse: midfield
Special Olympics caregiver: four years
Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

I loved every moment of my time here on the Hill the past four years. I could have never enjoyed it the way I did without the support and love from the athletic teams I was a part of. I had more than 40 women who I spent my days with, and couldn't imagine going through life without them.
Who do you think was/is your best mentor?
Sandy Lagana, head coach of women's soccer, and Kristen Ramey, head coach of women's lacrosse. These two women are the epitome of what it means to have support and guidance when you feel lost or stressed between balancing my athletic career and academic career. Their open door policy allowed me to be a frequent flyer in and out of their offices to laugh, cry, vent, and even grab a snack when I felt I needed a quick pick me up from life.



Lindsey Farrell. (Atticus Rice / McDaniel Free Press).

What is your best memory at McDaniel?
Winning the 2018 ECAC Championship here at McDaniel for the women's soccer program in our stadium in front of the whole school.
What are some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?
I struggled with learning how to prioritize what is most important in my life, whether that was my academics, my family, athletics, and even my social life. I learned how to say no to things I don't need to attend, and that there is always a "next time" when FOMO decides to kick in.
What are your plans for after graduation?
I will be working with a sales and marketing firm in downtown Baltimore called UpRooted Platinum Consulting.
What would you tell yourself as a first-year at McDaniel?

Never be afraid of feeling uncomfortable. It means you are growing and challenging yourself to be better.
Is there anything else you'd like to share with the McDaniel community?
Thank you to everyone I crossed paths with here on the Hill, you have each changed my life in multiple ways and without you all, I would not be the woman I am today and strive to become one day.



Sylvan Greyson. (Photo courtesy of Sylvan Greyson).

Sylvan Greyson

What is your major and minor?
What other academic programs were you a part of?
Spanish and psychology double major.
What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?
Peer Mentor Advisory Board member, Psychology Rat Lab assistant, summer Spanish intern, Methods and Statistics tutor, and JeannieBird Baking Company Croo Member.
What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?
Progressive Student Union (pres-

ident), Compost Club (co-founder and member), Green Life (secretary and member), Music and Meditation (member), The Vagina Monologues (cast member).
Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?
Very much so, four years anywhere will be formative, but I can't imagine my life without the people and experiences I've found among the cherry blossoms on the Hill!
Who do you think was/is your best mentor?
Dr. Amy McNichols, Dr. Madeline Rhodes, and Dean Breslin.
What is your best memory at McDaniel?
Installing the homemade compost bin on campus my freshman year. It felt like a very tangible community effort!
What are some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?
Being far away from my family has been tough at times, but I've been fortunate to have found a strong community of friends and professors who have supported my academics, mental health, and extracurricular service. The Progressive Student Union has been especially instrumental in this, providing me with a community that has challenged me since my freshman year to think deeply about the world around me and how I fit into it.

McDaniel Compliments

Kaylan Hutchison is so kind and patient with her students. She's also absolutely gorgeous and extremely talented in all that she takes on! I'm honored to call her my friend.

Congrats to the We Spell McDaniel spelling bee team! Thanks to Jackie White, Laurel Pogue, Marya Kuratova, and Rose Sparks for bringing home the second place trophy!

“Four years anywhere will be formative, but I can’t imagine my life without the people and experiences I’ve found among the cherry blossoms on the Hill!”

What are your plans for after graduation?
I hope to move to Baltimore with a friend for a year and work towards applying to medical school in Canada.
What would you tell yourself as a first-year at McDaniel?
I hope you're simultaneously proud and surprised by how you turned out.

Gavin Gibson

What is your major and minor?
What other academic programs were you a part of?

Psychology and philosophy majors.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?

Tutor at the Writing Center and for the philosophy department. I also did video production and sales at Run Moore.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

Student-athlete on the cross country and track and field teams. In the Writing Center, I was the chair of the workshop committee.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

Yes. My time at McDaniel was enjoyable mainly because of the many wonderful friends, teachers, and mentors that I met and learned from.

Who do you think was/is your best mentor?

That is a very difficult question, given how many--from peers to

faculty--I received direct or indirect mentorship from. To list some: Dr. Stephanie Madsen, Dr. Vera Jakoby, Dr. Elizabeth Tyler, Dr. Paul Mazeroff, Dr. Jason Scullion, Dr. Bryn Upton, Dr. Amy McNichols, Dr. Maria Campero, Dr. and Coach Steve Robertson, Coach Doug Renner, Vanessa Flora-Nakoski, Josh Ambrose, Steve Moore, Cyrus Daroowalla, Lucy Benson, Mollie Murphy, Shaun Thompson, Michael Gallagher, Stephen Porembski, Jim Heilman, Alex Panagakos, Mable Buchanan, Rebecca Debinski, Miky Kisi, and many more.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?

The amount of compassion I received following the January Term of my junior year.

What are some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?

Balancing the stress of academics/extracurricular activities and out-of-school responsibilities produced many of the challenges I faced. Maintaining a strong social support system with trust and consistent communication was how I overcame these challenges.



Gavin Gibson. (Photo courtesy of Gavin Gibson).

What are your plans for after graduation?

Pursuing a master's degree in cognitive science at the University of Delaware.

What would you tell yourself as a first-year at McDaniel?

I would tell myself to go to JeanieBird, Tim Thai, and Run Moore immediately. I wish I had known of these wonders sooner.

Is there anything else you'd like

to share with the McDaniel community?

Appreciate how wonderful McDaniel is, despite some of the things we might consider as hard to overlook. In order to make things better, we must love what is already good; otherwise, we might inadvertently see it as unfixable. Let's not overlook anything that McDaniel offers, so that we can both love and improve it.

Jonathan Nepini

What is your major and minor?
What other academic programs were you a part of?

I am an Art major with a specialization in graphic design and an art history minor. I am a member of the Honors Program and Phi Beta Kappa.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?

I was a graphic design engagement peer with the Office of Student Engagement.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

I was a DJ with MGTR for 3 years and a member of McDaniel Terror TV for several years and their programming manager for one.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

I've really enjoyed my years here on the Hill! I have learned so much and made many wonderful friends. I rediscovered my love for art and have set myself up for a future in the art and design world. I have broadened my perspective and feel well-prepared for what's next.

Who do you think was/is your best mentor?

Without a doubt Professor Irla was my best mentor for my time at

McDaniel. She has helped me grow so much as an artist and helped push me to achieve goals I never thought possible.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?

My best memories are all of the fun things I've done with my great friends I made in my time here.

What are some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?

Probably the biggest challenge (and also biggest opportunity) was preparing for my departmental honors exhibition. I am the first student to have done a solo show in the Rice Gallery, and in about 9 months I prepared enough work to fill the gallery, as well as all of the marketing materials and related work for the show.

What are your plans for after graduation?

I will be pursuing a master's in graphic design at the Maryland Institute College of Art in the fall.

What would you tell yourself as a first-year at McDaniel?

First, just go ahead and major in art! It's what you really want to do and you'll do it next year anyway. Second, go to as many events as you can! There's so many great new experiences to be had in college and its really worth taking advantage of everything that's available.

Janette Carpio

What is your major and minor?
What other academic programs were you a part of?

Social work major, philosophy minor.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?

Gold student ambassador, Rec Lounge/Resource Room attendant, peer mentor.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

Hispanic-Latinx Alliance (secretary); Global Zero (vice president); Phi Alpha Mu (service co-chairwoman, assistant recruitment, risk manager and head of Standards Board, Race for Her 5K co-chairwoman); Progressive Student Union; Music Meditation; Social Work Advocates Network; Phi Alpha Social Work Honors Society.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

I genuinely enjoyed my time at McDaniel. At McDaniel, I was able to not only grow academically and professionally, but also personally. By being active on campus and taking advantage of as many opportunities as possible during my time here, I was able to expand my horizons and learn from those around me while also enhancing the skills I plan on utilizing as a future social worker. The social work department provided me with countless opportunities to gain experience working with various populations, which resulted in me finding my true passion and solidifying my professional goals.

Who do you think was/is your best mentor?
Michelle Young was my mentor during my time at McDaniel. She has been my advisor since I took her FYS. Professor Young helped me realize my strengths and how to best apply them in practice. She believed in me and pushed me to always to try my best.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?

My favorite memory was going to the Hippodrome to see the Lion King during one of the Weekend Blitz trips.

What are some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?

During my first semester at McDaniel I was soft-spoken, very timid, and I stayed to myself. Now, I talk to prospective families every week, telling them about my time at on campus, I speak up and I advocate for myself and others, and I love being involved. Stepping out of my comfort zone was something I am glad I was able to do because it has helped me professionally.

What are your plans for after graduation?

I was accepted to the University of Maryland, Baltimore School of Social Work's Advanced Standing program. There I will be working towards my Master of Social Work. I will have a clinical concentration with a specialization in behavioral health. After that, I plan on sitting for the licensure exam and earning my LMSW (Licensed Master Social Worker).

What would you tell yourself as a first-year at McDaniel?

I would tell myself to try anyway. I was so afraid to apply myself to a lot of things in fear of rejection. I missed out on a lot of great opportunities because I did not want to put myself out there. If I could go back and talk to myself as a first-year student, I would tell myself to try anyway; that way I can at least say I did my best.

Is there anything else you'd like to share with the McDaniel community?

It is okay to ask for help. No one expects you to know everything or be able to handle everything that is thrown at you. If life gets too overwhelming or you don't know the answer to something, reach out to someone! Everyone needs a support system. Asking for help does not make you weak. If anything, asking for help shows that you are strong, capable, and resourceful.

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Megan Mitchell

What is your major and minor? What other academic programs were you a part of?

Accounting and business administration majors, English literature minor.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?

Student ambassador, peer mentor, writing intern for Cultivated Boutique, and cost accounting intern at Knorr Brake Company.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

Green Terror Programs (general member), Honors Program (Events Chairperson).

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

I loved my time at McDaniel, largely due to the people I met here. I have made the most wonderful friends here and just hanging out and laughing with them has made these past four years the best so far!

Who do you think was/is your best mentor?

There have been so many professors that have helped me grow over my college career. Dr. Routzahn, Professor Duvall, Professor Lavin, Dr. Zajac, Dr. Mary, and Dr. Dundes

have all had such a significant impact on my life and I am so grateful to all of them.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?

There are quite a few to choose from but one that stands out the most occurred during a snowstorm my junior year. The campus was closed for a few days and during our impromptu winter break, a bunch of my friends came over to Forlines. We moved a bunch of mattresses to the common room and just camped out together, watching movies, making hot chocolate, and of course went sledding on the golf course! When the roads cleared up, we celebrated the end of our Snow-In by ordering a heinous amount of Chinese food. It was fantastic to be able to spend so much time with so many people I love in one place with nowhere to go and nothing to stress over.

What are some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?

During my sophomore year, I felt very disconnected and not like myself, despite all of the good things that were happening in my life at the time. The first semester was pretty rough and I decided to make significant change in my life by getting involved on campus in organizations

that I was interested in. That really helped me to build a community for myself that I felt I was invested in and was, in turn, invested in me.

What are your plans for after graduation?

I am starting as a staff auditor at CohnReznick, a public accounting firm in Baltimore.

What would you tell yourself as a first-year at McDaniel?

I would tell freshman me, “Take advantage of every opportunity that interests you and not to fear being told ‘no.’ Also, learn how to say ‘no’ when you have too much on your plate.”

Is there anything else you’d like to share with the McDaniel community?

Find people who make you laugh every day and who are there for you when you need to cry. These are the people who will make college all that it can be. Of course we are all here for an excellent education, which I am so thankful to have received at McDaniel. But my most treasured memories that I will carry with me forever are the ones of my best friends.

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Megan Mitchell. (Photo courtesy of Megan Mitchell).

“Find people who make you laugh every day and who are there for you when you need to cry.”

Maia Hanlon

What is your major and minor? What other academic programs were you a part of?

Mathematics and computer science major and the Honors Program.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?

Engagement peer, department tutor, peer mentor, and intern with Northrop Grumman.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

Green Terror Programs (member, secretary/treasurer, president), Heroes Helping Hopkins (member, treasurer, president), Alpha Sigma Tau, Alpha Phi Omega (member, treasurer), Kappa Mu Epsilon (member, vice president), Honors Program (member, secretary, vice president), Green Life (member).

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

I enjoyed my time at McDaniel because of the people I was able to meet. If I’m being honest, McDaniel is full of some really strange people, but I think that’s what makes being a part of this community so amazing.



Maia Hanlon. (Photo courtesy of Maia Hanlon).

The people in the math department have also become a big part of my life and the professors have given me amazing opportunities that I didn’t ever think I would have, which has also made my time at McDaniel special.

Who do you think was/is your best mentor?

It’s hard to choose one “best” mentor, especially with the wonderful professors in the math/computer science department. But I think Dr. Steinhurst would have to be one of my biggest mentors, even if he didn’t realize it. From dealing

with us in California, Chicago, and Baltimore at various math conferences to sitting with us in Lewis 113 for hours talking about math and other random things, Steinhurst has helped me become the person I am today. I think one of the greatest compliments I’ve ever received was when he told me I reminded him of himself.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?

Picking just one is hard, but I think the one that stands out the most is the math conference Jan Term in California because I was

able to spend time with some of my favorite people, go to math talks that went above my head, and bother Steinhurst for like four days straight.

What are some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?

Time management and motivation were major struggles simply because of the amount of things I had in my schedule and the amount of work we have to complete in math courses. Utilizing Google Calendar was the best way for me to overcome my overwhelming day to day schedule, and being able to do work with friends in my major kept me motivated while getting work done.

What are your plans for after graduation?

I plan to become a mathematician in national defense.

What would you tell yourself as a first-year at McDaniel?

Stop literally scheduling napping times into your calendar and do something useful with your life...

Is there anything else you’d like to share with the McDaniel community?

The P in GTP stands for programs, not productions.

Matt Scott

What is your major and minor? What other academic programs were you a part of?

Chemistry major with a specialization in biochemistry, biology minor.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

The Honors program, Gamma Sigma Epsilon (chemistry honor society), Green Life, and Swing and Ballroom Dance club.

Did you enjoy your time at Mc-

Daniel? How?

I enjoyed my time at McDaniel very much, both because of amazing professors and finding lifelong friends.

Who do you think was/is your best mentor?

Dr. Ferraris and Dr. Craig.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?

I can’t decide, but I’ve definitely had a lot of good ones.

What are some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?

Procrastination. Creating a schedule and a daily routine helped me

overcome this.

What are your plans for after graduation?

Taking a gap year to work and then apply to dental school.

What would you tell yourself as a first-year at McDaniel?

The GTP events and trips are pretty cool. You should go to them. **Is there anything else you’d like to share with the McDaniel community?**

Four years may seem like a long time, but it flies by. Cherish the rest of your time on the Hill.



Matt Scott. (Photo courtesy of Matt Scott).

Taylor Bauman

**What is your major and minor?
What other academic programs were you a part of?**

Biology major and a psychology minor.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?

I was a lifeguard at the YMCA for a year and a half and I worked the volleyball camp at McDaniel for two summers. I did undergraduate research at McDaniel for a summer with Dr. Staab.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

I was a member of the volleyball team and captain for three years. I am in Phi Beta Kappa, Beta Beta Beta, and Alpha Lambda Delta and I am in SAAC (Student-Athletic Advisory Committee). I was also a second year council member during my sophomore year. I was a first-year crew member for the Spring of 2017.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

Yes. I was able to have such a rewarding college experience at McDaniel. Not only was I able to

be a part of a successful volleyball program, but I was able to push myself academically. Aside from just playing volleyball and going to class, I met some of my best friends here through the volleyball program and through classes and organizations. I will always be thankful to McDaniel for that. I also had the opportunity to learn from awesome professors who were always willing to assist me when I had questions and who always took extra time to get to know me as an individual as well.

Who do you think was/is your best mentor?

Coach Wolverton and Dr. Katie Staab. They are both awesome mentors and role models.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?

Winning the Centennial Conference in volleyball in 2015. Also beating Franklin & Marshall this past fall.

What are some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?

I think that first coming to college was always hard to transition from living with my family to living by myself and the periods of homesickness were always tough. Having connections with my friends and



Taylor Bauman. (Photo courtesy of Taylor Bauman).

teammates and their support helped me through those times, as well as the support from my coaches and professors. I also think when I first got to McDaniel I struggled with time management because there wasn't anyone keeping me to a set schedule. I was able to learn time management through trial and error, basically making mistakes and then learning from that how to be better with my time and plan my schedule in order to make sure I could get all my schoolwork done, play volleyball, and still have some free time.

What are your plans for after graduation?

I am attending accelerated nursing school at Moravian College. **What would you tell yourself as a first-year at McDaniel?**

Make connections with other students and professors. Connect with the professors because they all care so much about the success of each of their students, don't be afraid to reach out to them and go to their office hours for assistance. Lastly, enjoy every day because the four years go by way too fast.

Jasmin Chavez

**What is your major and minor?
What other academic programs were you a part of?**

Political science and Spanish double major, Global Fellows program.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?

Student worker at the Office of Communications and Marketing, political science department, Office of Student Affairs, Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs, and resident assistant for freshman housing.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

McDaniel LULAC founder and president, Global Bridge Advisory Board member, vice president and 2019 class representative of the Student Government Association, secretary for HLA (freshman year), Admissions ambassador.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

I loved my time at McDaniel. I grew personally and professionally during my time here. I interned at the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics as a freshman and was able to organize STEM workshops in my community with a Griswold-Zepp grant. I also had the opportunity to serve as a UCLA Dream Summer Fellow at the Advancement Project and as a HACU Corporate Intern at the Environmental Defense Fund. My summers were always busy, but I'm thankful to have had the opportunity to study abroad in Oaxaca, Mexico during the fall semester of my senior year. That was a life-changing opportunity that helped me grow immensely as a person.

I also really loved establishing a LULAC chapter here on campus during my sophomore year. For three years, I had enjoyed organizing town halls, summits, voter registration drives, trips to conferences, and panels with my council. I'm going to really miss my LULAC family. I was also honored to be named a New-



Jasmin Chavez. (Photo courtesy of Jasmin Chavez).

man Civic Fellow during my sophomore year. I learned a lot about public service during my time at the Newman Civic Fellows conference in Boston and was empowered to pursue a career in public service.

I made a lot of wonderful friends here at McDaniel who I'm going to be in touch with forever. I also had the support of wonderful faculty and staff. I felt like I could do anything with the support of my professors who were always inspiring me to aim high.

Who do you think was/is your best mentor?

Dr. Leahy.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?

My favorite memory at McDaniel is definitely when I had the opportunity to meet Cornell Brooks, the President of the NAACP, at the President's house. He really inspired me to continue fighting for communities of color and to pursue my dreams of going off to law school.

What are your plans for after graduation?

I just accepted an offer with Benach Collopy, LLP, a leading immigration law firm in Washington, D.C. I will be a paralegal for a couple of years before going to Georgetown Law School.

What would you tell yourself as a first-year at McDaniel?

I would tell myself that time flies and that I need to live in the moment. Doors are going to open and I need to be ready to take on new opportunities.

Senior Editor: Colin Lyon

Colin Lyon will joke that he hasn't had any meaningful positions in student organizations while at McDaniel, but that doesn't mean he hasn't had a good time.

"It had its ups and downs," the history major and literature minor said of his four years, "but I really enjoyed it. Social circles are pretty open here, and the professors were excellent."

Chief among these professors were English professors Corey Wronski-Mayersak, Ph.D., and Robert Kachur, Ph.D., and history professor Stephen Feeley, Ph.D.

"Wronski-Mayersak was definitely my best mentor," said Lyon. "She taught me through several classes across three years and provided me with a chance for independent research during the summer."

Outside of summer research, Lyon also worked in the Annual Giving Phone Center and as a peer tutor in the Writing Center.

Lyon had the opportunity to study abroad in Budapest during his junior year where he had his best memories at McDaniel.

"The four months I spent in Hungary were some of the best times in my life," he said. "I learned an amazing amount about European history."

But college wasn't all fun and games for Lyon from day one.

"Getting used to the college environment was difficult in the beginning," he said, "but after a couple months of acclimating things worked out just fine."

Amazing friends and professors helped him settle in and balance stress and workloads.

"Thankfully, I had a strong support system with my friends," he said.

With this support, Lyon earned a spot in Phi Alpha Theta, the history honors society.

He's also used it to recognize some of what makes McDaniel great.

"Don't forget that McDaniel also has a lot of incredible opportunities and wonderful people as well," he said. "The professors are amazing, the food isn't as bad as people tell themselves, and there's a thousand friends to be made just by hanging around."

Though he wishes he had discovered The Cup, soon to reopen as tCUP cafe, sooner, his time on the Hill was still well spent.

After graduation, Lyon plans on earning a master's degree in near east studies before eventually seeking entrance in a similar Ph.D. program.





Monica McInerney. (Photo courtesy of Monica McInerney).

Monica McInerney

**What is your major and minor?
What other academic programs were you a part of?**

Biology and sociology double major.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?

During my time at McDaniel, I was a peer mentor, a one-on-one tutor, a member of the First Year Advisory Board, and a member of Dr. Staab’s 2018 summer research team.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

I’m a member of Alpha Lambda Delta, Alpha Kappa Delta, and the historian on the Executive Board of Beta Beta Beta for the 2018-2019 academic year. I’m on the Student Leadership Board for the Progressive Student Union and an active member of the Compost Club.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

I enjoyed the small school atmosphere that allowed me to build relationships with my professors and the rest of the faculty, staff, and students. I loved being involved in both official college business and being

able to speak out against issues that reflected student concerns.

Who is/was your best mentor?

Dr. Staab is my most influential mentor. She helped me rediscover my love for biology, taught me life lessons, listened to me vent when I needed to, and was overall an approachable person with whom I had so many important discussions during my time here.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?

It’s hard to pick just one memory, but it’s incredible to look back on who I was my freshman year, who my friends were, and what I wanted from my college experience, and compare that to now and see how I’ve evolved in so many ways, for the better. I’m very grateful for the opportunities I found that facilitated this evolution.

What are some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?

McDaniel has a more conservative climate than I had originally expected from a liberal arts school, so at first it was difficult to find friends without compromising what I believed in. Eventually, through more campus involvement, I was able to find friends whose company I enjoyed. Campus involvement was a common theme in how I overcame my many challenges. One big challenge I faced was sophomore year

as a whole. I felt bored and stagnant throughout that year and was only able to fix that feeling by getting involved. I tried a bunch of things and didn’t stick with all of them, but I have no regrets about the clubs and organizations I joined, if only for a brief time.

What are your plans for after graduation?

I plan to go home and have a fun summer in Ocean City, Md. while I search for jobs. Next fall, I plan to move anywhere a new opportunity takes me so I can explore new parts of the country (or the world) I’ve never been before. Once I find what I want to do, I’ll apply to graduate school, if necessary, and maybe pursue a Ph.D.

What would you tell yourself as a first-year at McDaniel?

Don’t isolate yourself in one group of friends, get involved on campus in ways that inspire you, and say “yes” to the opportunities that are presented to you.

Is there anything else you’d like to share with the McDaniel community?

When I see what the underclassmen are doing in terms of involvement and taking action, I have no doubt that they will leave the school in better shape than they found it, and I know they’ll do great things in the future.

Julia Grinberg

**What is your major and minor?
What other academic programs were you a part of?**

Psychology major. Honors Program.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?

Student ambassador and tour guide.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

Relay for Life committee chair, Student Alumni Council secretary, Psi Chi member, Omicron Delta Kappa member, Trumpeters member, Phi Beta Kappa member.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

Yes, I got to meet a lot of really amazing people and form lifelong relationships. I had the opportunity for very rewarding and educational internships and research work during my time. I also got to learn more about who I am and what I want to do in life. I got to share my love of McDaniel with others as a tour guide, and as a member of SAC. I planned an event and raised money for a cause I’m passionate about with Relay for Life. I met amazing professors that guided me through my four years and onto the next phase of my career.

Who do you think was/is your best mentor?

Dr. Holly Chalk and Dr. Jack Arnal.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?

Sophomore year, when I was one of the chairs on the Relay for Life event, it was a year of hard work and stress. On the night of the event, just seeing everyone having such a good time and knowing that all of our efforts had truly paid off was an amazing feeling. That year we raised more money than some of the larger

universities in the area, and I felt so proud of that. During the event, I went up to the press box at the top of the bleachers and looked at the incredible view from above, and that image is forever in my memory.

What are some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?

One of the challenges I faced was a change in career plans. After being at my internship site senior year, I began to realize that I wanted to do something different than I planned. I felt really scared because it was so close to graduation, and I didn’t think my advisor or my family would understand or support a career change this late in the game. It was very nerve-racking, but I told my advisor and my family, and they were incredibly supportive. My advisor has helped me with figuring a lot of my next steps out, and continues to support me in all my endeavors. Another challenge I faced was my capstone. As part of the Honors Program, I had to complete an independent study, and I ran my own empirical study within my department. There were so many things that went differently than I expected and I fell behind schedule on most of my plans. I felt like giving up and there were a lot of tears over this study. My advisor and my friends helped me through by emotionally and mentally supporting me, and pushing me to keep going. My own perfectionist nature also kept me from quitting. Although it was really difficult at times, I was able to get my study on track, and I presented it in the departmental capstone presentations in April and was very proud of my performance.

What are your plans for after graduation?

I am planning to continue taking classes at another university for another 2 years after graduating in pursuit of a second degree. I will



Julia Grinberg. (Photo courtesy of Julia Grinberg).

be pursuing a Bachelor of Science in nursing to become a registered nurse. I also plan to keep working at my current internship site, Sheppard Pratt Health Systems, which is a psychiatric hospital in Towson.

What would you tell yourself as a first-year at McDaniel?

I would tell myself that it’s okay to not know what I am doing. Some people come in having the next 10 years of their life perfectly mapped out, and never deviate from that plan. Some people come in having no idea what they want to do and they figure it out along the way. There’s no one right way to do things, and there’s no “on-time” or “late” when it comes to living your life. I came in fairly certain I knew what I wanted to do, and I changed my mind almost immediately in my first semester. After that, I had the next stage of my life really definitively mapped out, and when I realized that I wanted to deviate from that plan, it terrified me and I tried for a long time to ignore that feeling. I wish I’d had someone there to tell me that it’s okay to change my mind, even if I’m almost done with my

degree, or even if I’m already settled in a career, there’s no wrong time to pursue your dream career.

Is there anything else you’d like to share with the McDaniel community?

I wouldn’t trade my time on this campus for anything. I wouldn’t trade the triumphs and the fun times, but I wouldn’t trade the failures and the bad times either. Every minute of my time here made me who I am today, and I couldn’t be happier with the person walking across that stage in May. Thank you to everyone who made my time here great, and thank you to everyone who hurt me, I couldn’t have done it without you.

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Rosa Robertson

What is your major and minor?
What other academic programs were you a part of?

Psychology major, ASL/Deaf Studies minor. Honors program.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?

While at McDaniel I worked primarily as a tutor in ASL and various psychology courses. I also worked as a peer mentor during my sophomore year.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

Throughout my time at McDaniel I have been in many different organizations, but there were two that were particularly meaningful to me and in which I was actively involved. One is Alpha Phi Omega (service fraternity) in which I served as pledge educator for a year. The other is McDaniel Gender and Sexuality Alliance (Allies) in which I served as co-president my sophomore year, secretary my junior year, and president my senior year. Allies holds a very special place in my heart and I look forward to where the new exec board will take it.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

Absolutely! Freshman year I nervously engaged in various campus organizations and a found a home. While in this home I stumbled into and grew friendships that will continue long after college. I

explored my interests and found the direction for my life. I build relationships with professors and others on campus. I learned a lot in and out of the classroom. I spent a semester in Scotland and exploring Europe. When I started college, I was hopeful of what the McDaniel experience could bring, and since that time it has surpassed what I had imagined.

Who do you think was/is your best mentor?

Dr. Mazeroff has been my best mentor. I met him when I first visited McDaniel and have had the privilege of working with him throughout my years here. He supported me in little ways, nominated me for awards, at times had more confidence in me than I did, and helped me discover my current path.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?

That's a tough one...one of my best memories at McDaniel was Galentine's Day with my friends this year. It was a day full of fun and laughter, and a great example of the wonderful times I have been fortunate to spend with my friends on this campus.

What are some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?

I faced a lot of personal challenges in my time at McDaniel, but I got through them with the support of my friends, the resources at the Wellness Center, and understanding from my professors. I am forever grateful for the community I found



Rosa Robertson. (Photo courtesy of Rosa Robertson).

at McDaniel.

What are your plans for after graduation?

I am going to grad school for a master's degree in clinical mental health counseling (or something by a similar name) after graduation. Exactly which one is still being determined, though I know I will be staying on the east coast, most likely in Maryland.

What would you tell yourself as a first-year at McDaniel?

The next few years are going to be a lot harder than you'd expect, but you'll be fine. The positives heavily outweigh the negatives, and your experience here will be better

than you can know. Remember to enjoy the journey.

Is there anything else you'd like to share with the McDaniel community?

When you enter McDaniel, you get a chance to be yourself without the judgment of people who have known you for years. Embrace that. It may be scary at first, the priorities in your life may change, but that honesty and self-acceptance is a good thing. Allowing myself the permission to be myself was one of the best things I did when I started at McDaniel. Even if you're no longer a freshman, give yourself that permission. Live authentically.

Thea Westlake-Stearns

What is your major and minor?
What other academic programs were you a part of?

Business administration, economics, and Spanish triple major.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?

Education Abroad Ambassador through the CEO office.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?

Compost Club (leader and co-founder), and Progressive Student Union.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

Yes! I was able to study abroad for three semesters in Belgium, Argentina, and Hungary, which is an experience I don't think I would have had anywhere else.

Who do you think was/is your best mentor?

Dr. Amy McNichols and Dr. Elizabeth Davis.

What are your plans for after graduation?

I am interning at Northwest Asset Management in Seattle.



Thea Westlake-Stearns. (Photo courtesy of Thea Westlake-Stearns).

tions did you hold?

Student Athlete Advisory Committee and the women's lacrosse team.

Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

I enjoyed the small campus and being a part of the lacrosse team.

Who do you think was/is your best mentor?

Professor Kerry Duvall.

What is your best memory at McDaniel?

Studying abroad in Budapest.

What are some of the challenges

you encountered and how did you overcome them?

I was missing home when I first got to school, but being able to hang out with my team really helped me get over that.

What are your plans for after graduation?

I have accepted a full time position as an audit associate at KPMG.

What would you tell yourself as a first-year at McDaniel?

Take it all in. Time flies.



Morgan Collinson. (Photo courtesy of Morgan Collinson).

Morgan Collinson

What is your major and minor?
What other academic programs were you a part of?

Accounting economics and business administration majors and an economics minor.

What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?

Tax intern at William G. Jones, CPA and audit intern at KPMG.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What posi-

Ryan Hess
What is your major and minor?
What other academic programs were you a part of?
Accounting, economics, and business triple major with an international studies minor.
What are some of the jobs you held while at McDaniel?
Office of Admissions student ambassador.

What organizations were you a part of at McDaniel? What positions did you hold?
Honors Program (Housing Manager, 2017-2018 and President, 2018-2019), Omicron Delta Epsilon Economic Honor Society (President, 2018-2019). Business Honor Society, brother of Alpha Phi Omega, and Ultimate Frisbee Club.
Did you enjoy your time at McDaniel? How?

I absolutely enjoyed my four years at McDaniel. I entered college with three goals--to make friends, to build myself as a scholar, and to acquire a job after graduation--and I accomplished all three. I have met some of the most amazing people I know here at McDaniel, and I am proud to be able to call them my friends.
Who do you think was/is your best mentor?

One of my best mentors has been, and still is, Professor Kerry Duvall in the business department. She worked closely with me in my

first two years--making sure that I would be fully prepared for my career ahead of me.
My other best mentor is Professor Donald Lavin, also in the business department. I consider Professor Lavin as one of my friends on campus--his office door was always open to me, and he is always quick with a joke or a funny story. Both Professor Duvall and Professor Lavin are remarkable people, and they were both a driving force behind my full-time job offer that I received last December. I attribute the majority of my McDaniel success to the two of them; I would not be in the position I am now without their tireless support.
What is your best memory at McDaniel?

My best collective memories from throughout my four years here are of Spring Fling. From inflatable boxing rings to inflatable obstacle courses to rock-climbing walls, Spring Fling always had something new to offer each subsequent year, and my friends and I have some incredible memories from my friends and I taking advantage of all of the fun things to do on campus during the festival.
What are some of the challenges you encountered and how did you overcome them?

After my freshman year, I still did not know what I wanted to do with my life--which was a problem, considering I had to declare a major by the end of sophomore year. To



Ryan Hess. (Photo courtesy of Ryan Hess).
avoid panic attacks and existential crises, I began asking my friends about the assorted resources available to students on campus, and they directed me to the First Stop Office. After a quick discussion with Dean V, she pointed me in the direction of Professor Kerry Duvall--and the rest is history. In summary, my challenge was to figure out what the heck I wanted to do with my life, and I found my solution by swallowing my pride, utilizing the many resources available to students on campus, and finding the best adviser I could have ever asked for.

What are your plans for after graduation?
After graduation, I will be spending the summer studying for my CPA certification, and then I will begin working full-time in August as an audit accountant for KPMG.

What would you tell yourself as a first-year at McDaniel?
I would tell myself to get involved sooner, and to do more within my organizations. I met the majority of my friends through the clubs that I joined, and I only began to take advantage of the amazing activities organized by the Res Life, OSE, and ODI offices during my junior year. I greatly enjoyed my time here at McDaniel, but I would have enjoyed it even more if I had gotten more involved -- and started doing more things -- as a first-year student.
Is there anything else you'd like to share with the McDaniel community?
Befriend the wonderful women who run Glar; they're great people to talk to, and they'll give you extra food if you get to know them, too.



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